City of Merrill
Commission Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, August 19, 2020
Merrill Airport Terminal

Members Present: Gary Schwartz (Chairman), Lyle Banser, Joe Malsack, Rich McCullough (Airport Manager), Mark Wiex, Jr. (Alderman), City Camera Man

Public Present: Larry Wenning

1. Call to Order – Meeting called to order by Chairman Schwartz at 19:00.

2. Approval of Meeting Minutes from July, 2020 – Minutes read. Motion by Malsack for approval of July Minutes; second by Banser. All ayes. Motion carried.

3. Approval of Vouchers – Vouchers reviewed and initialed. Motion to pay vouchers by Malsack; second by Wiex. All ayes. Motion carried.

4. Runway 16/34 Project Status – Schwartz handed out wind analysis for 2020. Explained and discussed. The data on the form showed Merrill did not meet the FAA's standard for having and maintaining a crosswind runway. The Commission of the Merrill Airport suspects the weather collection data may not be correct because of maintenance personnel showing up on a Sunday morning in March unannounced and then claiming the AWOS System is correct; and since then, the maintenance logbook in which all maintenance is recorded is now missing. Because of this, we are recording wind data independent of the BOA. Schwartz reported that the BOA is internally working on a plan to return 30 crosswind runways in Wisconsin to turf and Merrill is one of them.

5. Discussion Entitlement Projects – BOA has approved all the projects identified and prioritized, but they are not moving on any projects.

6. Discussion/Decision Fuel System Credit Card Reader – Discussed the current card reader will not be supported in the future. We are currently looking for new card reader equipment and looking for the most current unit at the best price. New units should operate on WiFi, which should allow a savings on need for dedicated phone line which is currently at $1,200.00 a year.

7. Discussion F-84 Display and Mounting – Working with a design engineer on a base to support the F-84 jet display at Champagne Street FBO location. A local Boy Scout group may be interested in helping to repaint the jet.

8. Discussion/Decision Airport Wage Rate – McCullough discussed a pay rate for a part-time worker who has two years' experience; after which, Banser made a motion to increase the wage rate for Hugh Hanig from $12.00 to $13.00 per hour. Second by Malsack. All ayes. Motion carried.

9. Discussion/Decision Spraying Weed Killer – McCullough is waiting for quotes on the weed spraying for parking lots and graveled areas.

10. Manager's Report – New Door and frame should be at the Airport next month. Discussed tie downs and adjusting the tail tie down placement.

11. Airport General Maintenance -

    No lighting work is scheduled yet. Contractor is very busy.

    McCullough report on signage. Will work with Tom O'Neal to make airport signage.

    All gates are run on the new fiber optic and working properly.

12. Chairman's Report – Schwartz reported WiFi is operating. Ornamental bushes around new hangar need trimming. Also discussed fence posts heaving out of the ground and the repair/fix for posts. NTC is working on an entrance gate on South side of the field.

13. Aviation Happenings – Nothing New.

14. Public Comment: Larry Wenning asked if we could track the type of planes fueling to get the number of gallons used of 100LL; and would it be possible to justify the sale of Swift fuel vs. 100LL fuel. Malsack will review the current sale of 100LL and the type of planes using it. He will compile a list of planes buying 100LL fuel and determine which planes could run on Swift fuel and the volume of fuel sold to plane owners that require 100LL and cannot operate on Swift fuel.

15. Agenda Items for Next Meeting – Reinstalling heaved posts around the Airport.

16. Adjournment – Motion by Malsack; second by Banser. All ayes. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned.

Minutes prepared by Lyle Banser