

COUNTY OF MARQUETTE, MICHIGAN
Sawyer International Airport
Airport Advisory Committee
Thursday July 14, 2016 4:00 P.M.
Meeting Minutes

Members Present: Frank Rosado, Donald Kristola, Steve Adamini
Scott Schulz, John La Court, and Steve Rodgers.

Members Absent: County Commissioner Karen Alholm

Staff Present: Duane DuRay, Airport Manager

Staff Absent: Steve Schenden, Director of Operations

Guests Present: None

1. Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order by Chairman LaCourt at 4:02 p.m.

2. Approval of the Agenda:

Motion was made by Member Rodgers, supported by Member Rosado to approve the agenda with additions of Jump Start briefing, Discover Sawyer Day and Access Control Update as late additions. Motion passed unanimously.

3. Public Comment:

A. None noted

4. Approval of Minutes:

Member Kristola made a motion, supported by Member Rodgers, to approve the June 2016 minutes. Motion passed unanimously.

5. Items of Discussion:

By request, the order of the agenda was rearranged to allow Mr. Schenden time to join the meeting following his meeting with Rural Development representatives.

- A. Jump Start: DuRay briefed the Committee on meetings that took place with United Airlines, Delta Air Lines, Public Charter, and Great Lakes Airlines. Trillion Aviation, air service consultant, also accompanied DuRay in meetings with the various air carriers. United Airlines meeting/intent entailed the develop of a relationship and included some history, passenger statistics, future projections, and a brief description of the Marquette County economic make up - primarily an introduction to the community. The meeting with Delta Air Lines went very well; Delta was intrigued with the upgrade of the CRJ 700 with American Eagle, and conversation focused on the potential for additional frequency and possible larger aircraft. Meeting concluded on a very positive note. The Public Charter meeting went well, the pitch focused on

Lansing as a route they may be able to support. The conversation evolved into possibilities of a flight running through Manistee, Michigan and down to Lansing which would tie into the current Public Charter network. Sawyer may pursue a SCASD Grant to limit the financial risk if it became necessary. Public Charters flies from Manistee into Midway Airport in Chicago, this route would provide another option for the Marquette traveler. The final meeting was with Great Lakes Airlines, a smaller niche air carrier with a focus on EAS markets, but the pitch was also for a Lansing flight and relationship building with another air service provider.

- B. Discover Sawyer: Sunday, August 7th is the day this year's event will be held – complete with helicopter rides, pancake breakfast, Young Eagles Flights, inflatables for the kids, car show, and several other day-long activities. The local Delta Air Line staff, Marquette Breakfast Rotary, EAA Chapter, Marquette County Flying Club, Boreal Aviation and friends of the airport have been very helpful with organizing this event.
- C. Access Control Update: Several meetings have been held with TSA to coordinate the security changes necessitated by this project, and things are going well. Airport badges have yet to be approved by TSA, but we are getting closer and a contingency plan is prepared if needed. Staff is hopeful the ASP will be approved by September.

6. Informational Items & Project Updates:

- A. Hangar Fire Barrier and Insulation Repair (tabled from previous meeting): DuRay informed the Committee that Mr. Schenden may be delayed by his Rural Development meeting. Chairman La Court inquired if there was any update. DuRay stated Mr. Schenden was working with the consulting firm from Boston and indicated one of the contributing factors for the failure was the lack of a bonding agent between the fire retardant and the insulation, but did not have anything further to add. Discussion took place. Member Rodgers requested that Mr. Schenden make it a priority to attend the next meeting and update the Committee on plans to correct the insulation issues.
- B. Other Project Updates (tabled from previous meeting): DuRay informed the Committee that the IL-76 aircraft has been removed from the hangar and placed on the ramp, citing concerns relating to the solvency of the owners. Michigan Renewable Carbon has shut down temporarily - due to financial struggles. Staff has limited information at this time. Member Rodgers requested a meeting with Mr. Schenden for an update on hangar insulation. DuRay indicated he would pass the request along.

7. Late Additions:

- A. Jump Start Brief
- B. Discover Sawyer Day
- C. Access Control Update

8. Public Comment: None

9. Staff and Committee Member Comment: Committee member Rodgers said it appears AA wants to keep the CRJ 700 flights indefinitely. Member Rodgers also commented on the possibility of making Marquette a support base for the Embraer 170 aircraft. Conversation also took place on the future of the aircraft that Envoy is recycling, and the potential for the airport to acquire the aircraft structure for fire training.

10. Adjournment: Member Rodgers made a motion, supported by Member Kristola Member Rodgers to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted by Duane DuRay, Airport Manager