

COUNTY OF MARQUETTE, MICHIGAN
Sawyer International Airport
Airport Advisory Committee
Thursday April 13, 2017 4:00 P.M.
Meeting Minutes

Members Present: Bob Muelle, Scott Schultz, County Commissioner Steve Adamini, John LaCourt, Frank Rosado, and County Commissioner Alholm.

Members Absent: Steve Rodgers

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

Staff Absent: None

Guests Present: None

1. Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order by Frank Rosado at 4:01 pm.

2. Approval of the Agenda:

Motion was made by Commissioner Karen Alholm, supported by Member John LaCourt to approve the Agenda. Motion passed unanimously.

3. Public Comment:

A. None noted.

4. Approval of Minutes February 2017:

Motion was made by Commissioner Karen Alholm, supported by Member Bob Muelle to approve the Minutes. Motion passed unanimously.

5. Items of Discussion:

A. Envoy Hangar Update- DuRay briefed the Committee on the status of the Envoy Map Project; staff has received letters of support from the Governor's Office, Senator Peter's Office and Senator Stabenow's Office. DuRay also informed the Committee that the FAA has been quiet about the MAP application and that is perceived in a good light. Commissioner Adamini stated he had conversations with folks in Lansing about the possibility of having the taxes collected from the local mining operations to come back to Marquette County to offset the local share of the MAP Project. He will keep staff informed in the progress or if the staff needs to complete anything for those funds.

6. Informational Items & Project Updates:

A. ATC Elevator Update- Director Schenden updated the Committee on the current progress of the elevator. Mr. Paul Knox from the Marquette County Codes Dept. provided research into the requirements of the air handler system and whether the current system would make the use of the stairwell safe to use during a fire situation. Mr. Schenden stated Integrated Design Inc. (IDI) was hired to research more specific information on the tower air handling system and provide the necessary information to staff. Discussion took place.

- B. Hangar Insulation Update -- Mr. Schenden informed the Committee on the progress of the hangar insulation evaluation. Several one foot square samples will need to be removed from different locations and sent to a lab to be analyzed before the next steps can be decided. Staff will keep the Committee informed on the progress.
- C. Minneapolis Flight Update -- DuRay briefed the Committee on the progress of the Minneapolis flights. The flights have been running at an average of 75% enplanement and 74% deplaned. The service appears to be well accepted by the traveling public and the initial conversations with the Delta staff indicate the flights are showing a very strong start. The Minneapolis flights do not appear to have affected the American Eagle Chicago flights. Discussion took place about the pursuit of other air carriers to continue building on current flights.
- D. Runway Closures -- DuRay informed the Committee about the past winter operations and the struggles encountered with the new runway condition reporting. A total of seven (7) runway closures due to ice were experienced and staff worked very hard to minimize the impacts to the tenants and passengers. DuRay stated, the Airport will be having a post season Snow and Ice Control Plan meeting to review the season and develop best practices. Staff is also looking at the purchase of a runway broom to help mitigate the ice and looking to purchase runway deicing chemicals for the coming season. Discussion took place.
- E. PFC Application -- DuRay provided a brief explanation for the current PFC application; the application covers several projects, varying from past to current and future projects. Discussion took place on the PFC application projects.
- F. Discover Sawyer Day -- DuRay informed the Committee the Events Committee is working on this year's event. The current date is set for August 13, 2017. New security measures will need to be implemented to comply with the new Category III requirements.
- G. US Army -- DuRay updated the Committee on the Army's operation working with the Italians with the tiltrotor AW609 aircraft. Furthermore, the Army has already signed a Letter of Intent for the use of hangar 663 for the next icing season. Discussion took place.
- H. Airport Awareness Grant -- DuRay briefed the Committee on the awarding of a State of Michigan airport awareness grant, last year's grant was for \$20,000, but due to limited funding the current award was limited to \$10,000. The grant monies will be used to provide funding to market the American Eagle and Delta flights, the airport, and the Discover Sawyer event. This funding is just a portion of the Airport Marketing budget.
- I. Maritime Information Systems Agreement -- DuRay provided information from Maritime Information System; this is a company that is looking to provide a system to the airport that monitors aircraft that are within the vicinity of the Airport. The system would be installed at the airport at a no cost application, requiring only an internet connection and power supply. Discussion took place, follow up with the company will be required.

7. **Late Additions:** None

8. **Public Comment:** None

9. **Staff and Committee Member Comment:** Mr. Schenden briefed the committee on the current relocation status of the FAA's radar system; survey work will be required inside the fence in the coming weeks and staff will keep everyone apprised on the FAA transition.

Schenden provided compliments to the staff for the job well done with the last snow fall. Staffing was limited with many of the seasonal personnel being laid off and the snow was very wet and heavy. There was a combined effort across the board to address the weather conditions and get the job done to limit the inconveniences to the airport tenants and the flying public.

10. **Adjournment:** Member LaCourt made a motion, supported by Member Adamini to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed unanimously.

Adjourned.

Respectfully submitted by Duane DuRay, Airport Manager