

**CITY OF MERRILL
AIRPORT COMMISSION
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 2025 MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING MERRILL AIRPORT TERMINAL 4:30 PM**

- I. **Master Plan Fourth Advisory Committee** The meeting was held as published November 4, 2025, from 2:30 PM to 4:30 PM.
- II. **Call to Order** Gary Schwartz called the meeting to order at 4:30 PM to 5:30 PM to conduct a public workshop meeting explaining the Master Plan to all interested public.
Present: Lyle Banser, Joe Malsack, Gary Schulz (remote), GarySchwartz, D7 Alderperson Weix Jr.
Present Not Voting: Rich McCullough (Airport Manager), Larry Wenning, Steve Krueger, Karl Kemper (CEO of Becker Hoppe), Chandra Burks (Coffman Associates)
 1. **Discussion/Decision to approve Master Plan at 5:30 PM. -**
 1. Discussion/Decision to approve Master Plan at 5:30 PM. Joe Malsack made a motion to accept the recommended development plan presented. Lyle Banser seconded. Motion passed.
 2. The regularly scheduled Commission meeting continued, and Master Plan presenters Karl Kemper CEO Becker Hopee, and Chandra Burks were excused at their discretion.
- III. **Consider approving minutes from the previous meeting**
 1. **Minutes from the September meeting. -** (Banser/Malsack) motion/second to place minutes on file. The motion passed.
- IV. **Approval of Vouchers**
 1. **Consider the vouchers from September. -** Reviewed and signed vouchers to get paid. Approved to reimburse Evan Hanson for \$200.00 for travel expenses to pick up parts in Milwaukee for the maintenance hangar door repairs. Lyle Banser made a motion to pay the vouchers. Seconded by Joe Malsack. Motion passed. No financial reports to review.
- V. **General Agenda Items for Consideration**
 1. **Discussion Runway 16/34 Project -** Gary Schwartz has previously contacted Angela Adams at BOA to try and get the project started. Funding for us would be at 2.5% instead of the normal 5% fee if some of the work can be completed in the 2026 fiscal year. 2028 to 2029 possible construction.
 2. **Maintenance Hangar Status - discussion -** Water, sewer and electrical are in. The contractor has 275 days to build. Urban Construction bid for the project without an approved design. Now the building is almost approved at the state level to continue construction. It is possible concrete will be poured this

month. Hopefully, in February, steel will be here for construction and April will pour the floor.

3. **Follow-up on T-Hangar damage** - Herbies Hangar Doors worked on hangars and has everything working. We have to work with a local contractor to fix the vented covers. The drag on the t hangars should be longer to hold the doors on better if we get into high winds.
4. **Update on current FBO Hangar** - No report. Waiting for an appraisal, delayed due to delay on construction of the new hangar.
5. **Update on F-84 Monument** - Rich reached out to the contacts provided on the original contract with the US Air Force Museum to gather information on this project.
6. **Discussion/Decision Airport General Maintenance:** -
 - a. **Lightning damage - update** - Waiting for gate repair. We received a check from the insurance company paying for the Van Ert electric repairs. On the gate on the west end, we have to pay \$31,800 up front as a deposit for replacement, before the contractor will order parts to install. The total cost is \$63,600, which is already approved by the insurance company. We will keep the old gate for parts when it is removed. Gary Schwartz made a motion to pay the \$31,800 deposit to move forward with the gate replacement. Joe Malsack seconded. Motion passed.
 - b. **Status of deer ramps** - The city has concrete barriers that they can use to hold the dirt in place. They have old cracked ones that they will use. Waiting on them. They are trying to get all the city street projects finished first.
 - c. **Update - trees growing through security fence** - Joe Malsack has been working on cleaning up.
 - d. **Status of flag pole** - Waiting on the city for installation to begin.

VI. Chairman's Report

1. Review WI DOT BOA -

VII. Aviation Happenings Elon Musk states he will have a prototype flying car by 2026. A pilot flying near Bemidji MN performed an emergency landing on the Indian reservation. The Indian Reservation impounded the aircraft. They had a law that no one could land on the reservation. Current regulations do not include. Sport pilot 2.0 started in September. Any EAB aircraft you own, you can take the 16-hour course to do all your own aircraft maintenance.

VIII. Public Comment None.

IX. Agenda Items for Next Meeting Runways will need crack sealing for next year to extend life. Snow plow on red truck has problems. The problem is that the truck works fine, waiting for the street dept to work on it. New plow, \$8000. Small snow blower still looking for, was approved last year.

X. Date and Time of Next Meeting - Wednesday, December 17 at 6:00 pm

XI. Adjournment (Malsack/Schulz) motion/second to adjourn. The 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.