

Airport receives lower rates

*Authority says
insurance savings
amounts to \$1,500*

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MT. VERNON — An insurance savings of about \$1,500 was realized by the Mt. Vernon Airport Authority as a result of three policies renewed this month.

Policies were renewed for worker's compensation, general liability and public officials liability with decreases for all three renewals, according to Airport Manager Chris Collins.

Worker's comp decreased \$187, general liability decreased about \$400 and the public officials liability renewal resulted in a \$350 decrease for a total savings of \$1,538.

"We're happy about that," Collins said Wednesday. "We're always happy when you can get a reduction in insurance."

Worker's comp and general liability contracts were renewed with AIS Gallagher for \$16,025 and \$2,999, respectively, and the new rate of \$2,078 was accepted for the public officials liability.

Collins said the Authority is in the middle of a three-contract for property and equipment insurance which will be reviewed in December.

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During Collins' annual aviation report, total operations were up in 2013 — with 24,720 total flights in and out of the airport. That compares to 23,050 in 2012. Collins said there were several reasons for the increase, singling out the Pilot Plane and Expo as the largest ever and the Air Venture race drawing many participants.

"Services at our field, including avionics, the restaurant and having a certified instructor on site are big draws and bring a lot of people to the airport," Collins said. Jet operations decreased from 206

low bidders. The

in 2012 to 194 in 2013 and military operations decreased significantly. Collins laid the blame for the decrease on the federal sequester.

Base tenancy, however, is showing a record number 49 aircrafts at the airport, including 36 single-engine airplanes, 11 multi-engine planes and two helicopters. The airport had 48 aircraft on base in 2012.

Bids were awarded for the Koziara Terminal front door project. The door component was awarded to Record Auto Doors, based in Evansville, Ind., at a price of \$10,550; the glazing component was awarded to Mt. Vernon Glass at a price of \$4,798; and the flooring component was awarded to Southern Illinois Tile and Carpet at a price of \$3,106 — all

total project cost is \$18,454, below the estimated project cost of \$20,000.

The Authority also entered into a verbal agreement with Kelly Miller Circus for two shows on the Saturday before Easter, April 19. Shows will be held at 2 and 5 p.m. The one-ring circus will include elephants, llamas, tigers, camels and zebras. Other circus acts will also perform.

Representative Dave Williams told Authority members their circus has been in business 76 years. The circus will be coming through Mt. Vernon for another show the following Monday in Carmi. Authority members agreed to waive a fee for use of the airport

facilities if the circus agrees to spend the weekend in Mt. Vernon and patronizing local businesses.

IN OTHER BUSINESS:

The Authority amended an existing agreement with Hanson & Associates for the RS (runway safety) project. Collins presented an update on the Innovation Park project, noting all of the HVAC is up and running. About one-third of the drywall is completed; and specs on the doors and ceilings will be readied for bids in the near future. **2-13-14**