

# MICHIGAN AERONAUTICS COMMISSION

Minutes of Meeting  
Lansing, Michigan  
March 25, 2010

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Pursuant to Section 31 of Act 327 of the Public Acts of 1945, the Commissioners of the Michigan Aeronautics Commission (MAC), created by said act, met at the Aeronautics Building, 2700 Port Lansing Road, Lansing, Michigan 48906 on Wednesday, March 25, 2010, commencing at the hour of approximately 10:00 a.m.

## Members Present

Terry Everman, Chair  
James Collins, Vice Chair  
Sidney Adams, Commissioner  
Russ Kavalhuna, Commissioner  
J. William Prochazka, Commissioner  
Leon Hank, Designee – MDOT  
Dennis Fedewa, Designee – MDNR  
Jim Shell for David Brickey,  
Legal Counsel  
Rob Abent, MAC Director

## Members Absent

Robert Johnston, Designee – DMVA  
Dan Atkinson, Designee – MSP

## Staff Present

Lorraine White, Assistant to MAC  
Rick Hammond, Airports Division  
Pauline Misjak, Aviation Services  
Dave Baker, Airports Division  
Tom Krashen, Aviation Services  
Gerry Edwards, Aviation Services  
Steve Schultz, Aviation Services  
Tom Smith, Aviation Services  
Mike Soper, Aviation Services  
Linn Smith, Airports Division  
Tara Ball, Aviation Services  
Tera Krupp, Aviation Services  
Roger Mawhorter, Aviation Services  
Rick Carlson, Aviation Services  
Randy Coller, Airports Division

## Also Present

John Mayfield, FAA  
Mark McClardy, FAA  
Mike Daigle, Capitol Region Airport  
Authority  
Daniel Otto, Capitol Region Airport  
Authority  
Ted Perreault, Tuscola Area Airport  
Dick Acker, Clare Municipal Airport  
Jeff Nagel, MBS/MAAE  
Lee Scherwitz, Southwest Michigan  
Regional  
Airport  
Kristin Judge, Washtenaw County Board  
John Strehl, ACB  
Brian Picardat, Gerald R. Ford  
International Airport  
Susy Avery, Wayne County Airport  
Authority

A list of all others present is attached to the official minutes.



## I. OPENING REMARKS

The March 25, 2010, Michigan Aeronautics Commission meeting was called to order by Chairman Terry Everman at 10:23 a.m.

Chair Everman welcomed everyone attending and recognized John Mayfield from the FAA, and Kirk Steudle, Director of the Michigan Department of Transportation. Roll call was taken; Commissioners Johnston and Atkinson were absent.

## II. COMMISSION BUSINESS

- A. Chair Everman asked Mr. John Mayfield and MDOT Director Kirk Steudle to join the Commissioners at the front table to sign the State Block Grant Agreement. He thanked all involved for their efforts. Director Abent mentioned that we have worked on this project for a few years. He also mentioned that Mr. Mayfield was recently named as the Manager of the FAA Detroit Airports District Office. Director Abent thanked Mr. Mayfield for his efforts.

Mr. Rick Hammond and Mr. Mark McClardy also joined them at the table for the signature and photos.

- B. Chairman Everman entertained a motion to approve Exhibit A, the minutes of the January 27, 2010 meeting, pending any corrections or changes. Director Abent asked for a slight change on page 5 of the minutes; the reference to RNF should be changed to RNAV. Moved by Commissioner Adams and supported by Commissioner Kavalhuna to approve the minutes with the minor change. The motion carried.

- C. Chairman Everman asked Mr. Dave Baker, Airports Division, to present the airport grants. Mr. Baker gave an overview of the 37 projects for funding approval.

Prior to giving the information on the transfers, Mr. Baker presented information on a loan request for the Branch County Memorial Airport, in Coldwater, in the amount of \$100,000 to be repaid over a period of ten years at 4.1% interest. After examination, the loan request has been approved by the Department of Treasury. He presented an architectural rendition of the terminal building. Branch County and Aeronautics is requesting approval of the loan.

