



Transportation and Airport Committee Minutes

Thursday 14 Dec, 2017 – 09:00 a.m.
Gaylord Regional Airport
1100 Aero Drive, PO Box 1396 Gaylord, MI 49735

MINUTES

Commissioner Liss called the meeting to order at 09:01 a.m.

Roll call – Paul Liss, Ken Borton, Doug Johnson

Others present: Rachel Frisch, Matt Barresi, Tim Cherwinski, John and Lori LaFave

Excused:

Approval of Minutes

Motion by Commissioner Borton, Seconded by Commissioner Johnson to approve the Transportation minutes of 9 Nov 2017. Motion Carried.

Approval of Agenda

Motion by Commissioner Liss to approve the agenda with addition of item C New Year's Eve Bus Transportation. Seconded by Commissioner Johnson Motion Carried.

A. Transportation Manager's Report

1. Bus Finance Report

Cherwinski presented the Bus's monthly financial reports to the Committee.
Motion by Commissioner Liss to acknowledge report as shown, seconded by Commissioner Borton. All in favor, motion approved.

2. Bus Updates

Cherwinski updated the committee on the bus build and replacement schedule for the upcoming year. Otsego County is to expect 4 new buses in 2018. All concurred that this will be a significant help in the bus fleets cradle to grave forecasting. The addition of 4 new buses will allow the change out of some vehicles nearing end of useful life.

3. New Year's Eve Bus

Cherwinski presented statistics for the last 2 years of ridership during New Year's Eve. It showed some years having good use by the public and others less. 2016 showed drastic decrease in riders during New Year's Eve going from 100 passengers in 2015 to only 28 passengers in 2016. No reason could be determined. Ms. Frisch suggested asking drivers who drove the route last year what they felt was the pros and cons from riders on that evening. Cherwinski asked the committee for a recommendation on running 1 or 2 buses this year. Commissioner Liss recommended keeping with 2 buses and reevaluating after this year with information from drivers.

B. Airport Manager's Report

1. Airport Financial Report

Barresi presented the airports monthly financial reports to the Committee. Motion by Commissioner Borton seconded by Commissioner Johnson to acknowledge the financial report. All in Favor, Motion Approved.

2. Airport Updates

Barresi briefed that with the approval of the 2018 airport budget the airport would be moving forward with the additional hire to the ARFF contract allowing for 1 additional maintenance person. This will allow for 2 people to be on duty every morning to keep the runways free of snow. By having 2 maintenance people on duty 7 days a week also increases the safety of delicate operations like De-icing and cargo loading.

Barresi informed the committee that the Airport Advisory had reviewed the application for Mr. Bruce Dietz to be an Advisory member and was recommending to the Transportation Committee that he be accepted. Motion by Commissioner Liss to approve the addition of Mr. Dietz to the Advisory Committee seconded by Commissioner Johnson Motion Carried.

Barresi informed the committee that we were hosting for the 7th year in a row the January Chamber of Commerce Business after Hours event. Barresi stated he had offered to allow another business to take the event over but the Chamber insisted that the airport was a popular destination and event location. Alpine Tavern will cater the event with live music.

C. Airshow Coordinators Report

1. Airshow 2018

Barresi updated the committee on airshow planning and contracts and costs associated with some new and returning acts. The confirmation of the A-10 demo team is a very welcomed addition to the 2018 airshow and the pending return of some of the other acts is also eagerly anticipated. Barresi added that planning to date is going well.

D. Public Comment

John and Lori Lafave spoke to the committee on their long 25 years' experience riding the Otsego County Bus System. They are avid supporters of community transportation and recently made a home move to be closer to more frequent bus availability. They both shared with the committee some observations and suggestions that the committee appreciated.

The next meeting date will be on Thursday 11 Jan 2018 at 9:00 am in the Gaylord Regional Airport conference room. The meeting was adjourned by Commissioner Liss at 10:00 am.