

Mt. Vernon Airport Authority
Regular Meeting of the Board of Commissioners
Held September 10, 2013 at 6:00 PM

Present: Michael Ancona	Chairman
Greg Martin	Vice Chairman
Gary Chesney	Treasurer
Joe Bob Pierce	Commissioner

Absent: Dr. David Asbery Secretary

Staff: Chris Collins
Sheila Jolly-Scrivner

Guests: Jennifer Witzel & Rick Hayes

PUBLIC COMMENTS

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

REPORTS

Minutes

Minutes were presented for the August 13th, 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.

CORRESPONDENCE

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

OLD BUSINESS

Innovation Park

With the exception of the front door and windows on Hangar #1, the exterior is complete. The Floating Door (aircraft hangar door) is as advertised – simple, quiet, attractive, and affordable. The next step is the electrical and mechanical in the hangar bay. Mr. Collins stated that he plans to spend the next several weeks obtaining prices for framing/finishing the office structure so those costs can be presented at next month's meeting.

During last month's meeting, a change order was approved with Ameren in the amount of \$14,139 to relocate a transformer/junction box. The approval was conditional with regard to the cost being all inclusive covering service to the existing maintenance building, fuel farm, and lift station. A meeting between Ameren's Brent Bartley, Kevin Turrentine, Commissioner Chesney, and Mr. Collins determined the Ameren cost was not all inclusive. The team determined that a heavy amount of administrative work remains, numerous and costly materials will need to be purchased, and a large amount of labor will be required even after the \$14,139 is spent. Drawings showing what the team conceptualized (an entire electrical plan for the Innovation Park Complex of hangars and buildings) were presented by Mr. Collins. Discussion ensued. Mr. Collins recommended that with the total plan estimated to cost double the Ameren relocation charge, the airport should proceed as originally planned (without relocating the transformer). By proceeding as planned, and then tackling the electrical upgrade on the next project, only 80' feet or so of conduit and cabling would be abandoned at that time. The Commissioners agreed with Mr. Collins.

Mr. Collins noted the State/Federal portion of the project is expected to begin very soon. The equipment is on site and some last minute details are being worked out.

Events

Mr. Collins provided a recap of the recently completed Plane & Pilot Midwest LSA Expo. Approximately 14 airplanes were sold. He thanked the volunteers for their service and sacrifice - noting the event could not have happened without them. Mr. Collins specifically thanked Steve Watts for his attention and grooming of the auxiliary grass landing strip. Many people helped at the event, but Mr. Watts has been working on the grass landing strip since Spring. The availability of the strip helped to make the show an attraction for the backcountry airplanes like the Just SuperStol and the Carbon Cub. Mr. Collins noted the airport looked like Sun-n-Fun and Oshkosh for three days. Chairman Ancona stated the Expo was one of the greatest events the airport has hosted.

Mr. Collins listed the next events on tap for the airport: the Salem South Baptist Association Tent Revival, the National KR Gathering, the River City Racing Club RC Boat Races, and the Little Egypt Fly-In & Veterans Reunion/Fall Festival. Mr. Collins noted the EAA Chapter has plans to scale back the Little Egypt Fly-In & Veterans Reunion to a Young Eagle Rally/Airport Open House. The scaling back will help the airport fall in line with the Balloons Over Mt. Vernon event associated with the Fall Festival. Mr. Collins introduced Balloons over Mt. Vernon organizer Mrs. Jennifer Witzel. Mrs. Witzel and her husband Kevin own Jefferson County's only hot air balloon "Nothin But a Breeze". Plans are in the works to host up to ten balloons for the inaugural event. A balloon glow is planned for Friday evening, October 18th around the airport lake. The ten balloons will fly over town on Saturday morning, October 19th, and again on Saturday night utilizing the airport both times. Mrs. Witzel noted that the intent of the inaugural year is to build the experience and enthusiasm needed to grow the event into a full scale regional balloon festival.

NEW BUSINESS

Prevailing Wage Ordinance #2013-05

Mr. Collins presented Prevailing Wage Ordinance #2013-05 for approval. Motion was made by Commissioner Martin and seconded by Commissioner Chesney to approve the Ordinance as presented. Upon roll call vote, all were in favor.

Health Insurance

Mr. Collins relayed a proposal from health insurance agent Diana Thomas, and carrier Health Alliance, regarding the airport's group health plan. It seems all the major companies are offering their insureds a narrow window to lock in their premiums ahead of the implementation of the Affordable Care Act. The window to lock in starts this week and ends next week. The proposed new start date is December 1, 2013, and ends on December 31, 2014 - covering 13 months. Mr. Collins noted the airport's existing policy mirrors the fiscal year beginning on May 1 and ending on April 30. The existing premium is \$1744 per month. The new premium is \$1908 per month. This is a \$164 per month increase (9.5% over the previous premium). Mr. Collins presented a breakdown of the group's increases/decreases over the last five years. With the exception of one year, the premium increased nearly 10% annually. Discussion ensued. The Commissioners agreed waiting for the renewal next May is scary. No one has any idea what lies ahead! Mr. Collins recommended locking in the new rates. Motion was made by Commissioner Martin and seconded by Commissioner Piercy to approve the proposal by Diana Thomas to lock in new rates effective December 1, 2013. Upon roll call vote, all were in favor.

OTHER BUSINESS

Mr. Collins introduced a new airport logo design in accordance to the City's new "Creativity Redefined" branding initiative. The logo was designed by the City's Convention & Visitors Bureau. Discussion ensued with the Commissioners feeling the new logo lacked professionalism. Perhaps it is too much fun! The Commissioner asked Mr. Collins to work with the City CVB on further refinement of the logo.

There being no additional items to discuss in Other Business, Chairman Ancona moved forward with the meeting.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

There being no items to discuss in Executive Session, Chairman Ancona moved forward with the meeting.

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