

# Mt. Vernon Airport gets 'clean audit'

**BY DANIELLE TYLER**

SENTINEL NEWS STAFF

**MT. VERNON** — It's been a positive year for the Mt. Vernon Outland Airport, and it recently received a glowing report from its auditor, Jim Leuty of Krehbeil and Associates.

At Tuesday's regular board of commissioners meeting, the audit revealed that for the second year in a row, the airport has been operating in the black.

The audit indicated that the airport was in the positive, with \$17,685 in income over expenses. Last year, it was \$550 in income over expenses after five years of consecutive losses.

"This is what we call a clean audit," Leuty told the board Tuesday. "That's good news for you ... When it happens two years in a row, it's not a fluke."

Airport manager Chris Collins said he was pleased with the improvement of the airport's fiscal situation over the last two years and said the growth has been tremendous.

"We are very proud," Collins said. "We have been very frugal on fiscal management. We have been keeping our finances in check, and we keep working on growing our revenue."

It has been a big year for the growing facility. Last May, the airport was named by the Illi-

*"We have been very frugal on fiscal management."*

**CHRIS COLLINS,**

AIRPORT MANAGER

nois Department of Transportation Division of Aeronautics as the 2007 Category A (runways 5,500 feet in length or longer) General Aviation Airport of the Year.

Collins cited SRT Aviation, the company handling the airport's fixed-based operations, the newly opened Apple Dumplin' Grandma's Way restaurant, the first Outland Airport restaurant in three years, a new flight school, Air Evac base operations, the runway revitalization project and the newly acquired Air Rescue Fighting/Rapid Intervention Vehicle as reasons to celebrate the airport's success.

In addition, 28 new jobs were created at the airport.

The board is also embarking on several upcoming projects including a parking lot revitalization project and a plan to make the terminal more energy efficient.

*dtyler@morningsentinel.com*