

State of the Airport report chronicles past year

The Mt. Vernon Airport Board addressed events of 2013, including the development of Innovation Park

BY EMILY ROTH

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MT. VERNON — Tuesday night marked the annual meeting which addressed the State of the Mt. Vernon Airport report during the regular monthly meeting of the Board of Commissioners.

Items included in the State of the Airport included updates on Innovation Park, which is now complete, the Experimental Aircraft Association Airventure Cup, the Epilepsy Foundation of Southern Illinois' terminal lease, the Jefferson County Hall of Honor, Wilkey's Airport Cafe, the Plane and Pilot Midwest Expo, Balloons Over Mt. Vernon, the Annual Aviation Report and the Kelly Miller Circus.

"Phase One of the long-awaited redevelopment of the southwest quadrant was completed," said Sheila Scrivner, airport administrative assistant who informed the board of the State of the Airport. "A \$511 State and Federal Project removed old building foundations, distressed pavements, and returned the areas to a level green space. The project also involved the construction of a new aircraft ramp/taxiway and a new vehicular roadway on the exterior side of the perimeter fence."

This phase of Innovation

Park construction also included a locally constructed aircraft storage hangar and office structure.

After the update, airport director Chris Collins was commended by the board for his past year of hard work.

Though Phase One of Innovation Park was complete, the board decided to continue with the project.

"It's exciting to see all that [is] done," said Collins, "now we can go off and start Phase Two."

Innovation Park items voted on during the meeting were two change orders, including the approval of a \$416.81 change order for a sidewalk and a \$607.08 change order for additional electrical work.

IN OTHER NEWS:

- The board approved the annual Salute to Freedom.

- The State of the Airport stated that the circus held last month attracted "large crowds."

- The board went into Executive Session to deliberate the lease of an administrative office for Eric Evans Aviation. The lease was approved after Executive Session concluded.

- Election of Board officers was held. A motion passed for all current members to keep their positions.

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Sentinel Photo/EMILY ROTH

UP TO DATE — Airport administrative assistant Sheila Scrivner reads the state of the airport during Tuesday night's monthly meeting of the Mt. Vernon Airport Authority Board of Commissioners. The report chronicled events and developments held during the 2013-2014 year.

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