

**RESOLUTION
ROCK COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

Gregory A. Cullen
INITIATED BY



Gregory A. Cullen
DRAFTED BY

Airport Board
SUBMITTED BY

June 23, 2020
DATE DRAFTED

City of Janesville Storm Water Ordinance Exemption

1 **WHEREAS**, Rock County owns and maintains an Airport known as the Southern Wisconsin Regional
2 Airport, which was annexed into the City of Janesville in 2007; and,
3
4 **WHEREAS**, the Airport provides improved surfaces for aircraft arrivals, departures, and temporary
5 parking as a Large General Aviation public-use Airport and an estimated economic impact to the
6 community of \$63 million dollars; and,
7
8 **WHEREAS**, the Airport maintains the Federal Aviation Regulation Part 139 standards to support 55,000
9 aircraft operations in 2019; and,
10
11 **WHEREAS**, the Airport has been paying storm water utility fees based on the 2017 study by MSA
12 Professional Services that reported a total number of Equivalent Residential Units (ERUs) measured on all
13 airport properties as 2,262.4, despite no airport runoff is conveyed to City-owned or managed storm water
14 infrastructure; and,
15
16 **WHEREAS**, the Airport has seen a 160% increase in storm water fees from 2017 through present day;
17 currently paying \$24,383.08 per quarter after receiving maximum allocated credits; and,
18
19 **WHEREAS**, the Chippewa Valley Regional Airport successfully appealed to the City of Eau Claire, WI
20 to amend their local ordinance and exclude their Airport Runways and Taxiways from being charged storm
21 water fees.
22
23 **WHEREAS**, after thorough analysis and discussion the Airport Board strongly supports the City of
24 Janesville making an amendment to their ordinances exempting the public use areas of the Southern
25 Wisconsin Regional Airport from storm water fees.
26
27 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Rock County Board of Supervisors duly
28 assembled this day of 13th day of August, 2020, do hereby request an amendment
29 within the Janesville, WI Code of Ordinances, Chapter 32 – Storm Water System, Article II, Section 32-
30 22, *Nonresidential property* to read "...excluding publicly-owned rights of way, airport runways, airport
31 taxiways, airport public-use parking aprons,..."..

Respectfully submitted,

SOUTHERN WISCONSIN REGIONAL AIRPORT BOARD

/s/ Brent Fox
Brent Fox, Chair

/s/ Dick Cope
Dick Cope

/s/ Rick Richard
Rick Richard, Vice-Chair

/s/ Greg Johnson
Greg Johnson

/s/ Dave Homan
Dave Homan

/s/ Joe Quint
Joe Quint

absent
Eric Baker

/s/ Katie Reese
Katie Reese

/s/ Larry Barton
Larry Barton

20-8A-059

City of Janesville Storm Water Ordinance Exemption
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COUNTY BOARD STAFF COMMITTEE

/s/ Kara Purviance
Kara Purviance, Chair

/s/ J. Russell Podzilni
J. Russell Podzilni

/s/ Richard Bostwick
Richard Bostwick

Absent
Alan Sweeney

Absent
Tom Brien

/s/ Bob Yeomans
Bob Yeomans

/s/ Kevin Leavy
Kevin Leavy

Absent
Jeremy Zajac

/s/ Louis Peer
Louis Peer

FISCAL NOTE:

The County will pay over \$96,000 in storm water fees to the City of Janesville in 2020. The exempting of runway and taxi way improved surfaces from the storm water fee calculation would save the County a significant amount each year.

/s/ Sherry Oja

Sherry Oja
Finance Director

LEGAL NOTE:

The County Board is authorized to take this action pursuant to §§ 59.01 and 59.51, Wis. Stats.

/s/Richard Greenlee

Richard Greenlee
Corporation Counsel

ADMINISTRATIVE NOTE:

Recommended.

/s/Josh Smith

Josh Smith
County Administrator

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

City of Janesville Storm Water Ordinance Exemption

The Southern Wisconsin Regional Airport is a public-use, Large General Aviation airport. The Airport provides runways, taxiways, and associated parking aprons, maintained and certified within the Federal Aviation Regulation Part 139 standards. The Airport conducted 55,000 operations in 2019 and has an economic impact to the surrounding community of \$63 million dollars. The Airport relies on the Rock County tax levy to operate.

Since 2007, the Southern Wisconsin Regional Airport lies within the city limits of Janesville. As such, the Airport pays utility fees on a quarterly basis to the City. In 2016, MSA Professional Services was contracted on behalf of the Airport to respond to proposed changes in the City of Janesville's storm water utility program scheduled to take effect July 1, 2017. The study identified the Airport's total number of Equivalent Residential Units (ERU) measured on all airport properties was found to be 2,262.4. This was an increase from the 1,882.3 value in the City's storm water utility database. However, the MSA report also stated that no airport runoff is conveyed to City-owned or managed storm water infrastructure.

The Airport has seen a significant rise each year in storm water fees since that study. The total amount paid in 2017 was \$36,211.04, 2018 was \$59,603.89, and 2019 was \$75,182.80. The estimated total this year will be \$96,681.78 or an increase of 160% since 2017 despite receiving maximum allowable ERU credit.

This resolution requests the Rock County Board of Supervisors to support an initiative similar to the Chippewa Valley Regional Airport. That Airport approached the City of Eau Claire, WI to amend their city ordinance and allow an exemption of their airport runways and taxiways improved surfaces from being used to calculate storm water fees. The action was approved and resulted in significant utility savings to the Airport.