

City of Merrill
Airport Commission Meeting Minutes
August 15, 2018
Merrill Airport Terminal

Present: Alderman Steve Osness, Chairman Gary Schwartz, Lyle Banser, Joe Malsack, Gary Schulz, Airport Manager Rich McCullough
Public Present: Steve Krueger, Larry Wenning, Cameraman Anthony Kromire

1. Call to Order – Chairman Schwartz called the meeting to order at 19:00
2. Approval of Meeting Minutes from July 18, 2018 – Minutes from July 18, 2018 Meeting were approved. Motion by Malsack; second by Schulz. All Ayes. Motion carried.
3. Approval of Vouchers – Reviewed, discussed and signed vouchers. Motion by Malsack; second by Osness. All Ayes. Motion carried.
4. Runway 16/34 Project Status – Chairman Schwartz will have a conference call meeting with FAA officials and engineer on Tuesday, 08/24/2018, to move the 16/34 Project forward.
5. FAA Petition for 16/34 – Chairman Schwartz placed an ad in the County Courier to notify the Public of the Public Hearing which would explain work being done at the Airport on the 16/34 Runway Project.
6. Fuel System POS Replacement – Manager McCullough explained that we have had problems with the credit card keypad/system for buying fuel and that he is working with Q T Systems to diagnose problems or replacement of the system. Members are optimistic that a fix can be found and implemented versus replacement with a new keypad system.
7. Discussion/Decision Repair of T Hangar Doors – Chairman Schwartz explained the problems we are having with the door tracks that the doors run up on. They are bending in from too much stress/weight. We are looking at reinforcing the door tracks or replacing them. Manager McCullough will check with Mechanical Industries for the best process to correct the problem. Motion was made by Osness to get Hangar 1 Track repaired and for the repairs on the remaining doors to be evaluated so we know the total costs; second by Banser. All Ayes. Motion carried.
8. Lightening Suppression Project Status/Fiber Optic – Manager McCullough will meet with contractor for price to install fiber optic from gates to control panel.

9. Airport Day 2018 – Malsack reported the Air Cup Race was very successful. Airport Day is on track. Astronaut Mark Lee, with 4 shuttle mission and 30 days in space, will be on sight from 10:30AM – 4:00PM.

10. Manager's Report – Compass Rose Placement – A survey has to be done before we can install. Discussed placement, probably north of the fuel farm.

11. Airport General Maintenance –

Manager McCullough reported vestibule lights are here and will be replaced.

Still having problems with street lights on Champagne Street. To install photo cell instead of motion detector.

McCullough will check into who is paying the bill for 4 WPS flood lights.

McCullough reported that old courtesy car has gone to NTC.

Trees are being removed on Bennish property.

12. Chairman's Report –

Chairman Schwartz reported that City of Merrill is too busy to fill cracks so McCullough will get an estimate to fill cracks before winter weather.

Schwartz is working with City to remove rock piles around the airport if time permits.

13. Aviation Happenings –

Schulz reported the FAA is moving slowly due to management changes.

There is rapid improvement in electric airplane development, but battery technology is key and will be incrementally improved.

He also reported there is a shortage of Designated Pilot Examiners (DPEs). FAA is working to allow the DPE to test more pilots in one day.

Some talk about changing light sport plane weight limit from 1320 lbs. to 1650 lbs.

14. Public comment – None

15. Agenda Items for Next Meeting – Chairman Schwartz asked us to think about rules for the new courtesy car. Schulz suggest pilots either buy fuel or pay a small courtesy car charge.
16. Adjournment – Motion to adjourn by Osness; second by Malsack. All Ayes. Motion Carried.