

COUNTY OF MARQUETTE, MICHIGAN
Sawyer International Airport
Airport Advisory Committee
Thursday February 8, 2018 4:00 P.M.
Meeting Minutes

Members Present: Ed Glasgow, Steve Rodgers, Bob Muelle, County Commissioner Adamini, and Frank Rosado

Members Absent: John LaCourt and County Commissioner Alholm

Staff Present: Duane DuRay, Airport Manager, Steve Schenden, Director of Operations

Staff Absent: None

Guests Present: None

1. Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order by Director of Operations Schenden at 4:05 pm.

2. Approval of the Agenda:

Motion was made by County Commissioner Adamini supported by Member Muelle to approve the agenda with an amendment to reflect an addition to the Airport Landing Fees under item 5A to discuss freight haulers with signatory and non-signatory agreements.

3. Public Comment: None

4. Approval of Minutes January 2018:

Motion was made by, Member Glasgow, supported by County Commissioner Adamini, to approve the minutes. Motion passed unanimously.

5. Items of Discussion:

- A. Airport Landing Fees modified to include freight haulers with or without a Signatory agreement in place: Member Glasgow provided an attachment with revised landing fee charges. Glasgow stated the charges have not been changes since 2014 and the fee structure was compared to Iron Mountain airport. Iron Mountain is about the most comparable to Sawyer International Airport with a similar stand-alone FBO. Member Glasgow will come back with more refined fee structure of landing fees for further discussion.

Director Schenden added discussion about unreported cargo hauling aircraft operating at Sawyer. Discussion took place on how the additional cargo hauling aircraft can be documented and reported to the Airport Administration with the larger issue is how to insure the airport is collecting the proper fees. The Airport provides two types of agreements, Signatory and Non-Signatory agreements and may need to adjust the fee structure with these agreements to get better compliance with aircraft operators. The airport may begin tracking all of flights for the freight hauling aircraft through Flight Aware.

6. Informational Items & Project Updates:

- A. Sawyer Map Application – Manager DuRay updated the Advisory Board on the progress of the MAP Application progress. The cost of the project is estimated at approximately \$25 Million for the expansion of Envoy’s primary maintenance hangars. Currently the FAA is still operating on a continued resolution and until a new FAA funding bill is approved, the Map application will not need to be submitted. Commissioner Adamini spoke on the mining revenue from the Eagle Mine and how Marquette County needs to lobby the State of Michigan.
- B. MDOT Grant Closeout Workshop – DuRay briefed the Airport Advisory Committee on a workshop he attended down in Lansing with the FAA and the MDOT, looking for ways to streamline the Airport Improvement Program (AIP) grant close out procedures. Both the FAA and the State are pressing for the reduction in the time to close out these grants from as long as 48 months, down to 12 to 18 months. It is important for airports to get the grant closed as quickly as possible to reduce local funding liabilities.
- C. Runway Incursions – Chairman Rosado provided an update on a required Runway Incursion meeting held annually at Sawyer International Airport. Chairman Rosado, as the Air Traffic Control Tower Manager, provided very helpful and interesting information to all of the stakeholders in attendance. The meeting was represented by several airport tenants.

7. **Late Additions:** None

8. **Public Comment:** None

9. **Staff and Committee Member Comment:** County Commissioner Adamini provided information on a group called Economic Development, LLC. Mr. John Mahaney is a key player in this group and this group is interested in the success of the airport. Some key issue Mr. Mahaney may be able to assist with at the airport is the U.S. Customs and funding of the MAP application. Director Schenden provided Mr. Mahaney an open invitation for a tour of the airport.

Manager DuRay reported to the Committee of a detailed runway construction project presentation will be planned in the near future and invitation will be sent to the airfield stakeholders.

Member Rodgers asked about how the progress of the Category III program for airport security. DuRay said the new date is July for the changeover if all goes well.

Member Rodgers also commented on the need for U.S. Customs for his operation, Envoy has been operating aircraft into Canada and it would work well for his operation at Sawyer International if Customs was available.

Chairman Rosado commented on the need to continue to work on customs for the airport and the region. County Commissioner Adamini reiterated his assistance with Mr. Mahaney and stated he would schedule a visit and would need a program to be discussed.

Director Schenden briefed the Committee on the rental of one of the hangar stalls in hangar 400 to A. Lindberg for some winter work on some of their equipment, the airport is moving forward on a \$20,000 window replacement for Envoy, and Mike Wills, a long time tenant and business owner, sold his operation to Van Damme and will be ending his business operations at Sawyer International Airport.

10. Adjournment: Committee Member Rodgers made a motion, supported by County Commissioner Adamini to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed unanimously.

Adjourned At 5:09 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Duane R. DuRay Airport Manager