

Mt. Vernon Airport Authority
Regular Meeting of the Board of Commissioners
Held February 9, 2021 at 6:00 PM

Present: Marty Cox	Chairman
Ryan Wellmaker	Treasurer
Carey Lipps	Secretary
Gary Chesney	Commissioner

Absent: Mike Ancona Vice Chairman

Staff: Chris Collins & Sheila Jolly-Scrivner

Guests: Don Lewis, Ruth Ann Strawn, Mike & Carla Payne, and the Danny Jewell Family

PUBLIC INPUT

Mr. Collins welcomed SRT Aviation Lineman Danny Jewell and his family. Mr. Collins thanked Mr. Jewell for his hard work and dedication to the airport. In addition to doing an excellent job serving on the airport’s front line fueling aircraft and welcoming guests, Mr. Jewell constructed and finished a large cabinet in the flightline vending room. Mr. Jewell cut materials, sanded, constructed, and stained the large cabinet on his own time. The beautiful new cabinet replaced the old, saggy, particle board type, cabinet used for years below the popcorn, slushy, and coffee, machines. Chairman Cox presented a Certificate of Appreciation to Mr. Jewell for going “above and beyond” normal airport duties.

REPORTS

Minutes

Minutes were presented for the January 9th, 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

Mr. Collins presented the Agenda and Meeting Minutes for the upcoming February Meeting of the Greater Egypt Regional Economic Commission.

OLD BUSINESS

Project Updates

Mr. Collins provided an update on completed and ongoing projects around the airfield:

Hangar A-1200 Office – The maintenance staff has been busy working to finish the office above the bathroom. Kash Helicopter Pilot and construction tradesman Ron Brushwitz helped with building the stairway. Exterior sheeting has been installed, the walls are insulated, and the electrical rough in has been completed. The maintenance guys are currently hanging drywall.

Interior Fence – The project started on Monday morning but was cancelled within an hour. With extreme cold forecast for the next seven to ten days, the contractor, Lovewell Fencing, returned to Iowa. Lovewell did have a required cold weather concrete mix plan on file with IDOT. On a related note, a 36” diameter by 30’ length culvert was purchased and installed (by airport maintenance) in a creek that crosses under the new fence. Not doing so would have probably prevented Lovewell from accessing the north side of the fence installation area, would have most likely created another access area for deer to enter the Aircraft Operations Area (under the fence), and would have certainly created an area of no access after the fence was installed. The new fence should cross the culvert near its center point allowing mowing machinery to traverse the creek on both sides of the fence.

Fence Repair Area - Lovewell Fencing provided a quote on the repair of the damaged fence just north of Runway 15. Mr. Collins feels the price is too high for consideration as the cost per foot for this local repair project is almost double the State/Federal Project. Mr. Collins feels the local project should be 33% cheaper than a Federal/State Project! The plan is to seek prices from other contractors and put the project off until summer (the temporary repair made by airport maintenance in the summer of 2020 is stable and working well).

NEW BUSINESS

Annual Audit

Mr. The airport’s auditor David Kieffer was not in attendance. This Agenda item was tabled for one month.

Insurance

The airport’s Workmen’s Compensation Insurance Policy renewed in early February. Mr. Collins note the renewal premium is \$13,211 – an increase of \$2912. He believes the increase is attributed to adding another employee. Motion was made by Commissioner Wellmaker and seconded by Commissioner Chesney to approve the \$13,211 premium. Upon roll call vote, all were in favor.

Annual Aviation Report

Mr. Collins presented his annual aviation report for the calendar year 2020. Total operations decreased nearly 11% over the previous year (24,560 in 2020 as compared to 27,333 in 2019). Some major takeaways from the data are the following:

- * Operationally, 2019 was the best year (therefore, not a good comparison with 2020)
- * COVID-19 impacted things with regard to business development - jet ops down
- * AIRGO had few operations in 2020
- * The domestic flight school operated three aircraft and a full time CFI was added
- * Joined CAA program in late July, 88 additional operations

On the based inventory side, there were no changes in total number of based aircraft - 45 (33 Single Engine Land, 8 Multi-Engine Land, and 4 Helo). Any aircraft that left the field were replaced. One bright spot was the addition of two Cirrus SR22's.

OTHER BUSINESS

Ms. Scrivner presented a summary of the Flight Instruction Program. Aviation Programs Director Jay Grafton billed 45.6 hours in January. Over the first nine days of February, he has billed 14.8 hours.

There being no 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.