

Minutes Merrill Airport Commission

Wednesday April 21, 2021

Present: Joe Malsack, Lyle Banser via phone, Gary Schwartz and Mark Weix (Alderman), Rich McCullough (Airport Manager).

Also: Larry Wenning, Steve Krueger, Ian Morgan (Camera Man).

1. Joe Malsack called the meeting to order at 6 pm.
2. March 2021 minutes were reviewed. Mark Weix made a motion to approve the minutes, Lyle Banser seconded. Motion passed.
3. Vouchers were passed around and discussed. Joe Malsack made a motion to approve paying the vouchers, Mark Weix seconded, Motion passed.
4. Runway 16/34 project: Gary Schwartz stated he has had contact with the FAA, Gary Wilson, and Matt Melicki BOA, He received an email stating that FAA will be re-writing long standing policy to avoid having to fund the rebuild of our 16/34 runway. Gary sent back a formal response to the FAA email demanding the retraction of their email and allowing this project to go forward. He gave FAA a deadline of May 5, 2021 to receive an answer. We will have to wait again for their response. If they do not respond, we will then develop an action plan on which direction to proceed with from here. Congressional, AOPA, or others.
5. Discussion T Hangar Project: No Bids received due to pricing of materials going up since last fall. We were therefore not able to meet the budget demands placed on us. We are now on hold until next year. This project would have come in on budget had it been allowed to go forward last fall.
6. Discussion/Decision fuel system credit card reader: System ordered and scheduled install is set for May 12. This need would have cost the City 20,000 had the Commission not found a program within the State to help fund it. State funding will now be 80%, City funding 20% thus saving the City 16,000
7. Discussion F-84 Display and Mounting: Rich contacted a Twin Cities National Guard unit, and they are trying to get info on mounting the jet onto a pedestal, and to be installed at the Terminal on Champaign Street.
8. Scoping Meeting Entitlement projects 2021: Andrew Trimbal traveled to Merrill Airport from Madison DOT/BOA. Karl Kemper, Gary, and Andrew had

a meeting on Entitlements Grant projects. We have \$666,430 to use on approved airport projects. They do not think we can get the ramp extension approved; FAA very tight on money. AWOS, and pavement project to repair all the pavement except 16/34, they think we can get done this year. Farner is authorized provider of Gee 88 products/systems. Project for current T hanger drainage is also being planned.

9. Manager's Report: Getting ready for grass cutting season. Rich has been trying to get logs for the signs, he asked Lyle if he had any contacts with WPS for poles. Brush cutting is done for now, too wet. Fence needs repair, deer are running underneath. We need to get poles pushed back down. Rich has been contacted by a pilot to rent part of the Agra hangar and will need 300 gallons of jet fuel per week. Rich will finalize fuel pricing after discussion with commission. He is coming beginning of May. QT Pod card reader contract needs signing and \$945.00 per year service fee. Rich can access with a mobile app if needs to for problems. We can then remove 1 phone line which is more expensive than the annual fee. Cutting trees growing into fence with battery operated saw, next on list of maintenance projects he will oversee.
10. Airport General Maintenance/outside lighting/airport signage: No Report.
11. Chairman's Report: No report.
12. Aviation Happenings: No report.
13. Public Comment: None.
14. Agenda Items for Next Meeting: Tree cutting, Air cup race.
15. A motion to adjourn was made by Joe Malsack., seconded by Mark Weix
Motion passed.

Minutes submitted by Joe Malsack