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Hangar project to begin at airport

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MT. VERNON — A project that has been looked at for the Mt. Vernon Outland Airport for years is expected to begin this spring.

At the Mt. Vernon Airport Authority Board of Commissioners meeting on Tuesday, a construction manager was chosen for the new hangar project.

"We selected a construction manager, Lipps Construction was the winning bidder," Airport manager Chris Collins said.

According to the airport manager, the construction manager receives 10.5 percent of the total cost of the project, which Collins said will be "what the budget allows" in relation to the size of the building.

"Once the construction manager starts overseeing all the aspects, bidding will begin for building of the project," Collins said.

Collins said the construction manager will begin looking at the projected hangar this spring, and the building is expected to be completed by this fall.

"It will be very similar to the existing south hangar, but one difference is it will be able to accommodate business jets," Collins said.

Collins said the standard door size of the existing hangar, which was built in 1992, is 25 feet high. He said one difference in the new hangar is the door will be larger "to accommodate planes of greater height."

Several pilots and plane owners

have already placed their name on a waiting list for spots in the existing T-hangar at the airport, Collins said. He noted the benefits the board at the airport is looking toward after the project is completed, "It will allow for the fixed base operator to do maintenance on large business jets, and it will allow for storage of large jets and other units overnight. It will also allow for storage of planes. We don't want to turn anybody down because we're not able to."

Collins noted that the hangar, which will lie south of the existing hangar and will extend to its ramp, will also be available for use at various events held at the airport including the LSA Expo and the

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2010 Ercoupe National Convention, which is scheduled for Sept. 9-12.

"We want to have the building ready by the second week of September," Collins said.

The new hangar is one of the larger projects that is a part of the five-year plan to promote growth and development at the airport, "Momentum 2014."

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