

# Airport receives development bond support

*Mt. Vernon Outland Airport  
holds a public hearing  
Tuesday for comments  
regarding the sale of bonds  
for capital development*

**BY EMILY ROTH**  
SENTINEL NEWS STAFF

MT. VERNON — The Mt. Vernon Outland Airport Authority Board of Commissioners called a special meeting on Tuesday to conduct a public hearing concerning the intent of the authority to sell \$660,000 general obligation airport bonds for development purposes.

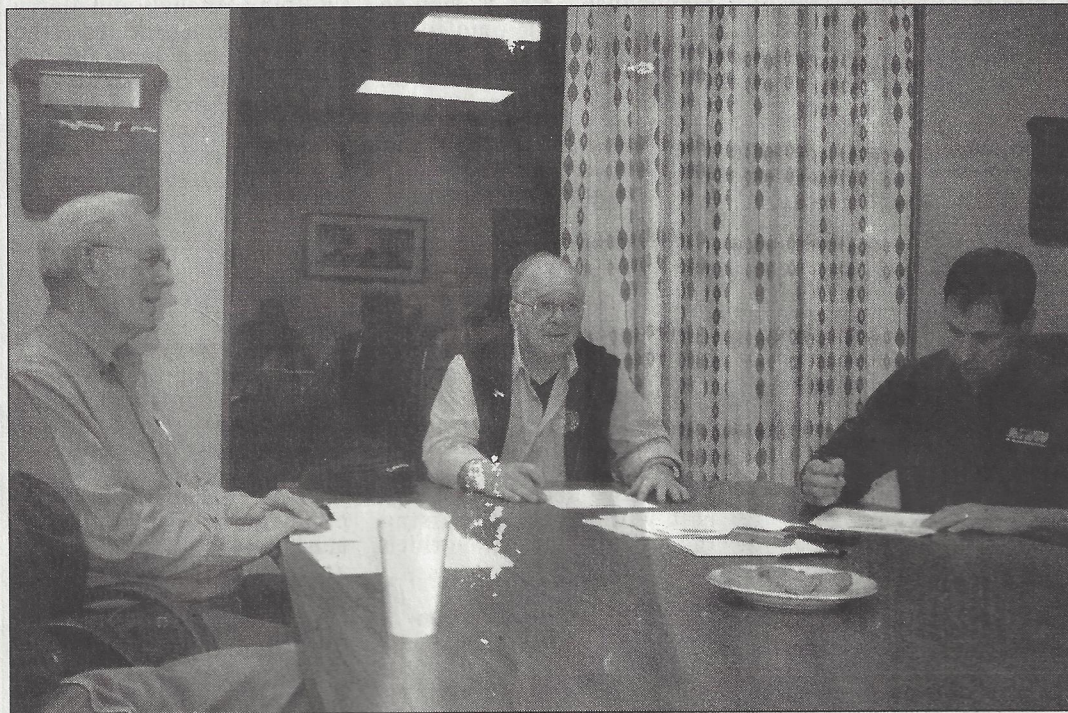
"This meeting is a bond hearing for the purchase of a bond so we can do capital projects here at the airport," explained Board Chairman Mike Ancona. "In order to cover all the bases without error I'm going to read [a statement prepared by airport director] Chris Collins."

The statement indicated that not only was the hearing set to declare the airport's intent to sell the bonds, but to hear public comments regarding the proposals to sell bonds.

Ancona continued, describing the various projects which the airport hopes to undertake with the funds.

"Where the board of commissioners and the authority intends to sell bonds in the amount of \$660,000 for the purpose of constructing airport improvements at the Mt. Vernon Outland Airport including without limitation the following: a new 'T' hangar, runway and taxiway improvements, Innovation Park improvements, equipment acquisition, and signage replacement," he said.

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Sentinel Photo/EMILY ROTH

**PUBLIC HEARING** — Airport Board Chairman Mike Ancona, CENTER, conducts Tuesday's special meeting at the Mt. Vernon Outland Airport. Commissioner Gary Chesney, LEFT, and Airport Director Chris Collins, RIGHT, look over and discuss the airport's capital development plan.

## Airport:

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Don Lewis of Mt. Vernon addressed the board, wanting to confirm that the bonds would stay local and not be sent out of town. After Ancona confirmed the inquiry, Lewis said, "I'm out

here at the airport a lot. I've been all over the place. ... There's a lot of stuff that needs to be done, and I think these bonds would be a good start to get all of this taken care of where we can make the airport an even better place than it is."

In January, the Mt. Vernon Outland Airport voted for First Midstate Investment Bankers to serve as the airport's bond agent. The board

seeks to place the \$660,000 worth of bonds into a banking institution for a period of three years.

"It's been a big honor in my life to have this job and to try to make my community a better place. These are always exciting times whenever we launch into a new phase to try to fix things at the airport. Fix, and then also prime the airport for the future."

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