

**CITY OF MERRILL
AIRPORT COMMISSION
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 15, 2025 MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING MERRILL AIRPORT TERMINAL 6:00 PM**

- I. **Call to Order** Gary Schwartz called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm
Present: Lyle Banser, Joe Malsack, Gary Schulz, Gary Schwartz, D7 Alderperson Mark Weix Jr.
Present Not Voting: Rich McCullough - Airport Manager, Steve Krueger
- II. **Consider approving minutes from the previous meeting**
 1. **December 18th meeting minutes** - Gary Schulz motioned to approve.
Alderperson Weix seconded and the motion passed.
- III. **Approval of Vouchers - Budget Discussion** Joe Malsack motioned to approve.
Alderperson Weix seconded and the motion passed.
- IV. **General Agenda Items for Consideration**
 1. **Discussion Runway 16/34 project** - Still waiting on FAA. Gary met with Justin Shell at DOT Financial, this department oversees the money for the BOA. Karl Kemper and Gary Schwartz met Justin Shell to discuss the project.
 2. **Discussion and consideration to refund Dale Kanitz for overpayment on T-hanger** - Lyle Banser motioned to refund Dale Kanitz what he overpaid.
Mark Weix seconded. Motion passed.
 3. **Discussion and consideration on Jet A Fuel Truck offer to purchase**
- Rich has been in contact with two interested parties. Both have made an offer and Rich has sent all the information requested by these individuals.
Gary Schulz made a motion for Rich to have the authority to sell the truck with the understanding of a non-refundable deposit (down payment) be sent to us.
Seconded by Lyle Banser, the motion passed.
 4. **F-84 Monument - update** - Rich has 2 new contacts at Fort McCoy. Funds are limited, looking at possible pick up and returning to the Aviation Museum. Rod Akey is working with the National Guard in Madison for the tank that just moved to the VFW hall. Rich will contact him to see if any funds are available.
 5. **Meeting with WI DOT Division of Transportation Investment Management**
- Changes in leadership have occurred in Madison. So, we will have to wait before movement any at Merrill on projects.
 6. **Airport General Maintenance - discussion**
Lightning damages
Status of Deer Ramps - The plow truck needed repairs, fixed by city garage.
Flag poles freeze and cannot change to half-staff. Rich will get costs to change to conventional poles with power for light on top.
Van Ert sent quote on repairs. Insurance approved and parts ordered. Both

rails on 25 being replaced, some LED lights repaired, some direction signs will be repaired. Gate software is in and will be here soon to correct west gate. Waiting on city when they have time regarding deer ramps.

V. Chairman's Report

- 1. Master Plan** - Still on hold by FAA. Gary Schwartz has continued contacting BOA on this issue.
- 2. Economic Impact Study Aviation** - Still held up in the Governor's Public affairs office. Justin Shell stated they were not correctly and will be instructing the corrections so far and equal to all airports. Aviation has not been paid due to the hold up at Madison.
- 3. Maintenance Hangar** - We are looking at having a pre bid meeting on February 5th and bid opening later in February.
- 4. RRL Fuels P&L** - Gary Schwartz will work with the city on the accounting and request pricing on fuel costs from Rich M.
- 5. Telephone Service** - No report.
- 6. Garage Maintenance** - Interstate landscaping still owes us for the rock they used from our piles on airport property.

VI. Aviation Happenings Vertiport's are something for all airports to consider. With air taxi coming these new EVTOL aircraft will need a place to land. Vertical takeoff and landing, like a helicopter. Downwash will be a safety factor for regular flying aircraft. FAA working on finalizing MOSIAC. Most pilots will be able to fly with a driver's license. Hydrogen fuel testing in airplanes with special engines, something to keep an eye on. We will have to watch and consider which fuel we will have to transition to. Hydrogen fuel testing in airplanes with special engines, something to keep an eye on.

VII. Public Comment On the 2nd Wednesday of the month Steve has the TV going showing aviation related topics from the FAA. He is averaging 10-15 people showing up and interacting.

VIII. Agenda Items for Next Meeting Trees growing thru fence. NE door replacement on maintenance hangar building, movie at the airport, power supply in vault, flagpole.

IX. Date and Time of Next Meeting - Wednesday, February 19 at 6:00 PM

X. Adjournment Lyle Banser motioned to adjourn, Joe Malsack seconded, motion passed.

Minutes prepared by Joe Malsack and published by City Clerk Anderson-Malm

Minutes are in draft form until approved at the next scheduled meeting.