

Airport discusses possible future projects

Federal funds being distributed could lead to new projects

BY JOSH JONES

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MT. VERNON — The Mt. Vernon Airport Authority Board of Commissioners heard some information regarding the Airport Improvement

Program (AIP) 2018 to 2020 Supplemental Appropriation.

Director of Mt. Vernon Outland Airport Chris Collins discussed the program.

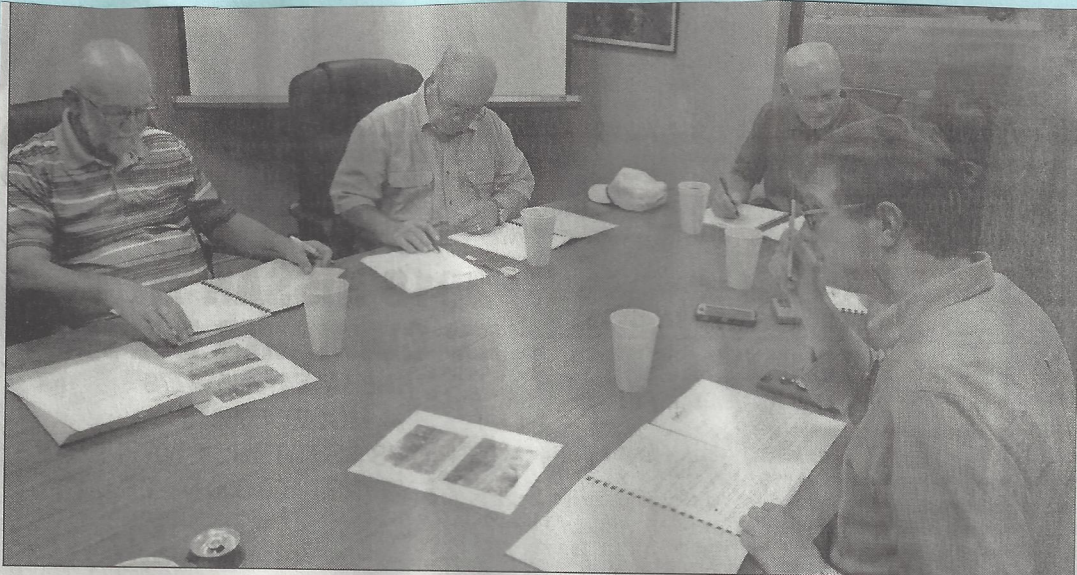
“Originally it was supposed to be projects that were not really TIP [Transportation Improvement Program] related, i.e. asphalts, concrete,” Collins said. “It was supposed to be more like roads, bridges, parking lots and things like that.”

“But, there has been some push-

back on that,” Collins said. “Now it is basically everything related to airports.”

According to Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) website, on March 23, 2018, the President signed H.R. 1625, the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2018. The legislation provided the FAA’s Airport Improvement Program an additional \$1 billion in discretionary grants, to enable the Secretary of

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AIRPORT IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM — The Mt. Vernon Airport Authority Board of Commissioners heard an update regarding the Airport Improvement Program (AIP) 2018 to 2020 Supplemental Appropriation. The airport plans to move forward with applying to the AIP for various projects.

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Transportation to make grants for projects as authorized by subchapter 1 of chapter 471 and subchapter 1 of chapter 475 of title 49, United States Code.

Collins noted that there were various projects that were in mind for using the funding, but it would just depend on if they are selected and how much they would receive. He said that he did not bring up the 2018 projects as the deadline was Aug. 1 and the projects had to be for primary airports and be show-

el-ready.

“There were 470 projects submitted. The FAA deemed 220 eligible, with only 37 of them awarded,” Collins said. “Out of the \$1 billion that they had to distribute they only ended up awarding \$200 million of it.”

Collins said the deadline for projects being submitted for 2019 is due Oct. 31.

“If this all goes well we will be applying for lighting upgrades for all the runways and taxiways, which we have that on the TIP sheet already, perimeter access road, start paving it,” Collins said. “Start phasing in the revitalization of the parking lots here. So those are some of the things

we will be applying for over the next two to three years.

“So I bring this to your attention because we are going to be applying,” Collins said. “Will we get anything? It is anybody’s guess.”

IN OTHER BUSINESS:

- An update was given on the Hangar A-800 revitalization project. Collins said that parts are being removed and tenants have been relocated.

- Collins discussed looking for companies for an upcoming fence repair project, located at the north central portion of the airport.

- The board approved three vehicles to be sold as surplus equipment. 10-24-18
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