

MV airport hangar work close to finish

By **DEREK BEIGH**

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MT. VERNON — The Mt. Vernon Airport Authority Board reported that its new hangar is nearing completion as budgeted at its monthly meeting Tuesday

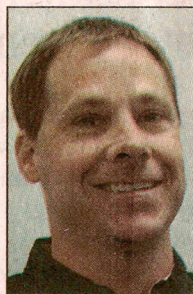
“We’re really close to exactly on budget,” said Airport Manager Chris Collins. “It’s close to wrapping up.”

Several new expenditures for the new building were approved at the meeting, including a new gas meter for the building, six ceiling fans to distribute heat throughout the facility and connecting sidewalks between

the building and its ramp as well as the existing A-1100 building. Collins said the late additions, which will not push the project over budget, are to be expected.

“When you do a project of this scale, some things get left out,” he said.

Collins added that the size of the new facility will allow large planes to be stored in it overnight, a very desirable accommodation.



Collins

“I’ve had a lot of people ask me why the building is so tall, and this is the time of year that proves why it’s necessary,” he said. “Having that inside storage during the winter is a plus for the community.”

In other business, the board approved a slight increase in liability insurance rates after soliciting quotes from several companies. The lowest came from John E. Grob of Aviation Insurance Services, and will see the airport’s worker’s compensation premiums rise \$493 to \$10,971. General liability rates re-

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mained at \$4,015. Collins said Grob’s rates, which will go into effect Feb. 17, proved exceptional compared to the competition.

“This is the reasoning for having an agent like John,” he said. “He has the pull to get those rates lowered.”

The board also heard a proposal from Collins to sell a tractor and snowblower

that are no longer in use and replace them with a new snow removal system. The upgrade would improve on the airport’s ability to clear snow from its property, which is currently, at three hours to clear one inch from the runway, insufficient.

“We are underequipped when it comes to removing that much snow,” said Board Chairman Michael Ancona.

That issue was tabled until Collins can report back with more details at next month’s meeting. 2-10-11