

Mt. Vernon Airport Authority
Regular Meeting of the Board of Commissioners
Held September 9th, 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

PUBLIC INPUT

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

REPORTS

Minutes

Minutes were presented for the August 12th 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

Hearing none, Chairman Ancona moved forward with the Agenda.

OLD BUSINESS

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

Air-Evac Lifeteam Joint Base Jefferson – I expect Hinderliter Construction will begin the installation of the fuel cabinet system later 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 – A pre-construction meeting is scheduled for September 16th, 2025. Just after last month's meeting, Matt negotiated a deal with Burkdell Mulch trading the top soil pile for a significant amount of gravel. Gravel was delivered and spread on the building site and the south side extending to the perimeter access road. The total gravel bill was \$5000 (after a \$4900 discount for the topsoil). Since I forgot to ask at last month's meeting, we need to approve the approximate \$35,000 cost for the site work on Tuesday Night. This cost includes the gravel, rental of equipment (dozer, track hoe, haul truck, & roller), culverts, and heavy equipment transport. Motion was made by Commissioner Lipps and seconded by Commissioner Cox to approve the \$35,000 expenditure as presented. Upon roll call vote, all were in favor.

ZEV Grant – Consultant Charlie Riordan called late last week with some likely bad news. Airports located out west (that are ahead of the Great Lakes Region in the queue) are receiving news the ZEV Program has been put on hold. The program "does not align with the new administration's goals". With the current Federal fiscal year ending in September, I expect we will be notified sometime this month.

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

SE Phases #1 (A-1100 and A-1200 Roofs) & #2 (T Hangar A-800 Roof) – This is like trying to catch a greased hog! I was out of town teaching ARFF Classes during the Ameren Inspection on Monday, August 25th. With the Expo setup, I forgot to contact Sun Solar about the monitoring (website, computer system, etc) until today (Monday). Nothing is operational at the moment. It seems Ameren is very picky with placards! Additional placards are required and should be installed at the various electrical boxes soon. I have asked for an exit meeting and training on how to view the monitoring system(s).

SE Phase #3 (Air Evac Joint Base Jefferson) – I am still waiting to see Phases #1 & #2 in production before approving Phase #3. I just want to see proof. With how Phases #1 and #2 finished, I have reluctance for proceeding with Phase #3.

SE Phase #4 (39 Acre Field) – I signed the Lease Option Agreement just after last month's meeting. I truly hope this one can succeed!

T Hangar Policy 2025. ARFF Classes and the Expo took Mr. Collins' time and attention. He is unaware if the committee has met but he noted he will try to make a

meeting happen soon. In the meantime, another Cirrus owner wants to join Team MVN. If that occurs, there will be six (6) Cirrus SR22's at MVN

NEW BUSINESS

Flight Training. Mr. Collins explained he would like to pursue another C172 "Skyhawk". Scheduling of C172 N737CZ and C172 N24153 require a minimum of one week. Checkrides are difficult to plan. Multi-day usage is not possible. Flight instructors and students are abundant. Program expansion time is now! Eric Evans is searching for another aircraft. Mr. Collins spoke with Mitch Loiselle from Banterra Aircraft Finance at the Expo and the bank is on board to offer its best rate and terms. As for the multi-engine option, I recommend we pass. The existing insurance quote is over \$11,000. Mr. Collins said he spoke to Greg Elworth of Acrisure Aircraft Insurance at the Expo. Greg stated the industry is not favorable of the older twin engine aircraft. Even though financing is not needed for the airport's situation, Mitch Loiselle from Banterra agreed with Greg's comment. Joe Ord from Piston Aviation noted the opportunities are hit and miss. Piston uses a Piper Aztec for its multi-engine program. There are periods of inactivity but the bills are constant. All three told Mr. Collins to keep doing what MVN is good at – SEL Training!

Snow Removal Equipment. After last season, Maintenance Superintendent Matt Colvin requested a box blade be purchased. The box blade would be very beneficial for clearing the cross taxiways. Currently, crews make several short runs with the plow equipment taking as much as 15-20 minutes per cross taxiway. The cost for the blade is \$6850. Discussion ensued. Motion was made by Commissioner Chesney and seconded by Commissioner Lipps to approve the box blade as presented. Upon roll call vote, all were in favor.

OTHER BUSINESS

Mr. Collins noted the Illinois Department of Transportation, Division of Aeronautics installed the incredible VirTower System at the airport on Thursday, August 22, 2025. The system uses ADS-B Data to log airport operations. Some airport sponsors have been "fudging" operational counts resulting in funds being allocated disproportionately. VirTower will provide real numbers for all Illinois airports. Included in your booklet is information on VirTower and an updated operational count from KMVN. So far KMVN has logged 1457 in 18 days! Midwest Aviation Expo accounted for 530 of those total operations.

Mrs. Jolly-Scrivner presented reports for SRT Flightline. As for the aircraft, August flight hours are the following: N737CZ, 68.1 hours; N24153, 61.2 hours; N638HB, 22.8 hours; N675U, 20.1 hours; and N313U, 18.1 hours. This is 190.4 total flight hours in August! SRT Flightline finished with a surplus of \$13,252.93 during the month of August. The maintenance department itself had a deficit of <\$3087.35>. YTD, the overall business (fuel sales, flight department, and maintenance combined) posted a surplus amount of \$82,459.57 (four months into a new fiscal year).

Mr. Collins explained the Midwest Aviation Expo went very well and thanked the volunteers and Commissioners for their participation. Compared to previous years, demo flights were down but attendance in the forums/seminars were up. Some exhibitors believe this was due to the recently revealed MOSAIC and the tariff situation. Aircraft operations were 530 over the event's three days. This was down from last year's high of 600.

Mr. Collins presented information pertaining to a \$0.50 raise for Airframe/Powerplant Technician Joshua Hackworth. Discussion ensued. Motion was made by Commissioner Chesney and seconded by Commissioner Martin to approve the plan presented by Mr. Collins. Upon roll call vote, all were in favor.

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.