

Mt. Vernon Airport Authority  
Regular Meeting of the Board of Commissioners  
Held December 16, 2019 at 6:00 PM

Present: Gary Chesney	Chairman
Mike Ancona	Treasurer
Carey Lipps	Commissioner

Absent: Marty Cox	Vice Chairman
Ryan Wellmaker	Secretary

Staff: Sheila Jolly-Scrivner

Guests: Cliff Lindeman, Mike Payne, Matt Colvin, & Don Lewis

Chairman Chesney welcomed new Commissioner Carey Lipps. Commissioner Lipps was recently appointed by the Jefferson County Board of Supervisors.

**PUBLIC INPUT**

There being no comments from the public, Chairman Chesney moved forward on the Agenda.

**REPORTS**

**Minutes**

Minutes were presented for the November 12<sup>th</sup> 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 Chesney moved forward with the meeting.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**Cash Farm Lease**

Mr. Collins stated he has talked to the winning bidder as well as the incumbent farmer who submitted the second highest bid. All is well with both parties. He recommended the acceptance of the high bid submitted by Alan and Lori Bowers. The annual contract

amount will be \$37,222.74 – an increase of \$3696. Mr. Collins explained an additional \$1500 per year will be reinvested into the ground in fertilizer so the new net increase is approximately \$2190. Motion was made by Commissioner Ancona and seconded by Commissioner Lipps to approve the bid submitted by Alan and Lori Bowers. Upon roll call vote, all were in favor.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **Ramp Lighting Upgrade**

Mr. Collins explained that beginning at the AIRGO Hangar and ending at the first row of “T” Hangars, there are fifteen light fixtures that provide lighting of the aircraft ramp. The fixtures are old, those that work correctly produce “orange light”, and they are inefficient. He noted Ameren is running a 58% rebate on the purchase price of these type of fixtures until the end of December. Since this upgrade is badly needed and time is of the essence, he ordered 15 new LED fixtures from Butler Supply. MeBulbs and Voss Lighting also submitted bids. Mr. Collins telephoned the Commissioners individually for permission. Mr. Collins noted that after the rebate, the airport’s cost is \$1528! Airport Maintenance Staff will do the installation. He asked for official approval of this expenditure. Motion was made by Commissioner Ancona and seconded by Commissioner Lipps to approve the purchase of 15 LED Ramp Light Fixtures as presented. Upon roll call vote, all were in favor.

### **Insurance**

Mr. Collins noted the airport’s Property and Equipment Policy expires on December 31, 2019. The renewal premium increased 4.8% to \$26,009. Agent Todd Piper indicates all carriers are taking increases across the country due to 2018 being a record year for claims. Mr. Piper believes a 4.8% increase is not bad considering the large list of equipment, multiple buildings, and 1100 acres the airport owns. Mr. Collins stated he asked Mr. Piper if all avenues had been explored. Mr. Piper indicated the policy has been shopped with the major carriers. Mr. Piper stated he would reach out to some of the lesser known carriers for pricing and would let the airport know prior to the meeting. Mr. Collins noted he has not heard from Mr. Piper so it appears the airport is boxed in and will have to accept things. Disappointed, Mr. Collins explained shopping around with other agents will not produce results: *“Todd is a good agent and I am certain already has quotes “locked in” with the underwriters (the old Agent of Record process).”* Mr. Collins recommended the approval of the renewal with Guy Wood Insurance. Motion was made by Commissioner Lipps and seconded by Commissioner Ancona to approve the renewal of the Property and Equipment Policy. Upon roll call vote, all were in favor.

## **OTHER BUSINESS**

Mr. Collins presented a letter from Steve Willis, EAA Chapter 1155 President and Chairman of the Club’s Aviation Explorer Post. The Aviation Explorer Post will not be re-chartered for 2020 and the EAA Chapter would like to see the Post’s treasury transferred to the EAA’s Aviation Scholarship Fund. There is currently \$548.76 in the Aviation Explorer Post Account on deposit with the Mt. Vernon Airport Authority. Mr. Collins noted the EAA Aviation Scholarship is laser focused on primary flight training at Mt. Vernon Outland Airport (either for a career or leading to aircraft ownership). Mr. Collins

recommended the release of the Post's funds for deposit to the EAA 1155 Aviation Scholarship. Motion was made by Commissioner Ancona and seconded by Commissioner Lipps to transfer the Aviation Explorer Post funds to the EAA Aviation Scholarship Account. Upon roll call vote, all were in favor.

#### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

As discussed in Executive Session, motion was made by Commissioner Ancona and seconded by Commissioner Lipps to hire Matt Colvin as the airport's new Maintenance Superintendent. Upon roll call vote, all were in favor. Mr. Colvin will replace Ron Mosier who is retiring after 40 years of service to the airport. Commissioner Ancona described Mr. Mosier as "a local legend".

There being no other 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.

**Executive Session**  
December 16, 2019

Mr. Collins dialed Vice Chairman and Maintenance Superintendent Hiring Committee Chairman Marty Cox on his cellular telephone (Mr. Cox was convalescing at home after a recent surgery). Mr. Cox was placed on speakerphone and explained the Committee's work in selecting a candidate to replace Mr. Ron Mosier who is retiring after 40 years of service. Mr. Cox noted the Committee interviewed two exceptional candidates but centered on Mr. Matt Colvin due to many factors that would benefit the airport for years to come. He described Mr. Colvin as a "Jack of All Trades". Mr. Colvin has performed service work in plumbing, HVAC, construction, painting, electrical, and heavy equipment operation. Mr. Colvin is a firefighter and EMT. Since he has worked at the airport on the snow removal and grass cutting crews, he knows the facility very well. Mr. Collins introduced Mr. Colvin to the Commissioners. Mr. Colvin explained that he is currently employed by Schierbaum Excavating as the Site Supervisor. Prior to that occupation, Mr. Colvin was a Shift Captain at Jefferson Fire Protection District. Although most in the room knew Mr. Colvin, Mr. Colvin was asked many questions. Mr. Colvin was made aware that he was stepping into some impossible shoes and could he cope in that role. After several scenario based questions were asked of Mr. Colvin, the Commissioners agreed Mr. Colvin was the correct candidate for the position. The Commissioners and Mr. Colvin discussed a salary/benefit package that was acceptable to both sides. The Commissioners agreed to hire Mr. Colvin upon returning to Open Session.