

**COUNTY OF MARQUETTE, MICHIGAN
Sawyer International Airport**

**Airport Advisory Committee Meeting
Thursday, May 6, 2010, 4:30 P.M.**

**Airport Services Center
Second Floor Conference Room
Gwinn, MI 49841**

1. Call to Order

2. Public Comment

3. Approval of the Agenda

4. Approval of Minutes (April 1, 2010)

5. Items for Discussion

- A. WAAS Update
- B. Terminal Restroom
- C. T-Hangar Storage Units
- D. Summary of April 29 Strategic Planning Meeting
- E. Hangar Support Buildings 608 & 627

6. Informational Items / Project Updates

7. Public Comment

8. Staff and Committee Member Comment

9. Adjournment

**COUNTY OF MARQUETTE, MICHIGAN
Sawyer International Airport
Airport Advisory Committee**

**Thursday, April 1, 2010, 4:30 P.M.
Meeting Minutes**

**First Floor Conference Room
Airport Services Center
Gwinn, MI 49841**

Members Present: Committee Chairman Bob Struck, and Committee Members Jim Cihak, Andy Sikkema, Scott Schulz, Frank Rosado, Steve Rodgers, John LaCourt and Fred Benzie.

Members Absent: N/A

Staff Present: Keith Kaspari, Airport Manager

Staff Absent: Scott Erbisch, Director of Operations

Guests Present: Roger Bentlage, Member, Sawyer Chapter of the Experimental Aircraft Association - (EAA)

1. **Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 4:28 p.m. by Chairman Struck.

2. **Public Comment:**

Chairman Struck welcomed fellow Marquette County Commissioner Jim Cihak to the Advisory Committee.

Chairman Struck provided Mr. Cihak some background information on the overall makeup of the Committee Members.

3. **Approval of the Agenda:**

Airport Manager Keith Kaspari requested of the Committee to add an item to the agenda, referred to as 5-G, Informational Items, Aerobatic Practice Area (Aerobatic Box).

Committee Member Scott Schulz requested of the Committee to add an item to the agenda, referred to as 5-H, Informational Items, Notice of Hangar Eviction.

A Motion of Support was offered by Committee Member Frank Rosado, with a second offered by Committee Member Fred Benzie.

Motion carried with approval of the agenda as revised.

4. Approval of Minutes:

Committee Members reviewed the minutes from the Advisory Committee meeting held in March, 2010. A Motion of Support was offered by Committee Member Scott Schulz, with a second by Committee Member Frank Rosado.

Motion passed.

5. Items for Discussion:

- A. Wide Area Augmentation System (WAAS):** Mr. Kaspari updated the Committee Members regarding the Wide Area Augmentation System, or WAAS, for Runway approach ends 1 and 19.

Mr. Kaspari provided comment, via an email received from Mr. Charles Youngblood, a contract employee for the FAA, as follows: The LPV for Runway 19 did pass its flight check on March 17, but unfortunately, the notification of satisfactory completion was not provided until March 22, therefore it did not allow enough time to process the paperwork to NACO/NFDC (National Aeronautical Charting Office / National Flight Data Center) in time to meet the March 23 deadline for a May 6, 2010 publication.

Publication for Runway 19 is now scheduled for June 3.

For Runway 1, the Flight Procedures Office (FPO) is awaiting availability for a new vertically guided approach survey before scheduling a procedure for development.

The imagery from the new survey has been delivered and approved, but the FAA is still awaiting delivery of the final survey data.

The airside survey is now complete, but the surveyor is confirming the declared distance information and needs to confirm various AGL (Above Ground Level) heights before final submittal.

The FAA is expecting delivery of this information soon. End of email update.

Committee Member Frank Rosado asked Committee Member Steve Rodgers if American Eagle's fleet of Embraer Regional Jets are equipped to utilize the WAAS system.

Committee Member Rodgers provided a reply that the Embraer's are equipped, and that his fleet of jets are now being upgraded for use at airports that utilize a CAT-II ILS (Instrument Landing System) approach.

B. Snow Removal Equipment (Runway Snowbroom):

Mr. Kaspari provided comment to the Committee Members regarding the email correspondence sent and received from Scott Erbisich to Charles Reichwald, Product Manager with the Wausau Equipment Co. Discussion ensued.

Committee Members discussed the issue of snow removal equipment, and directed staff to submit correspondence to Mr. Reichwald prior to the next scheduled meeting (May), to request a winter demonstration.

Staff was further directed by the Committee Members to place this item on the agenda again for either the August or September meeting as a reminder.

