Mt. Vernon Airport Authority
Regular Meeting of the Board of Commissioners
Held October 14th, 2024 at 6:00 PM

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

Absent: None

Staff: Chris Collins
Sheila Jolly-Scrivner
Matt Colvin

Guests: Don Lewis & Steve Willis

Mr. Collins began the meeting by mentioning the passing of Larry Hicks on September 22nd. Larry loved the airport and Mr. Collins considered him a good friend. Mr. Collins also mentioned retired Ozark, TWA, and American Airlines Captain Jerry Spear of Centralia passed away on October 3rd. Jerry was also an airshow pilot and made many appearances at the EAA Little Egypt Fly-In and Veterans Reunions.

PUBLIC INPUT

There being none, Chairman Ancona moved forward with the hearing.

REPORTS

Minutes

Minutes were presented for the September 9th Meetings 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' Report

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 of the motion.

CORRESPONDENCE

Mr. Collins explained the airport's Annual Transportation Improvement Program Meeting will be at 1:30 p.m. on Wednesday, November 12, 2025 at the IDOT Division #9 facility in Carbondale. IDOT, IDA's office complex in Springfield is being renovated so IDA staff are offering to meet airport sponsors in Chicago and Carbondale

OLD BUSINESS

Project Update. Below is a snapshot of all projects as specified by Mr. Collins;

Air-Evac Lifeteam Joint Base Jefferson – Hinderliter Construction indicates the stainless-steel fuel cabinet is still a "few weeks away". All other components are available. Hopefully, construction will begin near the end of this month.

New ARFF Truck – There probably won't be much news on this project until drawings are received in early 2026. The targeted completion date is October 26, 2026.

New SRE Building – The pre-construction meeting was held on September 16th. The big take away was how to handle the financial and documentation aspects of the sponsor doing portions of its own trade work – in our case some finish plumbing and some finish electrical. The FAA does make stipulations for this so Hanson's Barry Stolz will have to dive into the AIP Handbook for clarification and guidance. Another discussion topic was the Program Letter lists the funding from partial BIL and one year of General Aviation Entitlement. The 2025 BIL grant (awarded in 2026) is currently earmarked for another project and certainly could be used for the SRE Building. Since the 2025 funds are not in the account, they could not be listed in the Program Letter. We can discuss this at the TIP Meeting in November. Matt and I met with Brian Edmison last week and he will get started with a design based on Matt's guidance. I look forward to having a preliminary budget soon.

ZEV Grant – Although I have yet to receive any official correspondence from the FAA, calls from consultant Charlie Riordan and Hanson's Barry Stolz, both arrived at the same conclusion - all ZEV Grants are not to be awarded due to the program "not aligning with the new administration's goals".

Solar Energy Projects: SE Phase #1, SE Phase #2, SE Phase #3, and SE Phase #4.

SE Phases #1 (A-1100 and A-1200 Roofs) & #2 (T Hangar A-800 Roof) – Only Phase #2 is operational at this moment. Placards are still keeping Phase #1 in the off position. Round #3 of the placard mess involved additional guidance for the fire department (Ameren's requirements not MVFD). Another two weeks! I am told the switch will be placed in the "on" position on Thursday, October 16th. Sun Solar's representative has apologized for the entire situation. I have asked for an exit meeting and how to view the monitoring.

SE Phase #4 (39 Acre Field) – We should know if this project is possible in a month or so.

T Hangar (General Aircraft Storage) Policy 2025. The committee met shortly after the September Meeting. Mr. Collins presented the new General Aircraft Storage Policy and Lease Agreement using the recommendations by the Committee Members and reviewed by Legal Counsel Doug Hoffman. Mr. Collins recommended approval of both documents. If approved, Mr. Collins will draft a personalized letter to each tenant advising them of the Board's action. The letter will include the new policy and Lease Agreement as attachments. The targeted date of January 1st gives everyone ample time to comply or vacate. Discussion ensued. Motion was made by Commissioner Chesney and seconded by Commissioner Lipps to approve the General Aircraft Storage Policy and Lease Agreement as presented. Upon roll call vote, all were in favor.

