

Minutes Merrill Airport Commission

Wednesday July 20, 2022

Present: Joe Malsack, Gary Schwartz, Gary Schulz, Rich McCullough (Airport Manager), Mark Weix Jr (Alderman). Also present: Draco Fink (Camera Man), Stan Pophal.

1. Gary Schwartz called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.
2. June 2022 minutes were reviewed, and correction needed on Line 9. Kraig is spelled with a K and Hanig is the correct last name spelling. Gary Schulz made a motion to approve the minutes with the corrections, Mark W. seconded. Motion passed.
3. Vouchers were passed around and discussed. Joe M. made a motion to approve paying the vouchers, Mark W. seconded, Motion passed. Gary mentioned we are currently at 43% of our budget and we are at 50% of the year. We are holding expenses in line.
4. Runway 16/34 project: Gary Schwartz stated that he appealed the FAA denial for reconstruction of 16/34 per their request (FAA). Gary had a meeting with a representatives from AOPA, Great Lakes Region, and Great Lakes ADO. We have an error in the AWOS and will investigate the use of this error to get us below the 95% threshold for crosswind runway need. FAA stated they reviewed 20 years of data. We have only had the AWOS for 10 years. DBT is contracted with the state to maintain the AWOS and they are not giving us all the correct information. Joe M. contacted Lincoln County highway department and received a bid of \$8724.80 to mastic patch the major cracks and center line. Joe M. made a motion to approve the LCHD to repair 16/34 runway. Gary Schulz seconded; motion passed.
5. Update Entitlement Projects 2022: FAA has not released the money to the states yet for our approved projects
6. Discussion/Decision edits to update T-Hangar Lease, and ground lease: Stan Pophal has left a \$500.00 deposit to build a 80x100 ft hanger. The money is refunded once the project is completed. Good for 1 year. Joe M. made a motion to approve Stan to build a hanger. Mark W. seconded. Motion passed.

7. Discussion/Decision entrance gate annual inspection: Rich signed the agreement and sent back to them.
8. Discussion/Decision Repairs to Runway 16/34. Approved in discussion of Agenda item 4.
9. Airport General Maintenance: Weeds have been sprayed, and the park department allowed us to use their equipment with seasonal weed killer. NTSB still has not looked at the airplane. We may have to move it to the back side of the hanger to remove from public view. We are borrowing the cities equipment to cut grass due to drivetrain failure in the big tractor and blade being changed in the mower deck. They are waiting on a part to repair the tractor. Dream Flight was here on Sunday. It was a successful event with Bell Tower. EAA Air Cup race finish line is Merrill on the 24th. All paperwork is done and copies received by Rich. Joe M. contacted the Fire Department so they know. Rich will contact the Sheriff's Dept just for update. Deadline for Lyman's hanger to be repaired was today. Repairs not done may cause fines, Rich will contact Lyman. Fuel farm calibration errors and alarms with software. We will need the update for the monitoring system before anything can be done. Rich is getting it set up. He could not turn alarms off. Jet A, World Fuel asked when we are getting more fuel. Gary and Rich will discuss and contact them. All tests pass. 1750 gallons in the ground, 1100 gallons is unusable. Option is to put 2000 gallons in or sell to farmers. No one is currently purchasing.
10. Chairman's Report: Gary Schwartz stated we need to form a committee on the F84 project to repair and repaint, and construct a display. Rich will call and ask for a quote. We are under contract from the U.S. Air Force Museum, and we are responsible to maintain it. Congress passed the infrastructure funds of \$159000 per year for 7 years. Gary will look at what the money can be spent on. Gary Schwartz has been discussing with Kraig on a small utility tractor. Mark K. states now is the time for budgeting for next year's purchases.
11. Aviation Happenings: FAA administrator is from Denver Airport Manager waiting on approval from congress. American Airlines has put money down on 50 EVT aircraft. Airbus looking at hydrogen power. 2 aircraft crashed in midair over North Las Vegas airport. 2 aircraft landing on left and right runways at the same time. 1 aircraft overshot runway and collided with the other. 4 people died in this tragedy. Brian Krueger will be going for training in November for

the 787 Dreamliner. He likes the flexibility of first officer. He will be flying overseas long hauls.

12. Public Comment: none.

13. Agenda Items for Next Meeting: Airport signs, Door for maintenance hangar.

14. A motion to adjourn was made by Gary Schulz, seconded by Mark W. Motion passed.

Minutes submitted by Joe Malsack