

County of Marquette  
Airport Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes  
Thursday, March 6, 2008, 4:00 P.M.  
Airport Services Center, Second Floor Conference Room  
Gwinn, MI 49841

**Members Present:** Bob Struck, Scott Schulz, Andy Sikkema, Frank Rosado, and John LaCourt

**Members Absent:** Steve Rodgers, Fred Benzie (Excused)

**Staff Present:** Keith Kaspari, Scott Erbisch

**Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 4:08 p.m.

**Approval of Minutes (January & February 2008) ó**

The committee reviewed the minutes from January and February. A motion was made by John LaCourt, supported by Frank Rosado, and carried unanimously.

**Approval of the Agenda:**

The committee discussed revising the agenda to include an update from Keith on the fire truck. A motion was made by Andy Sikkema, supported by Scott Schulz, and carried unanimously.

**Public Comment:** None

**Informational Items:**

- A. Keith Kaspari provided a copy of correspondence, and an update of the February 20 / 21 Michigan Airports Conference in Lansing. It was communicated to the Committee that during the two-day conference, officials from both the FAA and MDOT provided an update with regard to pedestrian and vehicle deviations, federal and state funding, and again the urgency for Michigan's legislators to pass a Capital Outlay Bill in order to accept federal funds.

Also, MDOT's Director, Mr. Kirk Steudle, provided a power point presentation regarding the Governor's new Transportation Study, and the Citizens Advisory Group / Committee, of which, Marquette County Commissioner and Airport Advisory Committee Chairman, Bob Struck, is a member of the Committee representing the Michigan Association of Counties. The Study is anticipated to take approximately 10-months, and include all modes of transportation in Michigan.

- B. Scott Erbisch led discussion regarding current discussion with officials from Forsyth Township regarding funding to the Township for the operation of the Emergency Services Building at Sawyer (across from the former Sawyer Business Center), and that the former agreement with the township expired in December of 2007.

A great deal of additional discussion by all members present centered around the level of services provided by the Township, including the receipt of former USAF surplus municipal fire trucks, in contrast to the level of mutual aid received, and provided by the County, and the level of funding requested by the Township.

Scott Erbisch continued discussion regarding FTFD personnel being offered, yet rarely accepting the offer by airport staff to attend annual fire fighting training working alongside airport fire personnel.

Additional discussion centered on the potential impacts of the closure of the Emergency Services Building, and the loss of municipal fire protection to a current or future Sawyer tenant's ISO rating without adequate or fire protection located at Sawyer.

Bob Struck provided comment regarding Forsyth and West Branch Townships fire department.

- C. Scott Erbisch led discussion and provided an update and handout to members of the Committee with regard to the current Sawyer marketing program with Vikki Kulju and Telkite.

Scott Schulz provided comment that he would like to see Telkite provide a press release regarding Telkite's accomplishments.

- D. Keith Kaspari provided an update on the status of the new fire truck. Keith and two members of the airport maintenance / fire staff made a pre-delivery site visit to the Oshkosh (Wisconsin) plant to inspect the vehicle prior to shipment. Delivery of the new vehicle is anticipated for late March.

**New Business:**

- A. Scott Erbisch deferred comment to John LaCourt regarding turning on the runway lights from "Off" to Step-5 (High), and that staff feels that the runway and taxiway lights are on for extended periods of time when airfield lighting is not needed.

Scott provided additional comment regarding the impacts of the lights on for extended periods of time with older constant current regulators and the utility cost associated with leaving the lights on when they are possibly not needed.  
Frank í

**Old Business**

- A. Staff provided an update on the status of the parking terminal area parking lot improvement project. A pre-bid meeting is scheduled for 3:00 on Thursday, March 20<sup>th</sup>.

**Public Comment:** None

**Staff and Committee Member Comment:**

- A. Staff discussed the lighting system at the Iron Mountain Airport (Ford Field) that currently uses an energy efficient LED type of lighting system (for the airfield taxiways only), in contrast with current quartz lighting systems found at many airports including Sawyer.
- B. Staff discussed the future installation of the enhanced taxiway markings on the airfield that will be included as part of the upcoming runway pavement reconstruction project.
- C. Scott Erbisch provided an update on the relocation of Argonics to Sawyer from Marquette.
- D. Scott Erbisch provided an update on the submittal of new signatory airline use agreements to both American Eagle Airlines and Northwest Airlines.
- E. Staff provided an update on the issuance of a new Passenger Facility Charge (PFC) application to the FAA, with the air carrier consultation meeting (required) scheduled for Friday, March 27 at 4:00 at the ASC.
- F. Scott Erbisch provided an update to the committee regarding the correspondence to Michigan's federal legislators regarding the WAAS system. Scott is working on a draft letter for submittal.

**Committee Member Comments:**

No comments noted.

**Adjournment:**

Scott Schulz made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Frank Rosado, and the motion carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 5:45 p.m.