

Greg Martin retires from Outland Airport Authority

Board commissioner served as member for 11 years

BY EMILY ROTH

SENTINEL NEWS STAFF

MT. VERNON — After 11 years of service to the Mt. Vernon Outland Airport, Commissioner Greg Martin has retired from the Airport Authority Board of Commissioners.

“Greg is retiring from public service, and he’s had a long run here at the airport,” said Airport Director Chris Collins. “We’re gonna miss him.”

Tuesday was Martin’s last meeting on the board, as May starts a new fiscal year for the airport. Martin accepted an appointment to the board by Mayor Milt Sees in 2005 and during his tenure has

chaired the board twice.

For Martin, the decision to retire is a personal one.

“He just wants to spend more time with family,” explained Collins, “he’s got several grandkids that he wants to spend time with and he helps his father on a farm down south of here. So he spends a couple days a week with his father and he travels to see his grandkids.”

According to information provided by the airport, Martin helped to reconnect Mt. Vernon Outland Airport to fellow city and county governmental partners, state and federal overseers and the taxpayers of the district. During his time as commissioner, the airport was named Illinois Airport of the Year on two occasions and nearly \$1,000,000 of discretionary

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CELEBRATION OF SERVICE — FROM LEFT TO RIGHT, Commissioners Eddie Lee and Joe Bob Pierce, Vice Chairman Greg Martin, Chairman Mike Ancona, Commissioner Gary Chesney and Airport Director Chris Collins celebrate Greg Martin and his time spent on the Mt. Vernon Airport Authority Board of Commissioners on Tuesday at the Mt. Vernon Outland Airport. During his time on the board, Martin served as chairman twice.

Martin:

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grants were awarded to the airport. The airport’s infrastructure was also increased during this time with the additions of Air Evac Lifeteam Super Base, Community Hangar, Innovation

Park and Innovation Part Hangar 1.

“I’m going to miss Greg’s wisdom,” continued Collins. “His business ability, we’re going to miss that. He is always there to help. Anytime we needed anything, Greg was there. He was a model board member. All five of these board members are perfect gentlemen to work for and work with. Losing any of them kind of hurts,

but I understand that Greg’s got other things he needs to do.”

Martin was also instrumental in attracting businesses and organizations to the airport including SRT Aviation, Eric Evans Aviation, Leland Widick FAA, Wilkey’s Airport Cafe, Kash Helicopter Services, the Epilepsy Foundation of Southern Illinois and Hertz.

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