Mr. Kaspari provided comment to the Committee that Mr. Mark Larson, Vice President for the M-B Company has offered to address the Committee with regards to the operation of a snowbroom for our snow removal operations here at Sawyer.

C. Passenger Terminal Restroom Project:

Mr. Kaspari provided discussion regarding the project to install a unisex or separate men's and women's restrooms in the boarding area of the airline passenger terminal, including the correspondence provided to the Committee by Mr. Erbisich. Discussion ensued.

Mr. LaCourt requested of staff to:

- 1). Determine if reimbursement would be provided for engineering services provided by Mead & Hunt only, or if reimbursement would be provided for both engineering services and construction of the restroom; and,
- 2). Request civil counsel to review the existing 5-year agreement for engineering and architectural services between Marquette County and Mead & Hunt.

A Motion of Support was offered by Committee Member Andy Sikkema to proceed with Mead & Hunt for providing architectural and engineering services, with a second by Committee Member Steve Rodgers.

Motion passed.

D. FAA Runway Reduction:

Mr. Kaspari provided an update to the Committee on the issue of the FAA's position on the current length of Sawyer's runway, and as per the correspondence on the matter provided to the Committee Members by Mr. Erbisich.

Mr. Kaspari provided comment that staff is currently working on a draft letter to the FAA regarding the runway, and that staff felt that this issue ranked as a priority to expedite.

Mr. Kaspari continued that prior to sending the correspondence, that staff would route the letter to the Committee Members for review.

Discussion continued amongst the Committee Members including the possibility of contacting our Congressional representatives to, at a minimum, advise them of this issue for possible future assistance.

Committee Member John LaCourt requested of staff to ascertain the thickness of the runway for the area in question.

Mr. Kaspari provided a reply to Mr. LaCourt's question, and commented that in previous work completed in 2005 or 2006, the thickness of a section of Alpha Taxiway measured approximately 21.5-inches thick – in contrast with the center section of the runway (asphalt) that measures approximately 6.0-inches thick.

Mr. LaCourt provided additional comment with regard to the accelerated stop distances – providing additional discussion regarding the distances needed with a contaminated runway during winter snow and ice conditions. Discussion continued.

Committee Member Steve Rodgers provided comment that one of the reasons that forced the closure of American Eagle Airlines' aircraft maintenance facility at San Luis Obispo (California) was due to runway length issues.

Committee Members agreed that in the absence of a secondary or crosswind runway – and the difficulty to justify the expense of a crosswind runway, that retaining the length of the current runway should be staff's priority.

The Committee Members, however, made a request of staff to keep working on the possibility of a future crosswind runway.

E. Hangar Support Building (HSB) 627:

Mr. Kaspari provided an update to the Committee Members, along with correspondence provided by Mr. Erbisch, regarding Hangar Support Building No: 627 (HSB-627).

The concern of staff is such that while this building continues to receive interest by both potential aviation and non-aviation tenants, should we accept funds via the FAA's Military Airports Program (MAP), staff felt it was an issue that needed to be brought to the attention of the Committee Members of the possibility of accepting the federal funds – and a future lease to a non-aviation tenant and any possible future impacts to Marquette County as a result.

Staff submitted correspondence to the FAA requesting clarification, and their response was that airport staff was approved to continue negotiations, but should the project get funded, the funds could be withdrawn should a non-aviation lease move in.

As a result, staff is weighing options regarding the acceptance of any federal funding for this project.

F. Strategic Planning Meeting (Date and Time):

Mr. Kaspari led discussion to the Members of the Committee with regard to a date and time for a future Strategic Planning session between staff and the Advisory Committee. Discussion ensued.

It was decided that Thursday, April 29th from 4-6 was chosen by the Committee Members.

Staff agreed to send out a reminder notice to the Members of the Committee on the Monday prior.

G. Aerobic Practice Area (Aerobic Box):

Mr. Kaspari provided an update to the Committee Members with regard to the status of the Aerobic Practice Area. Mr. Kaspari communicated to the Committee Members that there was no additional cost to the airport for liability coverage to have the Aerobic Practice Area at the airport, yet this would change if Sawyer was a location to hold an aerobic competition.

Mr. Kaspari responded that in reviewing the draft Environmental Information Document (EID) required by the FAA, and the dimensions for the Operational Area of the Aerobic Box, as proposed, staff wanted to be sure that there were no operational impacts to the airport for those aircraft operators conducting local flight operations (closed traffic – pattern work), scheduled and non-scheduled airline operations, possible noise impacts to both commercial, residential, schools and areas of worship located at or near the airport environs.

