



Airport Advisory Committee Minutes

Tuesday, April 12, 2011 – 1:00 p.m.
Gaylord Regional Airport 1100 Aero Drive
P.O. Box 1396 Gaylord, MI 49734

MINUTES

Advisory Chairperson Deerfield called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

Roll call – Present: Mike Deerfield, Jeff Ratcliffe, Donna Stubenvoll, Bill Muzyl, Wally McCoy, Steve Johnson, Dan Wagar, Paul Liss (ex-officio) Matt Barresi (Director)

Absent: Jeff Wieber, Kris Klay

Others present: John Burt (County Administrator) Greg Wilson

Approval of Agenda

Motion by Stubenvoll to approve the agenda, Motion Approved.

Approval of Minutes

Motion by Stubenvoll to approve the minutes of Mar 8, 2011 Motion Approved.

A. Advisory Chairperson's Report

Deerfield deferred to Ratcliffe to brief on the Planning/Feasibility Study subcommittee efforts.

B. Sub Committee Report

1. Planning/Feasibility Study

Ratcliffe briefed that there was nothing new to report but efforts were ongoing. Stubenvoll asked if we should consider just proceeding with the Phase I plan that Explorer Solutions can provide. After much discussion on the subject it was agreed that although commissioning Phase I was more viable at this juncture it would still leave us lacking the contact and coordination with contacts that are vital to bringing the project to fruition. All agreed we should stay focused on finding funding for all three phases of the project before committing,

C. Airport Manager's Report

1. Advisory Committee's Annual report

Barresi informed the Advisory Committee that the adopted annual report had been submitted to the Otsego County Board of Commissioners as was requested by the advisory. The report received favorable comments.

2. Ramp Project

Barresi briefed that the ramp project will begin on or about 5 July 2011 and will allow for several other smaller pavement issues to be repaired in the process. Some residents on the East side of the airport will need to taxi on the grass to avoid the construction.

3. Air Show

Barresi stated that contributions were steady and much better than this time last year or any year previous. He added that TV commercial advertising had been purchased this year and that JAY's Sporting Goods was sponsoring Up North Live TV show for the Air Show on Friday the 17th of June. Barresi commented that things were continuing to progress very well.

D. Open Discussion

Deerfield expressed concern that the price of aviation fuel was high and if anything could be done to encourage business with a less expensive fuel option. Barresi explained that the cost of fuel is based on paying for operations and the local market. We do have overhead – each gallon we buy we pay an amount for the pay back of the self serve install, cost of testing fuel every day, filter changes, full service maintenance and in winter plowing every day sometimes nonstop and the list can go on. Muzyl added that there are those airports you go to looking for the cost savings and then there are those airports you go to looking for the full service option. Barresi will look into the possibility of a spring kick off fuel price if approved by the Trans/Air Committee.

Deerfield expressed concern that the ASOS reading was not always providing accurate cloud base altitude information. Barresi stated that he communicates with the FAA on the proposed ASOS move regularly but it will be in the FAA's timeline when it is relocated. Barresi added that the FAA always has the option to decommission the ASOS and shut it down if the situation were to drastically worsen. If this were to happen, Martinaire and other operations would be affected.

Muzyl re-addressed the local pilot training issue and what we can do to kick that off. Motion by Ratcliffe to form a flight training subcommittee to answer all the questions associated with getting the student training program off the ground. Motion Approved. The Flight Training Sub-committee will consist of Deerfield, Ratcliffe, Stubenvoll, Johnson, Wagar and Muzyl. Date and meeting time to follow. Barresi added that he would address with the Commissioners the approval of a fuel cost incentive for flight training.

McCoy stated that we needed more official signage identifying the airport's location. Barresi stated that he had a meeting later in the week with the Otsego County Road Commission on another matter but would address that issue at the meeting and with MDOT.

Muzyl stated that the address for the airport on Google and other direction finding web engines does not recognize the correct location for automotive drivers looking for the Gaylord Regional Airport. Barresi will look into correcting the problem.

Deerfield stated that Gaylord's fuel prices were not accurately reflected on several of the aviation web sites. Johnson added that this can be disastrous for a fuel supplier if a customer insists on the advertised price. Barresi stated that although we had subscribed to AirNav we would from now on also update 100LL.com and Flight Aware and would research other possible sites to be listed on that do not require a service fee.

The next meeting date will be on Tuesday, May 10, 2011 at 1:00 pm in the airport conference room.

The meeting was adjourned by Deerfield at 2:12.p.m.