

Mt. Vernon Airport Authority  
Regular Meeting of the Board of Commissioners  
Held June 8, at 6:00 PM

Present: Marty Cox	Chairman
Mike Ancona	Vice Chairman
Carey Lipps	Secretary
Greg Martin	Treasurer
Gary Chesney	Commissioner

Staff: Chris Collins  
Sheila Jolly-Scrivner  
Matt Colvin

Guests: Don Lewis, Ruth Anne Strawn, Mike & Carla Payne, Steve Modert, & Josh Jones

#### **PUBLIC INPUT**

Josh Jones stated he was at the airport on Monday Night for the GivenHope for Cancer fundraiser. He thanked the Board and Management for making the airport available for the community.

#### **REPORTS**

##### **Minutes**

Minutes were presented for the May 11th, 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 May Meeting of the Greater Egypt Regional Economic Commission.

#### **OLD BUSINESS**

##### **Project/Grant Updates**

Mr. Collins provided an update on current project/grant status:

*Innovation Park Utility Upgrade Project* – Commissioner Chesney and I met after last month’s meeting and developed a better understanding of what lies ahead in terms of electrical infrastructure. A meeting with Ameren’s Brent Bartley will steer us on course. Brent has been on vacation and I expect we will nail down a meeting date sometime later this week or next. With the addition of the GMR IFR Base, the electrical portion of this project will have to occur much sooner than we expected. This one will have to be funded locally as there are no fast pathways to AIP or other Grant Funding.

*KT Parking Lot Rehabilitation Project* – A full set of documents regarding this project was submitted to IDOT, Aeronautics late last week – well ahead of the June 14, 2021 due date. This is our number one submittal to the Rebuild Illinois (State/Local Capital Plan). Commissioner Chesney mentioned a discussion with Mr. Bartley needs to be implemented regarding the Koziara Terminal Parking Lot Lights. Perhaps Ameren will sell the leased lights/poles to the airport ahead of the Parking Lot Rehabilitation Project.

*New Air Rescue & Firefighting (ARFF) Vehicle* – Rebuild Illinois does not limit the number of projects an airport could submit. Therefore, our second submittal is a replacement for our 2004/2005 ARFF Truck. Although the project appears on the airport’s TIP Sheet, it is many years into the future. The FAA would not draft a letter of support for a more timely replacement of the truck through the AIP TIP due to the great condition of the current truck, the upkeep by the firefighters, and no scheduled airline service. So, why not try a use the Rebuild Illinois Program for funding assistance.

*Innovation Park Turbine Center (IP Hangar #2)* – In late May, Greater Egypt Regional Economic Development forwarded an invitation to Senator Tammy Duckworth’s Congressionally Directed Spending (CDS) Program. CDS is very similar to Congressman Bost’s Community Project Funding (CPF) Program. I had six days to submit as applications were due on June 1<sup>st</sup>. This time, I submitted the Innovation Park Turbine Center Project. As for the EDA Grant Program - Good news! The Greater Egypt Regional Economic Development office has assigned one of their staffers to our case for a submittal to EDA. I am working through a very substantial package of documents for the hangar and associated aircraft ramp. Greater Egypt wants to submit by the end of June so time is definitely of the essence. This grant requires a Preliminary Engineering Report and a Beneficiary Organization Form to be submitted. The Beneficiary Organization is the tenant responsible for the job creation or job saving. In our case the Beneficiary is Solera Aviation (the HondaJet owner). Solera is ready to sign on for the minimum of 15 jobs. With two to three corporate flight departments also operating at the IP Turbine Center, there could be 20 jobs. I expect to have the Beneficiary form completed soon. However, the Preliminary Engineering Report requires data produced by a professional airport engineering consultant and/or architect. For the engineering/architect’s fees to be paid by a potential project, the architect/engineer has to be “properly procured”. Hanson is

“properly procured” for all projects except hangars. This was done mostly because hangar projects are funded locally – AIP and State money are normally unavailable. This is an unusual issue since the airport is already in an agreement with Hanson. So, I reached out to IDOT, Aeronautics to obtain their advice. An e-mail from Chief Engineer Al Mlacnik is included in your booklet. Al recommended the placement of a simple Ad in the local newspaper. I placed the ad below in the Sentinel and it ran on Friday. Engineering Selection is the third item of New Business on Tuesday Night.

*GMR IFR Base* – Please continue to keep this confidential as Global Medical Response is not ready to release this project to the public. I do not plan to discuss this project on Tuesday Night as there are really no new developments. I am awaiting drawings from Hanson so that a precise location can be determined at Innovation Park Site #5. I have spoken to Eric Evans about temporary storage of the helicopter in Innovation Park Hangar #1 and the City for approval of temporary crew quarters structure. All are on board.

