

City of Mt. Pleasant
Airport Advisory Board
Thursday, March 12, 2015
Meeting Minutes

- I. Call to Order / Roll Call
The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m.
Present: Glen Irwin, Cathy Tilmann, Patty Krcmarik, and Mark Drumheller
Absent: Donna Kriss
Staff Present: John Benzinger, Chris Coale, John Zang, and Nancy Ridley
- II. Approval of Agenda
Motion by Drumheller, support by Tilmann to accept as written.
Motion passed.
- III. Public Comment on Agenda Items
None
- IV. Approval of Meeting Minutes
Motion by Drumheller, support by Tilmann to approve the minutes of the February 12, 2015 meeting.
Motion passed.
- V. Airport Manager's Report
John Benzinger gave the Manager's Report.

To date, approximately \$11,000 has been spent on snow removal. John and Chris are still trying different things with snow removal. Chris spent three hours one day trying to clean the runway. Pat McGuirk Excavating cleaned the ramp. The next day there was a big difference between the two areas. The area cleaned by Pat McGuirk Excavating was much better. Glen asked if we should be okay with the snow removal budget for this year. John Benzinger said we still have November and December on this year's budget. This year's budget is less than last year's.

Chris attended a conference at MSU. He said some of the items discussed included: Michigan trying to get more new pilots, less money is to be given out by the state, and the average state price of fuel @ \$4.25/gal. He stated that there was much discussion about unmanned aircraft and FAA rulings.

Nancy Ridley addressed the Board about it being a good time to start looking into the prospect of finding partners for the airport. The City Commission might form a small committee to look at who may be interested in becoming partners with the city in running the airport. Once the "Who" is determined, then the "How" might be organized. Nancy said some City Commissioners have had discussions on this matter. John Benzinger said some airport authorities are good, some are not. John Benzinger said If it gets to the "How" stage, Mead and Hunt would be a good source for information. The Mt. Pleasant Airport Advisory Board passed a motion of support for the City Commission to explore seeking partners for the airport. Voice vote passed. No opposed.

Last month there was a \$10,000 overcharge in the utility bill. It has been corrected with the utility company.

The two percent (2%) applications have been submitted. This was for operational money “only”. If money is awarded, it can go only to what was applied for.

VI. Old Business
None

VII. New Business
None

VIII. Public Comment on Non-Agenda and Agenda Items
None

IX. Announcements on Airport Related Issues and Concerns
Chris stated that Barb, MZ Air, will soon be moving out of the office. John Benzinger said this should become Chris’s office. John Zang said that a sign should be put up to show that it is available to lease.

Cathy Tilmann said we need to continue to find ways to get more pilots, which would lead to more planes and more rented hangars.

The Tech Center is willing to work with a ground school, but a trainer needs to be found.

X. Adjournment
Motion by Drumheller, support by Tilmann, to adjourn the meeting.
Motion passed.

Meeting adjourned at 6:19 p.m.