

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

**Members Present:** Ed Glasgow, John LaCourt, Bob Muelle, and County Commissioner Adamini

**Members Absent:** County Commissioner Alholm, Steve Rodgers and Frank Rosado

**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 Vice Chair John LaCourt at 4:02 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 of runway lighting issues under item seven. Motion passed unanimously.

**3. Public Comment:** None

**4. Approval of Minutes January 2018:**

Motion was made by, Member Glasgow, supported by Member Muelle, to approve the minutes as written. Motion passed unanimously.

**5. Items of Discussion:**

- A. Airport Landing Fees further discussion: Member Glasgow provided an updated list of area airport landing fees and provided further explanation on those and several other airports. Member Glasgow was able to collect several airport landing and ramp fees. Discussion took place. DuRay and Glasgow will bring back a finalized recommendation for the Advisory Committee at the next meeting.

**6. Informational Items & Project Updates:**

- A. Runway Closures, surface pavement ice – Manager DuRay updated the Committee on the latest runway closure due to 3/8 inch of ice. Director Schenden has spoken with Mr. Erbsch and has been authorized to look into some alternate methods of treating the runway surface. Airport staff continues

to look at these options and is looking to rent and test some equipment this season prior to purchasing the equipment and material. Discussion took place.

- B. MDOT Grants awarded to Airport – DuRay informed the Committee of three State grants that were recently awarded to Marquette County, DuRay provided a summary of an airport awareness marketing grant of \$7,000, a radio replacement grant of \$3,000, and a computer based record keeping program grant for two years at the value of \$9,300.00.
  - C. Oshkosh Corp. Snow Blower Testing – DuRay provided an update to the Committee on additional revenue generated from Oshkosh snow blower testing, Oshkosh has been on site since March 6 and is scheduled to stay through March 17. The overall charge for the use of the airport facilities is \$200.00 per day.
  - D. Wausau Corporation Testing – DuRay briefed the Advisory Committee on Wausau Corp. wishing to rent space for snow blower testing, similar to Oshkosh, but the week following Oshkosh. Wausau Corp. is doing similar testing on snow blower equipment.
  - E. New Tires – DuRay informed the Committee on the need to purchase new snow removal equipment tires. The initial costs for these new tires were \$1700 per tire, but after further research, we were able to find replacement tires at the cost of \$200 per tire. The tires are used, but have 99% tread left and if they are as advertised, we will be looking to replace several tires in the near future.
  - F. Discover Sawyer Planning - DuRay informed the Committee that the date of the Discover Sawyer Day is August 5; Ms. Ashley Hernandez has been working to get this event put together. Hernandez is communicating with a group from the Air Force that intends to fly several aircraft up for the event for display. Staff is looking forward to a successful event 5<sup>th</sup> year running.
7. **Late Additions:** Runway Lighting Issues - On the evening of March 6, the airport had the north end of the runway airfield lighting fail. Staff contacted J Rank Electric to come and assist with the trouble shooting. With help from Boreal Aviation, J Rank Electric and airport staff, the airport was able to have the problem repaired in a 1 ½ days. The event caused two air carrier cancellations, but very limited for the severity of the outage.
8. **Public Comment:** None
9. **Staff and Committee Member Comment:** Director Schenden informed the Committee on a story that was run on contaminated water and if anyone would like to get an official report from the Sawyer Water Department he can make them available.  
Member Glasgow informed the Committee of a death of a local pilot, Nate Saari. Glasgow also stated a plaque will be place in the FBO in Honor of Mr. Saari.  
Vice Chairman LaCourt asked about the ability to have certain facility upgrades for the U.S. Army operation, primarily certifying the overhead cranes in hangar 663. DuRay informed the Committee that the airport does look at all request made by tenants.  
Vice Chairman LaCourt also informed his wife is donating a kidney for her sister this month.
10. **Adjournment:** Committee Member LaCourt made a motion, supported by member Glasgow to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed unanimously.

Adjourned At 5:09 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Duane R. DuRay Airport Manager