Staff felt that it was important that we continue to be good neighbors to those that work at or live around the Sawyer environs.

Staff commented that they would work together with Mr. Bentlage, for the future submittal to the FAA for the Environmental Information Document (EID) required by the FAA.

H. Notice of Hangar Eviction:

Committee Member Scott Schulz brought to the attention of the Committee Members with regard to a notice of eviction for the storage units at the end of each row of General Aviation (GA) T-Hangars.

Mr. Kaspari informed the Members that due to the forthcoming construction of Hangars 666 & 667 by RenewaFUELS, and the future removal of the hangar bay-area light fixtures from the two hangars – (200+ fixtures), that staff has submitted 30-day notices to the tenants to vacate the T-Hangar storage units so that staff could use the storage units for the preservation and secure long-term storage of the light fixtures.

A significant amount of discussion ensued.

Mr. Kaspari reminded the Committee Members that staff needed the space, did not have sufficient storage space in the Airport Services Center building, that staff wanted to ensure the lights were stored in an on-airfield location, preserve the lights from any future damage, and that staff did not want to store them in a hangar due to the amount of floor space that would be required.

Mr. Kaspari also reminded the Committee Members that he wanted to reserve the open or available aircraft t-hangars for use and storage of future aircraft.

Mr. Schulz provided comment that the airport is always striving to increase revenue, and the eviction of the storage units would cause an anticipated loss of revenue at approximately \$250.00 per month.

Mr. Kaspari provided comment that as the Airport Manager, I (he) would be willing to forgo the \$250.00 per month in revenue to ensure a secure on-airfield location for the long-term storage of the 200+ lights.

A Motion of Support was offered by Committee Member Fred Benzie for staff to find a secondary location to store the lights. The Motion was seconded by Committee Member John LaCourt. Motion passed.

6. Informational Items:

A. Mr. Kaspari advised the Committee Members that Sawyer's next annual FAA Safety and Certification Inspection is scheduled for the week of April 19th, pending any changes of the date.

B. Mr. Kaspari provided an update to the Committee Members regarding the status of FAA MAP Grant No: 3210, for the exterior improvement project for Hangar Support Buildings 608 & 627.

This project is on-hold by the FAA until further notice with the bids by Moyle Construction to remain current for 90-days or until approximately Friday, May 28.

C. Mr. Kaspari provided an update to the Committee Members regarding the status of FAA AIP Grant No: 3310 (Phase II airfield taxiway lighting rehab., and other design-only projects).

D. Mr. Kaspari provided an update to the Committee Members regarding the annual visit of the Marquette County Ambassadors, with the legislative meetings set for Tuesday and Wednesday, April 27 & 28.

E. Mr. Kaspari provided an update to the Committee Members regarding the status of the 400-Series hangar interior improvement project.

Due to a failure in the adhesive qualities of the fire barrier material, the sub-contractor re-applied the material to the ceiling areas of Hangars 423-East (FedEx) and 424 (Boreal aircraft maintenance).

All work has been completed and Boreal Aviation staff have moved back in to the hangars.

- F. Mr. Kaspari provided an update to the Committee Members regarding the status of the 600-Series hangar improvement project. Staff is working through a few final punch list items with the General Contractor (Gundlach Champion).

All work should be completed prior to the end of May.

- G. Mr. Kaspari provided comment to the Committee Members regarding the Parking Lot Exit Canopy. Contractors from Premeau Construction are working on extending the canopy 10-feet to the north on the (south) exit canopy.

Work should be completed prior to the next meeting of the Advisory Committee.

- H. Mr. Kaspari provided an update to the Committee Members, that John Pepin with the Marquette Mining Journal, will be providing an upcoming series on Sawyer beginning in May.

- I. Mr. Kaspari provided an update to the Committee Members regarding the status of the IL-78. Mr. Kaspari commented that Scott Erbisich attended a court hearing.

- J. Mr. Kaspari provided an update to the Committee Members regarding the arrival of the University of Michigan's air ambulance that will be on display at Boreal Aviation on Saturday, April 24th from 10:00 – 3:00.

This event is open to the general public as well as all local and regional health care officials, EMS personnel, etc.

Committee Member Scott Schulz has graciously allowed the use of the conference room at the Boreal Aviation FBO GA terminal building.

7. Public Comment

Roger Bentlage provided comment regarding the additional cost of the FAA to reconfigure the WAAS approach to Runway 19 if the operational length of the Runway 1/19 is reduced.

8. Staff and Committee Member Comment

No comments provided.

9. Adjournment

Time of adjournment: 6:24

No Motion or Second to adjourn the meeting was recorded.