

Mt. Vernon Airport Authority  
2018 - 2019 Budget Hearing  
Held June 12, 2018 at 6:00 PM

Present: Gary Chesney                      Chairman  
          Eddie Lee                              Vice Chairman  
          Ryan Wellmaker                      Secretary  
          Mike Ancona                         Treasurer  
          Marty Cox                             Commissioner

Staff:    Chris Collins  
          Sheila Jolly-Scrivner

Guests: Josh Jones, Steve Willis, Don Lewis, Ruth Anne Strawn, Brian Edmison Mike  
& Carla Payne, and Rich Carney

**PUBLIC INPUT**

There being none, Chairman Chesney moved forward with the hearing.

Motion was made by Commissioner Lee and seconded by Commissioner Wellmaker to adjourn the 2018 - 2019 Budget Hearing. Upon roll call vote, all were in favor and the meeting was adjourned.

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Mt. Vernon Airport Authority  
Regular Meeting of the Board of Commissioners  
Held June 12, 2018 at 6:00 PM

Present: Gary Chesney                      Chairman  
          Eddie Lee                              Vice Chairman  
          Ryan Wellmaker                      Secretary  
          Mike Ancona                         Treasurer  
          Marty Cox                             Commissioner

Staff:    Chris Collins  
          Sheila Jolly-Scrivner

Guests: Josh Jones, Steve Willis, Don Lewis, Ruth Anne Strawn, Brian Edmison, Mike  
& Carla Payne, and Rich Carney

**PUBLIC INPUT**

There being none, Chairman Chesney moved forward with the meeting.

## **REPORTS**

### **Minutes**

Minutes were presented for the May 8th, Meeting for approval. There being no changes to the minutes, motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes as presented. Upon roll call vote, all were in favor.

### **Treasurers' Reports**

There being no concerns with the Treasurer's Reports, motion was made and seconded to approve the Treasurer's Reports as presented. Upon roll call vote, all were in favor of the motion.

### **Bills for Approval**

There being no questions or concerns with the Bills for Approval, motion was made and seconded to approve the bills as presented. Upon roll call vote, all were in favor.

## **CORRESPONDENCE**

There being none, Chairman Chesney moved forward with the meeting.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### **Hangar A-800 Revitalization**

Mr. Collins explained that when the Commissioners tabled the project last month, the intent was to visit a site or sites where hydraulic upswing doors were in use. Late last week, Mr. Collins visited a truck repair facility west of Waltonville. Mr. Collins noted the owners of that facility are very pleased with their door. Yesterday, Commissioner Lee and Mr. Collins visited Vermillion Regional Airport in Danville, Illinois (KDNV). That airport undertook a similar project last year on one of its "T" Hangar rows. Mr. Collins and Mr. Lee presented photos of both locations. Both men liked what they saw at Danville. The doors were well built, looked great, and functioned professionally. The doors can be opened via a car type remote. The opening system includes ports allowing the use a tractor's hydraulic system in the event of a power outage. Mr. Edmison provided a recap of the project budget noting that he included using airport labor on some of the tasks to save money. Those tasks are removal of the old doors, demolition work, pressure washing, and some painting. With new hydraulic doors, an upgraded electrical system, new sheet metal, one small garage door, and ten walk doors, the total cost is estimated at \$199,768. Mr. Collins provided accounting of the Momentum 2020 Capital Development Plan with regard to the remaining projects and funds. A \$200,000 budget is doable this summer. Discussion ensued about the potential project. Mr. Collins asked permission to develop Specifications and seek bids. Motion was made by Commissioner Wellmaker and seconded by Commissioner Lee to allow Mr. Collins to direct Mr. Edmison to draft specifications and seek bids for the project. Upon roll call vote, all were in favor.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **2018/2019 Annual Budget Ordinance 2018-03**

Mr. Collins presented the 2018/2019 Annual Budget Ordinance for approval. Motion was made by Commissioner Wellmaker and seconded by Commissioner Cox to approve

the 2018/2019 Annual Budget Ordinance #2018-03. Upon roll call vote, all were in favor.

### **CFI Initiative**

Mr. Collins stated the aviation industry is approaching a crisis due to a shortfall of pilots and mechanics. The airlines are offering contracts to college freshman. Traditional pilots like Mr. Collins (with hundreds of hours of time and less than 60 years of age) are being recruited by the commuter airlines. Pilots with the required time/ratings, good health, less than 60 years of age, and willing to relocate are already flying for the airlines. So how does this affect Mt. Vernon Outland Airport? Mr. Collins explained airports pay the bills and improve their infrastructure with based aircraft. Based aircraft owners rent hangars, contribute to the airport's operational statistics, burn fuel, and have maintenance services performed. Airports that have a pipeline for the local flight student to achieve his/her dream of becoming a pilot will have better chance to grow and possibly prosper. Those without will continue to experience a loss of based aircraft and operations. This will jeopardize funding and decrease their operational budgets. The entry level requirements required to make things more prosperous are rental aircraft and CFI's. Currently, KMVN is fortunate to have to rental aircraft options (Mr. Collins made is a point to thank Eric Evans Aviation and SRT Aviation). Mr. Collins noted the airport was very fortunate when Dr. Stan Blank achieved his Light Sport Instructor Certification recently. He currently has seven Light Sport Students. With only two part time CFI's on duty for Private/Instrument Training, the airport is watching opportunities decline as the days go by. The airport's two part time CFI's only want to work with two to three students at a time. Mr. Collins stated that Rich Carney, SRT Aviation President, informed him that company has an impressive list of candidates willing to invest money for Private Pilot Training. It is obvious all airports desperately need instructors. Mr. Collins mentioned that he has been recruiting some local talent for some time now. Mike Payne and Tyson Rush have indicated an interest in becoming dedicated instructors serving the airport. Mr. Collins mentioned both have no desire to fly airliners and/or relocate. Mike Payne is currently in the last phase of training (Fundamentals of Instruction). Tyson Rush is in the next to last phase (Commercial). Both could be finished by late summer. Mr. Collins asked permission to form a committee of professionals to begin researching potential Agreements. Those willing to work on this committee are Steve Willis, Rich Carney, Commissioner Cox, and Mr. Collins. The committee would work with the two candidates to specify what level of subsidation the airport would contribute in exchange for time spent instructing as well as the amount returned to the airport. Once Agreements are drafted, the committee could report back to the Commissioners. Discussion ensued with all in attendance agreeing this is a BIG Initiative! Mr. Collins mentioned it will take time to implement and years to pay back. The risk is minimized by the character of the two candidates involved and the Agreements that are adopted. Motion was made by Commissioner Wellmaker and seconded by Commissioner Cox granting permission to form the requested committee. Upon roll call vote, all were in favor.

### **OTHER BUSINESS**

Mr. Collins praised Administrative Assistant Sheila Jolly-Scrivner for a job well done managing the recent Balloons Over Mt. Vernon. Mrs. Scrivner rallied a community. People from across southern Illinois enjoyed a safe, inexpensive, family friendly event. The sentiment was echoed by the Commissioners praising not only Mrs. Scrivner, but Mr. Collins and the Staff as well.

There being no Executive Session items, no additional Other Business items, and no further items for discussion on the Agenda, motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting. Upon roll call vote, all were in favor and the meeting was adjourned.