

Mt. Vernon Airport Authority  
Regular Meeting of the Board of Commissioners  
Held December 8, 2015 at 6:00 PM

Present: Michael Ancona	Chairman
Greg Martin	Vice Chairman
Eddie Lee	Secretary
Gary Chesney	Treasurer
Joe Bob Pierce	Commissioner

Staff: Chris Collins  
Sheila Jolly-Scrivner

Guests: Kevin Wills, Emily Roth, Rich Carney, Steve Willis, Ruth Anne Strawn, & Don Lewis

**PUBLIC INPUT**

Mr. Collins introduced Mr. Kevin Wills from First Mid-State Bank – the airport’s Bondsman. Mr. Willis explained that he had been in contact with Mr. Collins for the last several months regarding the airport’s upcoming capital development plan. Mr. Willis noted that the current capital development plan is nearing its end and in order to keep things moving, a new plan must be initiated by March 1, 2016. The airport currently has a non-referendum Debt Limit of \$1.33 Million and a Debt Service Extension Base (DSEB) of \$230,500. Since the district’s Equalized Assessed Valuation (EAV) has increased since the last bond issuance, the DSEB has increased accordingly. Mr. Willis explained that he and Mr. Collins have discussed the ultimate goal of the new plan would be to maximize the dollars realized by the sale of bonds without raising the overall tax rate on the taxpayers. Both agree the way to achieve this “frozen” tax goal would be to only sell bonds up to the old annual DSEB of \$205,900. The discussion then turned on how many years to structure the issuance. The airport could structure the issuance for 6.3 years (\$1,300,000/\$205,900) but all agreed that length of time would require projects to be programmed and completed with certainty – something that is too fluid for the airport due to changing mandates. Mr. Collins recommended a three year issuance that would be better aligned with the Illinois Department of Transportation Division of Aeronautics Annual Transportation Improvement Program Sheet. Discussion ensued and all agreed to begin discussions on the new plan at the January Meeting.

**REPORTS**

**Minutes**

Minutes were presented for the November 10, Meeting for approval. There being no changes to the minutes, motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes as presented. Upon roll call vote, all were in favor.

### **Treasurers' Reports**

There being no concerns with the Treasurer's Reports, motion was made and seconded to approve the Treasurer's Reports as presented. Upon roll call vote, all were in favor of the motion.

### **Bills for Approval**

There being no questions or concerns with the Bills for Approval, motion was made and seconded to approve the bills as presented. Upon roll call vote, all were in favor.

### **CORRESPONDENCE**

Mr. Collins reminded everyone of the All Airport Christmas Party next Monday Night, December 14<sup>th</sup>. All are invited to an evening of celebration for the season as well as the year that was.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

#### **FBO Hangar Door**

Mr. Collins provided an update on the door project. Floating Door installers returned last Thursday to complete alignment checks and set the limit switches. He noted everything is running smoothly. Bevis Construction has a few punch list items to complete next week. Mr. Collins has asked for close out invoices from all involved. Mr. Collins presented Change Order #3 from Bevis Construction. Change Order #3 is for \$8056 and covers the additional labor for the overruns specified at last month's meeting. End wall bracing, structural obstruction removal, and old truss disassembly and removal were the cause of the cost overruns. Mr. Collins noted that Architect Brian Edmison has approved Change Order #3. Motion was made by Commissioner Chesney and seconded by Commissioner Lee to approve Change Order #3 from Bevis Construction in the amount of \$8056. Upon roll call vote, all were in favor.

#### **Balloons Over Mt. Vernon**

Mr. Collins mentioned that event organizers Kevin and Jennifer Witzel desire to turn the event over to the airport. They only want to be involved with balloon logistics. The Witzels indicate they don't have the time for sponsorship solicitations and continued time away from their day jobs could risk those jobs. The EAA Chapter will continue the fly-in side of the event, but if Balloons Over Mt. Vernon is to continue, the airport will have to absorb it. Currently, the United Way is the financial manager for the sponsorship funds. Mr. Collins explained that if the airport takes on the event, it would have to have a separate fund operating inside the General Operating Account just like Midwest LSA Expo. Mr. Collins and Ms. Scrivner would assume the sponsorship soliciting duties. Mr. Collins stated the situation is not ideal but a foundation has been laid and a well attended and respected event is established. Mr. Collins also mentioned he would hate to see it end now that the United Way, Rotary Clubs, and so many others are working together to make the event successful. Discussion ensued among several of the Commissioners about Mr. Collins and Ms. Scrivner having the time to absorb another responsibility. Both agreed to tackle the opportunity despite the time commitments. A reluctant motion was made by Commissioner Pierce and seconded by Commissioner Chesney for the Mt.

Vernon Airport Authority to manage Balloons Over Mt. Vernon. Upon roll call vote, all were in favor.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **Annual Audit**

The airport's Auditor, Mr. David Kiefer of Richard David Kiefer, CPA, was not in attendance so this line item was tabled.

### **Insurance**

Mr. Collins noted the airports health insurance renews on January 1, 2015. He stated he was sad to report the airport has been hit with a 19% increase translating to an additional \$6337 in annual premium. The total 2016 premium will be \$33,564 which he stated was "very costly for four employees". Mr. Collins further complained that the insurance line item on next year's budget will pushing \$90,000. The airport's agent Diana Thomas shopped around and could find no other quotes that were more affordable – even before underwriting. Upon a tip from the Illinois Public Airport Association, the Illinois Central Management Service (CMS) Local Government Healthcare Plan (the plan Williamson County Regional Airport employees utilize) was contacted for a quote. That program's rates were much higher. Mr. Collins reluctantly recommended renewal with the current provider Health Alliance at the rates provided. Discussion ensued. Motion was made by Commissioner Lee and seconded by Commissioner Chesney to approve the renewal with agent Diana Thomas and Health Alliance. Upon roll call vote, all were in favor.

### **Federal Surplus Equipment**

Mr. Collins explained that he would like the airport to enroll in the Federal Surplus Equipment Program. The airport was in the program 20 years ago or so. An updated application and a Ordinance approved at the Board table are required. Mr. Collins presented Ordinance 2015-05 Federal Surplus Program and asked for approval. Motion was made by Commissioner Chesney and seconded by Commissioner Martin to approve Ordinance 2015-05 Federal Surplus Program. Upon roll call vote, all were in favor.

## **OTHER BUSINESS**

There being no additional business to discuss under Other Business, no further items for discussion on the Agenda, and no Executive Session items, motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting. Upon roll call vote, all were in favor and the meeting was adjourned.

