

Airport letting bids for new HVAC system

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MT. VERNON — To formulate a more energy-efficient terminal with a new heating, ventilation and air conditioning system, the Mt. Vernon Outland Airport Authority gave the green light for the project's bid process to begin.

Kevin Phillips of Round Table Design said paperwork for the bidding process will be sent out next week with a pre-bid conference slated for March 26. He also said bids will then be received on April 7.

Late last year, the airport board decided to undertake a major overhaul at the Kozaria Terminal. Commissioners met with architects in October to discuss what would need to be put into place.

The building continues to be heated and cooled through the original equipment that was installed in 1974, when the terminal was thought to accommodate a number of airline passengers and airport administration as well as a restaurant.

But a number of factors — includ-



Collins

ing the deregulation of the scheduled airlines in the 1970s as well as the loss of essential air services in 1999 — caused a breakdown in the number of passengers connecting from the Mt. Vernon airport.

Phillips said the design features a multi-zone, dual-fuel system that is catered to best suit the airport terminal.

"Hopefully we will [keep] efficiency up and cost down," Phillips said.

Commissioners said the project has been a long time coming.

"It tickles me to see this because we need it so desperately," said board Chairman Mike Ancona.

In other airport news, the board approved bids for the pilot control lighting system to be sent to Hanson Professional Services. Airport manager Chris Collins said the board will now await the results of the company's investigation to see if they meet Illinois Department of Transportation compliance before awarding a bid to a prospective company.

The lowest submitted bid came from Moore Electrics in Effingham for approximately \$18,900.

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