Chairman Everman entertained a motion to approve the loan as presented by Mr. Baker. Commissioner Kavalhuna moved that the Commission support this request for a loan from Branch County. He added that he personally visited this airport several times and found it useful and supported by the community. Commissioner Prochazka supported the motion. All voted in favor.



Mr. Baker reported on the 37 transfer requests.

1. Padgham Field, Allegan
2. Southwest Michigan Regional Airport, Benton Harbor
3. Roben-Hood Airport, Big Rapids
4. Wexford County Airport, Cadillac
5. Charlevoix Municipal Airport, Charlevoix
6. Clare Municipal Airport, Clare
7. Branch County Memorial Airport, Coldwater
8. Coleman A. Young Municipal Airport, Detroit
9. Detroit Metropolitan Wayne County International Airport, Detroit
10. Detroit Metropolitan Wayne County International Airport, Detroit
11. Detroit Metropolitan Wayne County International Airport, Detroit
12. Willow Run Airport, Detroit
13. Gerald R. Ford International Airport, Grand Rapids
14. Grayling Army Airfield, Grayling
15. Grosse Ile Municipal Airport, Grosse Ile
16. Hillsdale Municipal Airport, Hillsdale
17. Ionia County Airport, Ionia
18. Ford Airport, Iron Mountain
19. Gogebic-Iron County Airport, Ironwood
20. Kalamazoo/Battle Creek International Airport, Kalamazoo
21. Lowell City Airport, Lowell
22. Mason County Airport, Ludington
23. Marlette Township Airport, Marlette
24. Sawyer International Airport, Marquette
25. Sawyer International Airport, Marquette
26. Oscoda County Airport, Mio
27. Luce County Airport, Newberry
28. Ontonagon County-Schuster Field, Ontonagon
29. Oscoda-Wurtsmith Airport, Oscoda
30. Oakland County International Airport, Pontiac
31. Oakland County International Airport, Pontiac
32. Ray Community Airport, Ray
33. Presque Isle County Airport, Rogers City
34. Saginaw H.W. Browne Airport, Saginaw
35. Sandusky City Airport, Sandusky
36. Sebewaing Township Airport, Sebewaing
37. Kirsch Municipal Airport, Sturgis

As no questions were raised on the transfers, Chair Everman entertained a motion to approve the 37 transfers as given. Moved by Commissioner Collins and supported by Commissioner Adams to support the transfers as given. The motion carried.

Mr. Baker then presented the two supplemental transfers. Owosso Community Airport in Owosso, Michigan, total transfer of \$420,000 due to additional fees.



Roscommon County – Blodgett Memorial Airport in Houghton Lake, Michigan, total transfer of \$115,000 for environmental assessment for parallel taxiway. There were no questions on the supplemental transfers.

### III. REPORTS

#### A. Airport Approach Plan for the Tuscola Area Airport in Caro.

Chairman Everman asked Linn Smith to present on the Tuscola Area Airport project in Caro, Michigan.

Mr. Smith began his presentation saying our office has been engaged with the Tuscola County Planning Commission for the past year. We have devised an approach plan and airport hazard area that they would like included in their airport zoning ordinance. This is very similar to the airport approach plans that have already been approved for all of our licensed airports. He gave information on the major differences in the plan.

Mr. Smith gave details on the State process, which is focused on the needs of the airport, the safety standards, and the needs of the county residents. He discussed height and lane use controls. Included in the packet to the commissioners was a copy of the airport layout plan. At the conclusion of the project, it was mutually recommended by our office and by the County Board of Commissioners to go with the standard ten mile hazard area, which is what will be presented.

Airport zoning ordinances that have airport approach plans and airport hazard areas already adopted by this Commission are very similar to what is already in place at the FAA level and under the Michigan Tall Structures act. The land use guidelines being presented today are identical to what has already been approved for this airport and the airport approach plan that would be used when there is no airport zoning ordinance.

