

Airport Commission minutes December 20, 2017

Members present: (Chairman) Gary Schwartz, Gary Schulz, Joe Malsack, Ryan Schwartzman (Alderman).

Also present: Rich Mccullough (Airport Manager), Larry Wenning, Don Kromire and Anthony Kromire(Camera Man).

1. Gary called meeting to order at 7 pm.
2. Minutes did not get distributed due to a computer problem. We will have them with Decembers minutes.
3. Vouchers where discussed and passed around for inspection. A motion was made by Joe M. and seconded by Gary Schulz to approve the vouchers to be paid. Motion passed.
4. Runway 16/34 status: Joe Malsack, Gary Schwartz, Rich Mccullough and Karl from Becker Hoppe met with Mark our new engineer from Madison . There will be a meeting in Feb. 2018 where the FAA will be in Madison. We will try to set up a meeting with the FAA and the BOA to help move our project forward. The FAA does not feel we have the runway operations to meet the expansion needs. They are going off old data. We will have to have the pilots write letters stating how often they use Merrill airport and 16/34 runway. They will also need to state performance data and age of aircraft to help the FAA determine if expansion is needed. We will need to have these letters from the pilots back by mid January to send in for the February Meeting. The consensus is from Mark we may not get this runway project done in 2019, this could push into 2020.
5. Lightening Suppression Project: Nothing will be done this year. We are first on the list for 2018. Pricing will be \$16926.00 with the adjustments need to correct the conditions present. Pieper Power. Gary Schulz made a motion to amend the prior authorized amount of just over \$12000.00. Ryan S. 2nd, motion passed.
6. Discussion planning on new t hanger: Gary Schwartz asked Mark if there was funding available for t hangers. If the municipality owns the property and rents it out for profit they might be willing to fund part of the project. Mark will look into funding for the project.
7. Flight instruction status: Dyer is going to continue training for his commercial, CFII and IFR tickets. 2 other students are looking at starting their IFR training. They are looking to training at night to free up the airplane so basic training can be done during day light hours.
8. Managers Report: The green side of the rotating beacon stopped working, the bulb burnt out. Bulb is ordered and will be installed next week. The light pole and power has been installed for the north gate and waiting for Lyle and the city lift truck to install the light. We have some lights out in the new terminal building and will get replaced. Motion lights outside can we change the sensors at the same time when we have the lift truck. Dan at RTL suggests we change from motion sensors to photo cells due to the climate we live in. It would mean the lights would be on all night, but being LED the cost of

operation would still be less than regular lights. We have multiple lights on the airport what should be changed over to LED. RTL gave a quote on 5 lights was \$3363. Rich will check with Dustin at the city to see if we can piggy back on to get lights more economically. We have 8 total that need to be changed.

9. Airport General Maintenance: Airport signage Tom O'neal will be getting material and ideas for quotes. Rich will come back with pricing by our next meeting. Fuel farm reports finally getting straightened out. We are at 5486 gallons of Jet A, and 6942 gallons of 100LL useable. We are getting Jet A customers every week.

11. Chairman's report: Gary Schwartz received a letter that the FAA flew the approaches and found 34 is in violation. We are waiting for the 16/34 project to roll the cost of tree trimming into this project. When the city borrows money they have to spend this money within 2 years. Gary Schwartz is trying to get the BOA to bill us for some of work we currently had done. Instead they took it out of our account sitting in Madison. Gary Schwartz will continue to work with Mark to get this straightened out. SRE building: we have some entitlement money left from 2017 and all of 2018's money. So is it on our ALP. It is and we will proceed with the possibility of building a new SRE and renting out the current hanger.

12. Aviation happenings: Privatization of ATC still on hold. Federal Budget still waiting to be passed. Small airports are the lifeline for major disasters. Hurricanes were the example this year. Small airports and planes were the first to arrive with supplies and relief.

13. Public comments. None.

14. Agenda items for next meeting. Brush cutting and crack filling by city.

15. A motion was made by Ryan S. and seconded by Gary Schulz. to adjourn, motion passed

Minutes by Joe Malsack