

Airport board elects new officers

The board also heard the annual state of the airport address

BY JOSH JONES

SENTINEL NEWS STAFF

MOUNT VERNON — With the beginning of a new fiscal year for Mount Vernon Outland Airport, the Mount Vernon Airport Authority Board of Commissioners elected its new officers for the year.

• Commissioner Marty Cox was elected as chairman of the board, Mike Ancona as vice chairman, Ryan Wellmaker as treasurer and Carey Lipps as secretary.

• Cox said that he has been on the board for four years and explained the reasons why he wanted to be a commissioner in the first place.

• “I spent close to 20 years being an active pilot here and, in fact, until I got married in 1989, I think I

spent more waking hours here than any other place other than my job,” Cox said. “I really enjoy this place and that is part of the reason that I wanted to be a commissioner is to give back to a place that has been good to me for many years.”

Cox shared two other reasons for wanting to be a part of the board.

“The other two reasons that I wanted to be a commissioner are the people around this table. The professionalism of our Airport Director Chris (Collins), I certainly look forward to working with him as well as knowing the integrity of this board,” Cox said. “It is my hope that after learning much from these men that I can continue with strong chairman leadership and I certainly look forward to the task at hand.”

Collins said that Cox is very well known at the airport for flying several different aircrafts over the years.

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“I look forward to working for Marty and the board,” Collins said. “He has a wealth of knowledge, he was a school administrator up until retirement, so that is really going to help the airport authority moving forward.”

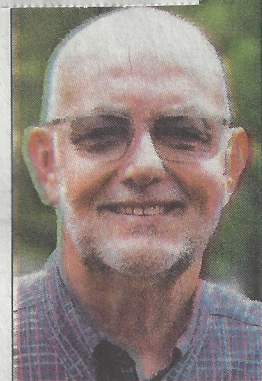
Administrative Assistant Shelia Jolly-Scrivner presented the board with the state of the airport report. Highlights for the year included the opening of the Bonnie Cafe on May 7, 2019, the late Earl Outland’s induction into the Illinois Aviation Hall of Fame, various events, business growth, future programs and the annual aviation report.

“Total operations increased 5 percent over the previous year (27,333) in 2019 compared to 26,030 in 2018,”

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MARTY COX

AIRPORT COMMISSIONER



Jolly-Scrivner said. “Total based inventory decreased from 53 to 45, 33 single engine land, seven multi-engine land, one jet and three helo. The inventory decrease is attributable to AIRGO relocating their initial and multi-engine training fleet back to Centralia in the fall of 2019.”

IN OTHER BUSINESS:

• The board recognized Matt Colvin, maintenance superintendent, for his outstanding work at the air-

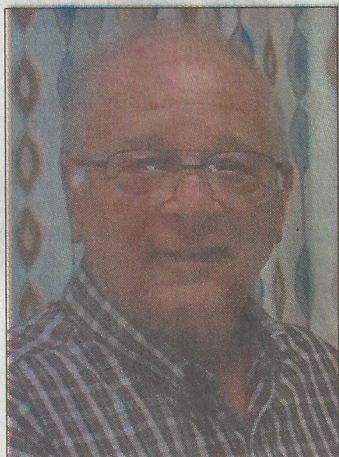
port. Colvin also gave an update on various ongoing projects at the airport.

• Wednesday marked the 65th anniversary of the opening of Mount Vernon Outland Airport.

• The board approved purchasing the Koziara Terminal alarm system at \$926.

• The board was given an update on the Illinois Aviation System plan.

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Mike Ancona



Ryan Wellmaker



Chris Collins

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