

'State of the Airport' report given; new officers elected

Mike Ancona completes term as chairman; Greg Martin new chair

BY RICK HAYES

MT. VERNON MANAGING EDITOR

MT. VERNON — In his final duty as chairman of the Mt. Vernon Airport Authority, Mike Ancona presented a "State of the Airport" address during Tuesday's regular monthly board meeting.

Some of the highlights presented during the report include:

- The airport hosted Sentimental Journey for the third time;
- the Jefferson County Hall of Honor was dedicated June 13;
- ground was broken in August for the new hangar and almost immedi-

ately had an overnight tenant;

- the airport's website was updated in late 2010;
- it was announced that Plane & Pilot magazine was taking over sponsorship of the LSA Expo;
- Wilkey's Cafe opened in late April; and
- flight training continues almost on a daily basis.

"The airport is still moving forward, which is not necessarily the case around the country," Ancona concluded. "Congratulations to our manager, staff and board. 2010 has been a great year. The airport has a great future."

Joe Bob Pearce nominated new officers for the coming year, and Greg Martin was elected the new chairman with Ancona serving as vice chairman. Paul Dickerson will serve as secretary and Gary Chesney was elected

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treasurer — all by acclamation.

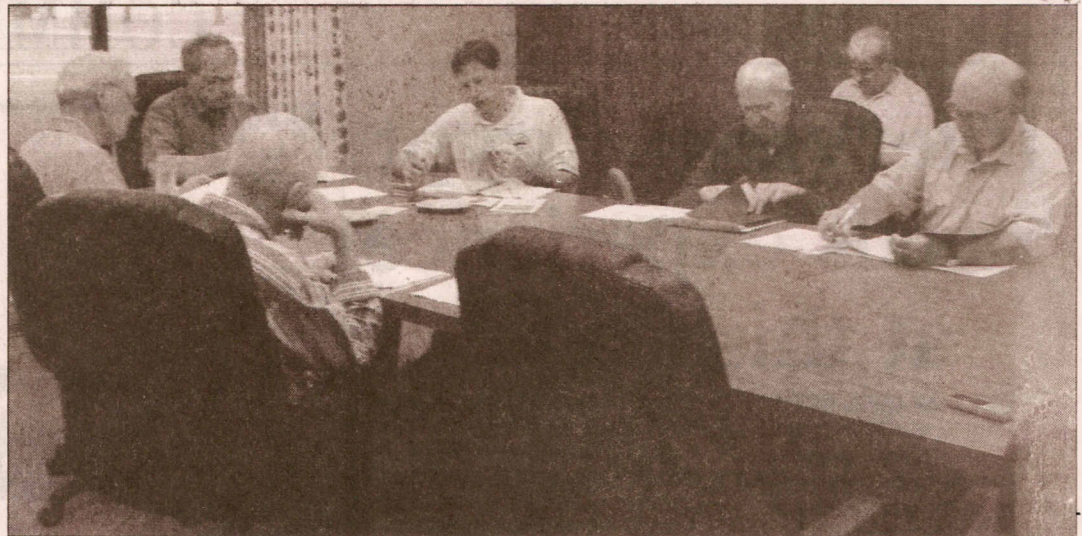
Martin thanked Ancona for his service as chairman and then presided over the rest of the meeting.

Six change orders were approved for the new hangar, including \$2,040 to Winnelson for bathroom fixtures; \$3,550 to Wielt Mechanical for labor related to plumbing; \$1,283 to Associated Lumber for structural framing and \$326 for green board (drywall); \$560 to Black & Sons related to labor for a gas pressure problem; and \$346 to Budget Buildings for metal liner panels.

Airport Manager Chris Collins said that, with those additions, the project will still come under budget with the total cost around \$696,000. Collins said a dedication and open house will be held for the hangar at 10:30 a.m. May 20.

IN OTHER BUSINESS:

• Officials will accept a \$30,000 offer for the 9034 tractor that has been designated as sur-



Sentinel Photo/RICK HAYES

NEW OFFICERS — Greg Martin was elected chairman of the Mt. Vernon Airport Authority on Tuesday. **CLOCKWISE, FROM LEFT**, are commissioners J.B. Pearce; Gary Chesney, treasurer; Martin; Airport Manager Chris Collins; Paul Dickerson, secretary; and Mike Ancona, vice chairman.

plus equipment. The buyer is from another airport on the U.S.-Canada border near the Dakotas; Two other items — a carport and seating — will be placed on eBay for auction.

• Participation agreements for surface markings and a property line survey with the

Department of Transportation were approved. The local share on the projects are \$2,150 and \$875, respectively, Collins reported.

• Collins recommended a \$350 donation from the commissioners for the DAR reception that will be held June 18; the com-

mission upped the ante to \$500.

• Collins reported a property owner has contacted officials regarding the possible sale of land near the approach to runway 1-5. No action was taken since Collins is still investigating the offer.

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