*A-1100 Roof/Gutter Reconstruction* – Commissioner Lipps and I met after last month’s meeting and developed a plan of action for this project. We had previously discussed removal of the upper metal portion of the structure containing the interior gutter. However, after further scrutiny - doing so would not only destroy the look of the building but there would be no way to blend anything new with what is left. Removal of the aggregate vertical walls is not an option. Commissioner Lipps has a plan to essentially build a better, stronger, and more water proofed semi-interior gutter. I plan to work with him to develop a Bid Specification so that this project can be done during the dry Summer months ahead.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **Tentative Annual Budget Ordinance 2021-01**

Mr. Collins presented the Tentative Annual Budget Ordinance 2021-01 for consideration and approval. The tentative annual budget lists revenues at \$534,316 and expenditures at \$532,816. The budget includes a frozen Property Tax Levy – the seventh consecutive frozen levy! Motion was made by Commissioner Chesney and seconded by Commissioner Martin to approve the tentative annual budget ordinance. Upon roll call vote, all were in favor. Mr. Collins noted that the tentative annual budget will be on display in the MVAA Office well beyond the 30 day public inspection time frame. After the Annual Budget Hearing, scheduled for 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, July 13, 2021, is concluded; the budget can be approved in final form in regular session that same evening.

### **ARFF Station Project**

Mr. Collins explained that for several years, the firefighters have been complaining about the deteriorated approach on the Airport Drive side of the station. The fire truck must drive through pot holes, and when wet, must be cleaned more frequently. A week or so ago, the City tried to water blast through the street side culvert to eliminate uphill

ponding on the Summersville Park side. No luck! The 12” diameter steel culvert is collapsed. The City has agreed to install a new culvert if the airport purchases the culvert. Mr. Collins told Public Works Director Matt Fauss the airport would make that deal! Mr. Collins stated it is time to rehabilitate the approach and fix the drainage. He plans to purchase 100’ of black plastic culvert at one of the supply locations inside the MVAA taxing district. He noted he is currently seeking bids for the asphalt work and plan to have them at next month’s meeting.

### **Engineering Selection**

As discussed in Old Business under Grant/Project Update – Innovation Park Turbine Center, Mr. Collins explained the airport needs to “properly procure” an engineering consultant so that the EDA Grant Application submittal can be made. Mr. Collins recommended proceeding with the following: Assign Commissioner Carey Lipps and himself to a committee to review all Statements of Qualifications received on Wednesday, June 9<sup>th</sup>. The Committee makes a recommendation but also offers the SOQ Packages to the other Commissioners for their review. The firm obtaining a simple majority during an individual telephone call vote on Thursday morning, June 10<sup>th</sup>, will be selected. A Hangar Specific Retainer Agreement will be executed with the firm chosen by the Board. The “properly procured” firm will begin drafting the “Preliminary Engineering Report” for the EDA Grant. Discussion ensued. Motion was made by Commissioner Chesney and seconded by Commissioner Martin to appoint Commissioner Lipps and Mr. Collins to an Engineering Selection Committee. Upon roll call vote, all were in favor. Motion was made by Commissioner Martin and seconded by Commissioner Lipps to select an Engineering Consultant based on the recommendation by the committee to the full Board during an individual telephone vote (simple majority). Upon roll call vote, all were in favor.

### **OTHER BUSINESS**

Mr. Collins noted a major milestone occurred at the airport on June 1<sup>st</sup>, 2021. SRT Aviation celebrated its 15<sup>th</sup> Anniversary on the flightline. Mr. Collins showed the Commissioners a plaque he plans to present to SRT Aviation in the morning. He read the inscription on the plaque. It states the following:

*For being Mt. Vernon Outland Airport’s longest serving Fixed Base Operator in the modern era (1955 to present). Your company has developed a strong reputation for aircraft maintenance, has become known throughout the corporate and general aviation world as “the stop” for fuel, and has assisted many aspiring pilots with “achieving their wings” through your PVT-COM and LSA flight training programs. Thank you for loving all things aviation seven days per week/365 days per year, over the last fifteen years!*

Mr. Collins made mention of an article appearing in the back of the booklets. The article was in the most recent edition of Model Aviation. The small mention pertains to the Ozark Airlines DC3 Model on display in the Koziara Terminal Lobby. EAA and RLRC Member Phil Bean submitted the article.

Mr. Collins stated on Friday, June 4<sup>th</sup>, representatives from Titan Aviation Fuels were on site to place new logos on the mobile fuel trucks. This act, together with new signage installed on Thursday, May 20<sup>th</sup> completed the changeover from Shell Aviation to Titan Aviation Fuels. With Shell bowing out, Phillips 66 remains as the country's only direct marketer. All others sell through dealers. Product liability is the main factor.

Ms. Scrivner presented a summary of the Flight Instruction Program. Aviation Programs Director Jay Grafton billed 49 hours in April. Over the first eight days of May, he has billed 21 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.