

Mt. Vernon Airport Authority
Regular Meeting of the Board of Commissioners
Held March 8, 2016 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: Emily Roth, Phil Hamerski, Rich Carney, Steve Willis,
Ruth Anne Strawn, & Don Lewis

PUBLIC INPUT

There being none, Chairman Ancona moved forward with the meeting.

REPORTS

Minutes

Minutes were presented for the February 9th, 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.

Mr. Collins reported the passing of retired security guard Paul Pilkington on Friday, March 4th. Paul faithfully served the MVAA on the night shift starting in 1990 and retiring in 2011. Paul was 90 years old – and a member of the Greatest Generation. Paul earned one Battle Star for Naval service in the World War Two Pacific Theatre.

CORRESPONDENCE

There being none, Chairman Ancona moved forward with the meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

There being none, Chairman Ancona moved forward with the meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

Gate Guard/Sign

Mr. Collins noted that when he attended the U.S. Light Sport Expo in Sebring, Florida, Jon Hansen from the Hansen Air Group asked if Mt. Vernon Outland Airport would be interested in a full scale airplane mock-up. The intent would be to use the mock up as a gate guard – an airplane mounted either on the ground or on a pedestal at an entrance to an airport. Mr. Collins explained the Hansen Air Group came up with a concept jet from the Czech Republic at last year's EAA Airventure Oshkosh. The Hansen family incurred some expenses transporting the aircraft back to Georgia and have yet to hear from the jet's owners, Scaled Wings, since last Summer. The Hansen's want the aircraft out of their hangar and would like to donate it to the MVAA due to the airport's friendliness and involvement in the light sport industry. Mr. Collins noted the aircraft is MVN's once the legal maneuvering is completed. A local contingent would have to drive to Atlanta to pick it up. Mr. Collins noted that he mentioned this opportunity to the EAA Chapter and the membership is excited. Don Lewis has his sights on this aircraft being mounted above the airport's new entry sign. Imagine the navigation lights turned on at night! It should be mentioned that the Hansen's think so much of MVN the offer was not even extended to their home airport! An exciting discussion ensued. Motion was made by Commissioner Lee and seconded by Commissioner Martin to accept the donation. Upon roll call vote, all were in favor.

Friday Event

Mr. Collins reported that a significant event could happen on Friday but signs are not looking favorable. If the event materializes, Mr. Collins will inform the individual Commissioners by telephone, then inform the media.

Ordinance 2016 – 2, B&I Levy Abatement

Mr. Collins recommended an abatement of \$15,000 from the 2016 Tax Levy. He confessed that he made an incorrect assumption on the mechanics of the Momentum 2020 Capital Development Plan with regard to the Bond and Interest Levy. Mr. Collins understood the airport had a new Debt Service Extension Base (DSEB) of \$230,000 and assumed it was a function of the increased Equalized Assessed Valuation (EAV). Not only was the new DSEB not a function of the EAV, the EAV did not increase much since the last bond issuance. The airport's total EAV was \$195 million in 2008/2009 and was \$196 million in 2014/2015. The bottom line is if the airport submits a Bond & Interest Levy of \$220,000 instead of \$205,900 (based on a flatline EAV of \$195 million); the airport's taxpayers will realize a noticeable tax increase. Mr. Collins explained the easiest way out of this is to order the County Clerk to alter the Bond & Interest Levy to the desired amount (subtract \$15,000). This act requires an Ordinance. Mr. Collins recommended the Ordinance be approved Tuesday night so that the airport's promise of little to no tax increase is intact. He apologized for making this incorrect assumption. Discussion ensued. Motion was made by Commissioner Martin and seconded by Commissioner Chesney to approve Ordinance 2016 – 2, B&I Levy Abatement. Upon roll call vote, all were in favor. Mr. Collins noted the DSEB increase (from \$205,900 to \$230,000 in the airport's case) was statutory and is up to the individual taxing districts to impose the tax necessary to capture the additional funds. With the passage of the

Ordinance, Mr. Collins explained he will have to watch the future EAV's very closely. A stagnant EAV will require an equivalent abatement next year. A significant EAV increase will allow the Tax Levy Schedule on file at the County Clerk's Office to remain in force.

OTHER BUSINESS

Rich Carney, President of MVN based Fixed Base Operator, informed the Commissioners the aircraft offered to rental pilots via lease back was recently removed and sold. Several students and three flight instructors were expectantly left without an aircraft. SRT Aviation is currently looking at all options to replace the Cessna 172 aircraft. Discussion ensued, with the Commissioners agreeing to help SRT acquire an aircraft to be utilized for rental and flight training. Motion was made by Commissioner Lee and seconded by Commissioner Martin to allow the initiative. Upon roll call vote, all were in favor.

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