

MEMO TO: Airport Advisory Board Members

November 15, 2007

FROM: Duane Ellis

SUBJECT: Airport Advisory Board Meeting Minutes – November 14, 2007

An Airport Advisory Board Meeting was held at the airport terminal building on November 14, 2007. Chairman, Al Bryan, called the meeting to order at approximately 5:30 p.m. Present at the meeting were: Al Bryan, Mike Verleger, Joe Rivard, John Benzinger, and Duane Ellis. Also present at the meeting were: Jerry Hinsman, Deanna Heath, Dick Evans, Don Strong, Brent Maxon, and City Commissioner, Steve Bissell.

The minutes of the October 10, 2007, Airport Advisory Board meeting were reviewed and accepted as presented.

FAA – GPS/LPV Approach

A discussion was held concerning the status of the LPV approach that is being developed by the FAA at the airport. Woolpert, Inc., has completed the aerial survey for this work and are in the process of developing the required mapping and reporting information to the FAA for the development of this approach. John reported that approach minimums would be reduced to 250 feet at $\frac{3}{4}$ mile visibility. If approach lights are installed as a part of this system, then the minimums will reduce to 200 feet and $\frac{1}{2}$ mile visibility. The process through the FAA to establish this approach is fairly lengthy, and it is anticipated it will take nine to twelve months before the approach is operational at the airport.

Airport Five-Year Plan

John reviewed the basic elements that were developed as a result of the latest meeting with the MAC. Duane and John travel on an annual basis to Lansing to review the five-year plan with the Bureau of Aeronautics and adjust the work items as necessary as a result of that meeting. For 2008, the projects include the expansion of the airport terminal building and the construction of access control fencing along Airport Road in the airport building area. The primary purpose of this fencing is to provide increased security and limited accessibility to the airport operational areas. The fence that is proposed will be a ten-foot high chain link fence, which also will help reduce the number of animals entering onto the field. Since the fence will not completely enclose the airport, the purpose will be to limit human access onto the field. A small increase in security from deer entering the field also will be achieved. However, since the fence does not encompass the entire airport, deer will still have access to the operational areas.

The 2009 proposed work element in the five-year plan is for the purchase of the 40-acre parcel owned by the Brehm family. These 40 acres are located within the construction area for the proposed parallel 9/27 runway and the planned 6/24-crosswind runway.

An extensive process of appraisal reviews is required in order to purchase this parcel through the FAA land acquisition process. Other work items included in the five-year plan are the rehabilitation of the airport runway lights and construction of a paved crosswind runway with lighting.

Airport Manager's Report

John reported that the airport experienced the best Jet A fuel sales month in the last two years during October. Almost 7,000 gallons of fuel were sold. The increased fuel sales helped to recover the Jet A fuel sales volume for the year. With normal sales during the months of November and December, John anticipates that we will reach approximately 60,000 gallons of total fuel sold for the year. He also reported that the Jet A fuel price has increased from \$4.16 to \$4.64 per gallon due to the increase in the wholesale price for fuel.

The water main construction project is currently underway along Airport Road by Rohde Brothers Construction under contract with the Union Township East DDA. This project is funded by the Union Township East DDA and by a grant from the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe. This 12" water main will provide critical fire protection service for the airport as well as domestic water supply for the buildings. It is anticipated that this water main project will be completed by the end of November of this year.

Discussion was held concerning the provision of a fuel tank at the maintenance building to store diesel fuel for the snow removal tractor. Arrangements have been made with the City's Street Department for the installation of the tank for this purpose.

General discussion was held concerning Central Michigan Aviation Flight School. Business is relatively slow for the school, primarily because of a lack of a full-time certified flight instructor. Approximately 6-7 students are currently enrolled in the program. However, new students have not been recently identified. Following considerable discussion, the Board recommended that the rent being charged to Central Michigan Aviation be waived for the next 12 months in order to help the financial stability of this organization. The current rent is \$100.00 per month. In 2005, the rent was \$150.00 per month and was reduced to \$100.00 per month at the request of Dave Kohler, the owner of Central Michigan Aviation. The recommendation from the Airport Board to eliminate the rent will be forwarded to the City Manager for discussion and final determination.

Several Board members indicated their interest in assisting Central Michigan Aviation in finding a certified flight instructor to operate out of Mt. Pleasant. They will be contacting Northwestern, Lansing Community College, Western, and Baker Universities to see if graduates of their program are able to work in Mt. Pleasant.

John also indicated that the proposed Part 135 charter operator is in the process of purchasing an aircraft to be based in Mt. Pleasant in early 2008. The aircraft is a 1977 Navaho, which will be refurbished and based in Mt. Pleasant soon. Discussion was held concerning the possible use of the Navaho pilot for the charter operation to assist the flight training service for Central Michigan Aviation. The charter operator has not yet hired the pilot, so this possibility will be considered.

The meeting of the Mt. Pleasant Airport Board was adjourned at approximately 7:25 p.m. The next meeting of the Airport Board will be held at the airport terminal building on Wednesday, December 12 at 5:30 p.m.

DFE/tb
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