



Transportation and Airport Committee Minutes

Thursday, 9 July, 2015 – 09:00 a.m.
Gaylord Regional Airport 1100 Aero Drive
P.O. Box 1396 Gaylord, MI 49734

MINUTES

Commissioner Liss called the meeting to order at 09:02 a.m.

Roll call – Paul Liss, Ken, Doug Johnson
Others present: John Burt, Theron Higgins, Matt Barresi
Excused: Ken Borton

Approval of Minutes

Motion by Commissioner Johnson to approve the minutes of 11 June 2015. Motion Carried.

Approval of Agenda

Motion by Commissioner Johnson to approve the agenda with the addition of Item e. Highway Sign to airport report, Motion Carried.

A. Transportation Manager's Report

1. Bus Finance Report

Higgins provided a QuickBooks balance sheet and a BS&A Revenue and Expense report. Motion by Commissioner Liss to acknowledge reports as shown. All in Favor, Motion approved.

2. Federal Funding Decrease

Higgins informed the Committee that MDOT has decreased the State Funding formula after State Transit agencies have provided their Budgets to MDOT. Budgets for fiscal year 2016 were due to MDOT on March 1st 2015. MDOT informed all State Transit agencies to use 36.34% as the State formula percentage for their fiscal year 2016 budgets, and after all budgets were received by MDOT they send a letter out stating that Transit agencies would receive monthly formula state funding checks based on 35.64%, which is a .7% decrease of funding. This is approximately a \$15,000 decrease to Otsego County Bus's funding from the State after our Budget was submitted based on the higher funding amount.

3. Contract Increase Recommendation

Higgins recommended a motion to increase 4% the County Bus's Transportation Agreements with Crossroads Industries, Commission on Aging Meals on Wheels program, Gaylord School's Regular school year special needs program, and Gaylord School's Summer school special needs program. Motion by Commissioner Liss to approve a 4% increase with these Transportation Agreements and move them to the Full Board of Commissioners for final Approval. All in Favor, Motion Approved.

4. Airshow Statistics

Higgins briefed the Committee on the Bus Systems support for the Airshow, stating a large increase in passengers this year and a very smooth running operation. Higgins mentioned it gets better each year, and the County Bus looks forward to support the Airshow next year.

B. Airport Manager's Report

1. Airport Financial Report

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

2. Taxi lane Project

Barresi briefed the committee on the project to replace the hangar taxi lane pavement north of the airport parking ramp and parallel to Aero Drive. This project replaces the last poorly rated pavement at the Gaylord Regional Airport which is estimated to be over 30 years old. The project has started and has an estimated completion time of 2 to 3 weeks. Barresi added that a mass e-mail went out to airport customers and residents informing them of the project and the possible inconvenience they may experience as a result of the project. Commissioner Liss instructed Barresi to post letters with details of the project on each effected hangar door to inform those that may have missed the e-mail.

3. House Bill 425

Barresi informed the committee that he was watching closely House Bill 425 which if passed would assign discretionary money (that money that is over what we receive yearly as entitlement money) would be assigned based on an airports fuel sales. This would result badly for airports that do not sell fuel or sell very little throughout the year. However if passed would likely do well for Gaylord since we generate larger fuel sales than most General Aviation Airports in our region. The Airport Managers Association as a whole is voicing protest to not pass the bill on behalf of those smaller airports.

4. Airshow Wrap Up

Barresi was pleased to brief the committee on the success of the 6th Annual Wings Over Gaylord Airshow. Barresi credited it to the record number of contributors, the great support from so many agencies and good weather for the shows huge success and record attendance. Barresi went on to inform the committee that attendees and support from surrounding communities has made the event more regional and as such suggested next years airshows title be slightly changed to incorporate those communities. Barresi suggested the 7th instalment of the airshow be called "Wings Over Northern Michigan – Gaylord". After some discussion the board agreed the name change was appropriate.

5. Highway Sign

Barresi is working with MDOT (Roads) to have erected green informational signs on I-75 both north and south bound informing travelers to exit the highway at Exit 282 for the Gaylord Regional Airport.

The next meeting date will be on Thursday, 13 Aug 2015 at 9:00 am in the airport conference room. The meeting was adjourned by Commissioner Liss at 10:05 am.