

# Airport approves contracts for hangar construction

*Mt. Vernon Airport Manager Chris Collins said total cost of project comes in below budgeted \$420,000*

**BY LAUREN P. DUNCAN**

SENTINEL NEWS STAFF

MT. VERNON — A new hangar will be gracing the Mt. Vernon Outland Airport campus after contracts for construction were approved Tuesday.

The Mt. Vernon Airport Authority met for its regular meeting Tuesday, when it approved \$378,678 in contracts for construction, concrete, plumbing and electric for a new hangar at its future Innovation Park.

Airport Manager Chris Collins

said the budget for the project is \$420,000. With additional costs such as construction management and engineering bringing the total cost of the project up to \$419,987, just under budget.

"We were happy with that," Collins said.

Previously, the cost for the project had been higher than the commissioners had expected, Collins said, and the airport had been considering constructing a smaller hangar or reducing the cost of the project through changes. The commission went with the latter

option, he said.

He said additional costs will be factored in for finishing the hangar floor and office area, but those estimates will be approved at a later date. He said the costs is currently looking like about \$46,000.

Innovation Park is a project to use area at the airport that Collins said has been void of activity since about 1975. Through turning the area back into green space and constructing the locally-built hangar, the airport will begin work on the park this summer with funding through the FAA and the Illinois Department of Transportation.

"That's why this project is such a

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big deal to us, because it opens all of that area up," Collins said.

The entire park project will be financed through state and federal funds, with the local share amounting to approximately \$29,250. The state and

federal part of the project will go out for bid on April 26 and the expected cost of the project is expected to be about \$585,000.

Also at Tuesday's meeting, the board approved a bid of \$2,656 for Joe Draper for a surplus building. A second bid had come in at \$1,505 from Rahn Clark.

The board also approved to designation new secretary Sheila Jolly-Scrivner as an IMRF Agent.

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