Also included in the packets is a copy of the airport approach plan height controls. Mr. Smith spoke of the discussion held as to the boundary line. The closer you get to the airports, the more stringent the requirements. He mentioned the five protective lane use control zones around the airport.

If the Commission approves the airport approach plan and hazard area, it will be presented back to the County; the next step is another public hearing; the adopting authority will be Tuscola County. However they can't take action unless the Commission adopts their approach plan and hazard area.

There were no questions raised.

Chairman Everman entertained a motion to support the Tuscola Area Airport Approach plan as presented by Mr. Smith. Moved by Commissioner Adams and supported by Commissioner Kavalhuna to support the plan. The motion carried.



Direct Abent indicated that this was a difficult process and commended Linn Smith and the Tuscola local officials for a job well done.

#### B. All Weather Airport Access Program.

Chairman Everman asked Director Abent to present his report.

Director Abent thanked all for coming; he recognized John Mayfield and Mark McClardy from the FAA. He also welcomed airport representatives: Lee Scherwitz (Southwest Michigan Regional Airport); John Strehl (Antrim County Airport); Brian Picardat (Gerald R. Ford International Airport); Dick Aker, (Clare Municipal Airport); Jeff Nagel (MBS International Airport); and Dan Otto (Capitol Regional International Airport).

Mr. Abent gave a brief recap from the January MAC meeting when the AWOS and VOR/DME presentation was given. At that time the Commission determined that we should table the issue for more discussion.

Mr. Abent gave details of the AWOS proposal including cost impacts, which was the topic of the debate at the January meeting. He used the AWOS system at the Wexford County Airport as an example.

Director Abent then gave the details of the VOR/DME proposals. He believes that from safety and financial perspectives, it's the right thing to do. He reiterated that the purpose for presenting this is to get a general understanding and consensus on the issue. He recognized Mr. Rick Carlson for his efforts on the project. Responding to a question from Commissioner Collis, Director Abent said the four VOR/DME locations in Michigan are Newberry, West Branch, Houghton Lake and Bad Axe.

Commissioner Kavalhuna indicated that he now understands and supports the situation; he thanked Director Abent and the staff for their support and efforts.

No further questions were raised.

#### D. MAC Director's Report.

Director Abent briefly mentioned the contents of his report.

He gave an update on the FAA Reauthorization.

Director Abent mentioned the recent Airports Conference and the GLIAC Conference, and thanked the Commissioners who were able to attend them.

He again mentioned Mr. John Mayfield as being named the new Manager of the Detroit Airport District Office.



The annual MBAA/MAAE annual Meeting/Legislative Luncheon was held on March 23. Director Steudle participated on a panel at the meeting.

He also mentioned an appropriations meeting in which an amendment to sell one of our King Airs was defeated.

Director Abent recognized Commissioner Bill Prochazka, who is resigning from the Commission. He thanked Commissioner Prochazka for his efforts and wished him well in his new endeavor.

Commissioner Prochazka thanked the Commission, staff, and everyone around the state. Being on the Commission has been a tremendous experience for him.

Director Abent then introduced new staff: Tera Krupp our new pilot, and Roger Mawhorter our new airplane mechanic.

He also recognized Randy Coller as being awarded Michigan FAA Safety Team Representative of the Year. This was awarded at the Great Lakes International Aviation Conference (GLIAC).

#### IV. PUBLIC COMMENT

Chairman Everman briefly discussed budget issues and needed reductions. He thanked everyone involved for their efforts.

Mr. Lee Scherwitz Southwest Michigan Regional Airport, thanked the bureau, staff and Commission in helping with the RSA project. He looks forward to seeing the project completed.

Mr. Mark McClardy, Acting Manager, Airports Division, Great Lakes Region, FAA, thanked the Commission and gave a brief background of his aviation experience. He appreciates working with Mr. John Mayfield on the Block Grant effort. He also spoke of selecting a successor to Ms. Jeri Ellis, which will take some time. He looks forward to working with the airport community in the State of Michigan, as well as the Bureau to build a productive relationship.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:10 a.m.

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Director

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Chairman

Dated \_\_\_\_\_

