

Mt. Vernon Airport seeks new hangar policy

*Director Chris Collins
to institute means of
increasing hangar safety*

BY EMILY ROTH
SENTINEL NEWS STAFF

MT. VERNON — In an effort to prevent airplane damage in the future, Airport Director Chris Collins proposed instituting a new hangar policy during Tuesday night's meeting of the Mt. Vernon Airport Authority Board of Commissioners.

"This is going to be an aircraft movement policy," said Collins. "It's in regard to an owner moving his or her own airplane. With the community hangar that we have, we've had one instance where an owner almost placed his airplane on top of someone else's airplane."

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SHARING VIEWS — Airport Director Chris Collins speaks with Airport Board Chairman Mike Ancona during Tuesday night's Mt. Vernon Airport Authority full board meeting.

Airport:

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... Then we actually did have an incident where two Cessnas rubbed wingtips back three weeks ago."

Pilots would be asked to sign a waiver claiming responsibility for moving their own airplane and any damage that incurred from that movement.

"We need a policy that says our FBO [fixed-based operator] personnel would be responsible for the in and out service in the buildings, which is in their lease," continued Collins. "We as the Airport Authority don't have the insurance to move airplanes. It's their responsibility to do that."

A complete draft of the policy will be brought to next month's board meeting for approval. The first incident mentioned by Collins resulted in no damage. The second

case resulted, reportedly, in the need for minor wing touch ups.

"I want to get out in front of this before we get any real damage," said Collins.

IN OTHER NEWS:

- The taxiway revitalization project is set to begin in September. The winning contract bid was made by E.T. Simonds at \$318,260.09. It is below the project estimate of \$347,775. The total cost of the project will be \$398,094.81. The estimated 5 percent local match of the airport is \$19,904.74. This does not include asphalt costs, which would bring the airport to an estimated number of \$24,900 in project costs.

- The annual budget was approved by the full board for the 2014-2015 fiscal year. As of May 2014, the total amount of revenue was \$477,492, with \$102,072.98 cash on hand. The total amount of expenditures was \$475,992, with the highest costs attributed to salaries and maintenance.

7-9-14

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