

AIRPORT COMMISSION MEETING  
Wednesday, April 18, 2018  
Merrill Municipal Airport Terminal

MINUTES

Members Present: Chairman Gary Schwartz, Gary Schulz, Lyle Banser, Joe Malsack, Manager Rich McCullough, Alderman Steve Osness

Also Present: Steve Krueger, Camera Man Hunter Lane

1. Meeting Called to Order – Chairman Schwartz called the meeting to order at 19:00 hours.
2. Approval of Minutes from March 21, 2018 – Motion by Malsack, second by Schulz. All ayes. Motion carried.
3. Approval of Vouchers – Vouchers were reviewed and initialed by all. Motion by Malsack, second by Osness. All ayes. Motion carried.
4. Runway 16/34 Project Status – No permission to do anything yet. Chairman Schwartz has a meeting in May with FAA in Madison and the Board of Aeronautics.
5. Lightening Suppression Project – Manager McCullough explained the contractor has been waiting for the weather to cooperate and Merrill Airport will be first on the list for Peiper Contracting. Should be done before storm season.
6. Discussion/Decision 16/34 Mastic Project – Discussed project and ability to repair cracks that are wide and extend across the runway. Malsack made a motion to repair transverse cracks with Mastic fill for the estimated cost, with the ability to do other miscellaneous cracks determined at time of filling and possibly submit to the State for partial funding after project completion.
7. Discussion/Decision AWOS System – Discussion was held on Merrill AWOS System and its inadequacies/reliability. It affects traffic in and out of the airport. No flight plans are allowed to be filed without an Automated Weather Observation System. We are losing and will lose traffic without a reliable system. Motion by Osness to get a quote from DBT Communication to move equipment for AWOS from east side of Airport to new terminal, second by Malsack.
8. Airport Days 2018 - Nothing new to report.
9. T Hanger Lease Rates 2019 – Chairman Schwartz explained that the new T Hanger rates will be in effect January 1, 2019.
10. Manager's Report –

Manager McCullough noticed a mistake in bill from WPS. Will be corrected in next bill. McCullough reported radio for new terminal will be installed this week.

Rich notified the NTC Semi Driver Course that drivers were making U-turns on the lot apron entering the new terminal area. Hope to minimize the possibility of cracking and damage to blacktop.

11. Airport General Maintenance –

McCullough reported sign hung for FBO and Terminal. He is working with Tom Oneil on additional signs.

Estimate for LEDs are being discussed and Rich will be getting another estimate from Newton Electric and report at next meeting.

Obtained quotes for furnace for old Terminal to replace present furnace. Motion to accept bid from Jansen Heating by Osness, second by Malsack. All ayes. Motion carried.

12. Chairman's Report –

Chairman Schwartz reported we are currently slightly in the red with budget at 18%. Schwartz will work on his contact list to share with Commission members.

Discussed the possibility of purchasing a broom for light snow removal with the possibility of funding it with entitlement.

13. Aviation Happenings – Gary reported an engine failure on a GE Turbine engine on a 737 that caused a death. Discussed other general aviation engine failures. Schulz reported a shortage of commercial pilots, probably due to the high cost of schooling and also a similar problem with aviation mechanics. Schulz suggested a discussion with NTC to possibly initiate a course for Aviation Mechanics/Pilots. Currently, classes are not being offered in Wisconsin.

14. Public Comment – Krueger complimented Manger McCullough and his Staff for the great job of removing snow and tree trimming.

15. Agenda Items for Next Meeting – Follow up on AWOS System being repaired.

16. Adjournment – Motion by Malsack, second by Osness. All ayes. Meeting adjourned.

Minutes prepared by Lyle Banser