

# Hangar dedication plans set

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**MT. VERNON** — The Mt. Vernon Airport Authority Board of Commissioners authorized a final set of changes in advance of the dedication of its new hangar at its monthly meeting Tuesday.

The hangar will be the center of a dedication/open house at the airport at 10:30 a.m. Friday, May 20. While Airport Manager Chris Collins said some finishing touches may remain undone — many of the final orders are for the inside bathroom — the hangar will be fundamentally complete on that date.

In fact, due to high demand, the hangar has already seen daily use in the past month, particularly from craft performing aerial sprays of fields, Collins said. He added that he expects that usage to grow once the hangar is finished and bring new business to Mt. Vernon.

The orders, six in all, will cost a combined \$8,505 and finish the long-gestating project at \$695,866, just below its \$700,000 budget. Newly-elected board

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chairman Greg Martin congratulated Collins on completing the project within the projected cost.

“Everything seems to be shaping up really good,” Collins said.

In other business, the board:

■ Elected officers for its 2011-12 year. Most of the board — Secretary Paul Dickerson, Treasurer Gary Chesney and commissioner Joe Bob Pierce — stayed in the same positions, while Chairman Michael Ancona and Vice Chairman Greg Martin swapped posts. Martin congratulated Ancona on his work over the previous year;

■ Authorized Collins to sell the airport’s surplus trac-

tor to Steinbuck South Airport in Manitoba, Canada for \$30,000 after it failed to reach its reserve price in an eBay auction and a consignment auction proved unlikely to yield a better price. Collins was also authorized to list building materials valued at \$4,680 and industrial seating formerly used in the airport lobby on eBay;

■ Accepted participation agreements for surface-painted hold short markings — red FAA-mandated warning signs at the end of runways — and a property line survey called “Exhibit A,” which was required by the Division of Aeronautics. The two projects, which cost a total of \$77,957, will require a local contribution of just

\$3,023;

■ Authorized Collins to look further into concrete finishing on a 750-square-foot segment of airport property popular for fishing and a potential addition to the airport’s property near the end of one its runways that could be reimbursed by grants; and

■ Approved a \$500 donation to a fund hoping to rent the Mitchell Museum for a reception celebrating the completion of the D.A.R. statue at C.E. Brehm Memorial Library. Collins, who is closely tied to the project, said the donation — greater than the \$350 Collins originally requested — was an example of the board’s “generous and civic-minded” qualities.

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