Flight Training. Mr. Collins stated Eric Evans had initially found some C172 candidates but both were ruled out. So, the search continues. On a related note, Mr. Collins explained he had an interesting conversation with the owner of the PA30 multi-engine trainer candidate recently. The owner would really like the aircraft put to use. So much so, he offered to cover the up-front costs such as insurance (the costs that stalled the deal initially). Mr. Collins re-calculated the hourly rates, reached out to Eric Evans for guidance drafting the Lease Agreement, and then submitted his rough draft Lease Agreement to Doug Hoffman for review. Mr. Collins presented the legal counsel approved Lease Agreement between the airport and Randy Rubenacker, the owner of PA30 N8837Y. He recommended approval. Discussion ensued. Motion was made by Commissioner Cox and seconded by Commissioner Martin to approve the Lease Agreement as presented. Upon roll call vote, all were in favor. Mr. Collins explained he will submit the Lease Agreement to Randy and ask for a meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

HVAC. Mr. Collins noted the system (indoor and outdoor) serving the northern end of the Fixed Base Operations Building is in need of replacement. An HVAC contractor replaced the south system a year or so ago. In addition to the indoor and outdoor units, the condensation pan and duct/trunk system (located upstairs) were replaced at that time. These components will also need replaced on the north side system. Brian Rightnowar HVAC provided an estimate to replace the indoor and outdoor units at a cost of $13,750. The duct/trunk line replacement will be billed at time and materials. Mr. Collins expects another $2500 for this effort. Therefore, he asked for project approval at $16,000. Motion was made by Commissioner Lipps and seconded by Commissioner Cox to approve the project as presented. Upon roll call vote, all were in favor.

OTHER BUSINESS

Mr. Collins provided the September statistics generated by Virtower. During the first full month, Virtower recorded 1990 total operations.

After Banterra Bank's sponsorship of the last two Midwest Aviation Expos, and that bank's willingness to finance the next C172 aircraft, Mr. Collins stated he would like for the airport to do business with the local branch. He and Mrs. Jolly-Scrivner had lunch with Mr. Joe Gilosci and Mrs. Cherrish McCoy last week where the pair expressed interest to do this. Mr. Collins asked for approval to move the Flightline Account from Legence Bank to Banterra Bank. Discussion ensued. Motion was made by Commissioner Chesney and seconded by Commissioner Martin to approve the move as recommended by Mr. Collins. Upon roll call vote, all were in favor.

Mr. Collins recommended a raise for webmaster Perry Hartman from Painters Dream Productions. Mr. Hartman maintains websites for the airport, SRT Flightline, and Midwest Aviation Expo. He also provides IT help and marketing. Mr. Collins recommended a new monthly payment of $400 (up from $362.50). Discussion ensued. Motion was made by Commissioner Cox and seconded by Commissioner Lipps to approve the raise for Mr. Hartman. Upon roll call vote, all were in favor.

Mrs. Jolly-Scrivner provided an update on last month's Midwest Aviation Expo (MAX). There were 36 exhibitors, visitors from 36 States were in attendance, there were 530 total aircraft operations, and 108 transient aircraft flew in. To date, eight aircraft were sold at or after MAX.

Mrs. Jolly-Scrivner presented reports for SRT Flightline. As for the aircraft, August flight hours are the following: N737CZ, 67.6 hours; N24153, 46.4 hours; N638HB, 18.5 hours; N675U, 14.2 hours; and N313U, hours. This is 153.7 total flight hours for September! SRT Flightline finished with a surplus of $53,044.41 during the month of September. The maintenance department itself had a deficit of <$1164.76>. YTD, the overall business (fuel sales, flight department, and maintenance combined) posted a surplus amount of $119,119.70 (five months into a new fiscal year).

There being no Executive Session items, no additional Other Business items, and no extra 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.