

Rock County, Wisconsin



Airport Board Meeting - Minutes
Monday, May 20, 2019 at 8:00 a.m.
Southern Wisconsin Regional Airport Terminal Conference Room
1716 W. Airport Rd.
Janesville, WI 53546

Call to Order. Chair Fox called the meeting of the Airport Board to order at 8:00 a.m.

Airport Board Members Present. Supervisors Fox, Mawhinney and Richard, Mr. Eric Baker, Mr. Larry Barton, Mr. Dick Cope, Mr. Joe Quint and Mrs. Katie Reese.

Members Absent. Mr. Greg Johnson

Staff Members: Greg Cullen Airport Director
Cynthia Hevel Airport Specialist

Others Present: Phil Owens County Board Supervisor
David Haas Jetson Aviation
Coral Swanson Janesville League of Women's Voters
Russ Podzilni County Board Chair
William Gempeler Interested Citizen
Jim Freeman HSI
Matt Schuh Airport Tenant
Everett Reese Elevation Air

Adoption of Agenda. Supervisors Richard and Mawhinney moved the Agenda. MOTION CARRIED.

Approval of Minutes of March 18, 2019. Chair Fox asked if there were any changes to the minutes. There were none. Supervisor Mawhinney and Mr. Barton moved the minutes. MOTION CARRIED.

Citizen Participation, Communications, Announcements, and Information. NONE.

Consent Calendar

Transfers. NONE

Review of Payments. Mr. Cope asked about the \$8,000 payment to Decker and Mr. Cullen replied that it was for the portable tie downs for which we received grant money to assist with the purchase. The review was completed.

NOT OFFICIAL UNTIL APPROVED BY COMMITTEE

Updates, Discussion and Possible Action.

Discuss/Possible Action: Business View Magazine Request. Mr. Cullen explained to the Board that he was approached by Business View Magazine about doing a feature story about the Airport. He was told that all he had to do was fill out a form on our letterhead and sign it, and they would take care of the rest. Mr. Cullen has some reservations now that he has seen the magazines forms. While the feature story on Southern Wisconsin Regional Airport is at no cost to the airport, they are using Mr. Cullen's letterhead and signature to solicit advertising from the businesses on the airport. Mr. Cullen stated that he felt hesitant to do this and spoke with the County's Corporation Counsel and with James Otterstein in planning. Both Mr. Greenlee and Mr. Otterstein told him this is common practice but Mr. Greenlee suggested to Mr. Cullen that he bring it to the Airport Board for consideration and Mr. Otterstein noted that a different governing committee had voted against this type of advertising.

Mr. Cope asked how this would benefit the airport and Mr. Cullen replied him that it is national exposure. Chair Fox asked if the tenants were required to purchase advertising from the magazine and Mr. Cullen stated they are not, but the magazine is requesting that he provide the names and number of our tenants and it will appear to the tenants that he is endorsing their purchase of advertising from the magazine. Supervisor Mawhinney asked if it was just one time. Mr. Cullen said that it will be only one article, but he is unsure how many times they may contact the tenants after the fact. Mr. Barton stated that he is uncomfortable authorizing the magazine contact the tenants based on his authorization.

Supervisor Mawhinney made a motion to postpone action until further information can be provided and Supervisor Richard seconded the motion. MOTION CARRIED.

Discuss/Possible Action: Runway 18/36. Mr. Cullen verbally went over the Issue Paper that was included in the Agenda (copy attached) and discussed the options available for Runway 18/36. These options include:

- Removing and re-installing new asphalt
- Rehabbing the runway with a micro-surface layer
- Removing the runway, lights, and the hot-spot and creating a grass/turf runway
- Closing the runway

Mr. Cullen stated that he does not feel that we should close Runway 18/36 and that the best option at this time is to rehab the runway with a micro-surface layer similar to what was done in 2012. This is estimated to cost \$140,000 to \$150,000 and would extend the life of the runway seven to eight years. Mr. Cullen is bringing this to the Airport Board now so that cost can be included in the 2020 Airport budget if they agree.

Chair Fox stated that he thinks the Board will need more information on the cost of the various options before they can make a recommendation.

Mr. Cullen stated that at this time the figures he has are based on conversations with the FAA and the State BOA. The chance of funding for the slurry coat option is very slim, although there could potentially be some money available to shorten that runway in order to eliminate the hot spot. The cost of using the County's Public Works Department to mill out several inches of asphalt and repave would be approximately \$1.5 million and in speaking with Mark Graczykowski from the Bureau of Aeronautics regarding turning the runway into a grass strip, that cost could be as much as \$2 million dollars. The cost estimate on the slurry coat was based on the amount of material that was used in 2012.

Chair Fox feels that the Board will need firmer dollar amounts in order to make a decision. Supervisor Richard asked about the usage of Runway 18/36. Mr. Cullen stated that the tower only tracks total operations, not which runways are used. Discussion on the condition of the runway and benefits of keeping it took place. Supervisor Phil Owens stated that it was a good thing for us to have for the SAFECON event and that, that event brought $\frac{3}{4}$ of million dollars in revenue to the local economy. Mr. Cullen feels that we need to keep the runway asphalt. Supervisor Richard asked if Mr. Cullen has any other projects slated for 2020 with that large of a tax levy and Mr. Cullen responded that he does not.

Mr. Barton made a motion that the Airport Director undertake further analysis and investigation into the options for this runway and to bring this item back to the Board with more financial information. Mrs. Reese seconded the motion. MOTION CARRIED.

SAFECON Wrap Up. Mr. Cullen started out by thanking everyone who had a hand in making SAFECON the successful event that it was. He thanked Mr. David Haas for keeping everything moving smoothly behind the scenes and Meisner Aviation for opening up their hangar to let 600 people take over. Between May 3 and today, the tower handled approximately 12,000 operations and they did a phenomenal job. The fueling team stayed very busy and did a good job. The practice period was actually busier than the event. The SAFECON event was an excellent event and was very safe. During the entire two week event there were no safety violations.

Mr. Cullen stated that he attended the banquet on Saturday night and the 2020 event was awarded to Oshkosh, but he feels that we may have a good chance of getting it back in 2021. He heard all positive comments about our facility from the participants, coaches and judges and they loved the restaurant. Mr. Cullen spoke to several of the participants as they were leaving and they all said how much they liked it here and that they will stop by here next year on their way to Oshkosh. The only negative he heard was that our Wi-Fi got bogged down. If we get this event again, we may want to look at bringing in portable Wi-Fi boosters.

Mr. Barton asked if Mr. Cullen had organized the media event and Mr. Cullen said that he did. Mr. Barton thanked Mr. Cullen for that and said that it was great to hear from the SAFECON people about the event. Mr. Cope agreed with Mr. Barton that the media day was really nice. Supervisor Mawhinney asked if there were any women involved in the event and Mr. Cullen replied that it was more men than woman, but that there were lots of women involved and there was even an

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award for the best male aviator and the best female aviator. Supervisor Richard asked how the portable tie downs worked out and Mr. Cullen said they worked out really well. Mrs. Reese thanked everyone as well and Mr. Cullen and his staff. Mr. Cullen said he thought his staff did a really good job and the airport looked good.

Committee Requests and Motions. None.

Next Meeting Date. The next meeting of the Airport Board will be on Monday, June 17, 2019, at 8:00 a.m.

Adjournment. Supervisor Richard and Mr. Quint moved to adjourn at 8:32 a.m. MOTION CARRIED.

Respectfully Submitted,

Cynthia J. Hevel
Airport Specialist