

MICHIGAN AERONAUTICS COMMISSION

Minutes of Meeting
Lansing, Michigan
November 18, 2009

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, November 18, 2009, 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

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

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
Jennifer Forbes, Aviation Services

Also Present

Jim Winstanley, Grand Ledge, Abrahams
Municipal Airport
Jon Bayless, Grand Ledge, Abrahams
Municipal Airport
Ray Vander Roest, MPAOA
Victor Johnson, MPAOA
Stephen J. Zelle, MPAOA
Jeff Nagel, MBS/MAAE
Suzy Heintz-Avery, Wayne County
Airport Authority
Eric Jaroch, Roscommon County
J. David Vander Veen, Oakland County
Karl Randall, Oakland County
Larry Bowron, WK Kellogg Airport

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



I. OPENING REMARKS

The November 18, 2009, Michigan Aeronautics Commission meeting was called to order by Chairman, Terry Everman at 10:03 a.m. Roll call was taken; Commissioners Atkinson and Johnston were absent.

Chair Everman welcomed everyone attending and recognized Larry Bowron, Jeff Nagel, Suzy Heintz-Avery and Stephen Zelle. He also reminded all guests to sign in.

II. COMMISSION BUSINESS

- A. Chairman Everman entertained a motion to approve Exhibit A, the minutes of the September 16, 2009 meeting, pending any corrections or changes. Vice Chair Collins asked that an adjustment be made to the minutes; Judge Jim Weever should be Judge Weever. Director Abent indicated that per the consent of the Commission, the change will be adopted. Moved by Commissioner Adams and supported by Commissioner Kavallhuna to approve the minutes with the minor correction requested by Vice Chair Collins. The motion carried.
- B. Director Abent presented the MAC meeting schedule for 2010. He indicated the meetings are aligned with the State Transportation Commission meetings, citing the joint meeting in March, and the September meeting which is in conjunction with the MAAE Annual Conference. Moved by Commissioner Adams and supported by Commissioner Fedewa that the 2010 MAC meeting schedule be approved. The motion carried.
- C. Chairman Adams asked Mr. Dave Baker, Airports Division, to present the airport grants. Mr. Baker gave an overview of the eight projects for funding approval.
1. Southwest Michigan Regional Airport, Benton Harbor
 2. Bois Blanc Island Airport, Bois Blanc Island
 3. Ford Airport, Iron Mountain
 4. Jackson County – Reynolds Field, Jackson
 5. Kalamazoo/Battle Creek International Airport, Kalamazoo
 6. Dupont-Lapeer Airport, Lapeer
 7. Lowell City Airport, Lowell
 8. Mackinac Island Airport, Mackinac Island
 9. Manistee County – Blacker Airport, Manistee
 10. Monroe Custer Airport, Monroe
 11. MBS International Airport, Saginaw
 12. Three Rivers Municipal Dr. Haines Airport, Three Rivers
 13. White Cloud Airport, White Cloud

Commissioner Fedewa inquired regarding the Southwest Michigan Regional Airport. He asked if there are any boundaries or earmark value that we must abide by. Mr. Baker



responded by explaining the condemnation procedure. Commissioner Fedewa then asked if it goes to that extreme, is the property forfeited and the 25% over value applied. Mr. Baker indicated that usually this applies to residential property, not necessarily commercial. He detailed the procedure.

Commissioner Kavalhuna questioned the due date on the MBS International Airport project. This project should be completed in 2013.

Mr. Baker presented one supplemental transfer, land acquisition for runway 27 approach protection, update exhibit A, tree clearing for runway 27, fencing along 160th Avenue (east), crack sealing and design of corporate hangar for the Grand Haven Memorial Airport in Grand Haven, Michigan. The additional funds are needed to supplement the original transfer amount for land acquisition and tree clearing (parcels E52-E57).

As no further questions were raised, Chairman Everman entertained a motion to approve the 13 transfers as presented. Moved by Commissioner Prochazka and supported by Vice Chair Collins to approve the projects as presented. The motion carried.

III. PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

IV. REPORTS

Oakland County International Airport – Michigan’s First “Green” Airport, David VanderVeen.

Director Abent introduced Mr. Karl Randall and Mr. Dave VanderVeen for the presentation.

Due to a slight delay in the meeting because of an A/V problem with the presentation, Director Abent took the opportunity to bring up an article written by Mr. Bill Blake, of the AOPA and published in the most recent edition of the Midwest Flyer Magazine with his reflections as a representative of the AOPA on Michigan’s proposal to increase aviation fuel taxes in Michigan. A copy of the article was given to the Commissioners at the start of the meeting.

Due to the technical difficulties, Mr. Zelle was asked to give his presentation first.

Michigan Private Airstrip Owners Association – Steven Zelle. Mr. Zelle introduced himself and gave a presentation on a new organization, Michigan Private Airstrip Owners Association, (MPAOA). He gave a history on the project. Two other board members were present at this meeting. Liability and safety were discussed. He mentioned some of the reasons why airstrips are abandoned. They are in the process of recruiting new members; they have come a long way in four months. They are a recognized non-profit organization by the IRS and have a website. Once they get their membership built up they will aggressively approach the subjects presented. He thanked the Commission for their time



and said if there was anything the Commission could do to help, it would be greatly appreciated.

Commissioner Hank mentioned a national association, Recreational Airstrip Foundation (RAF). Mr. Zelle was not familiar with that organization. Commissioner Hank indicated that this organization has a similar mission. Mr. Zelle responded saying their air strips are privately owned, versus the privately owned public airstrips listed in the State Directory. Virginia is the only other state that has an organization similar to the MPAOA.

Commissioner Kavalhuna asked if unwilling airstrip owners are welcomed in their organization. Mr. Zelle responded saying yes. Commissioner Kavalhuna then asked if there had been any discussion as to those members not being welcome, and would there be discussion if that was a condition of support. Mr. Zelle responded saying no. Discussion continued on the issue that included membership dues, expenses, board members, etc. Commissioner Kavalhuna thanked Mr. Zelle for his information adding that if there is anything he personally can do, as a liaison to the Commission, to please contact him. They will continue their conversation following the meeting.

Chair Everman thanked Mr. Zelle for his report and looks forward to following their progress.

Chair Everman called Mr. David VanderVeen for his presentation on Michigan First "Green" Airport.

Mr. VanderVeen introduced himself and Mr. Karl Randall and gave a brief background on this project. He defined a green airport. Oakland County owns and operates three airports. He gave the statistics of the Oakland County International Airport. He discussed a fuel spill incident in Lake St. Clair and the fuel/water separator system. The main issues discussed were landscaping, fuel/water separator, noise program, and LEED Certified Terminal Building. He thanked the Commission for their time.

Chair Everman commended Mr. VanderVeen for their efforts. We are hoping to see more green airports in the state. No further questions were asked.

D. Director's Report.

Chairman Everman asked Director Abent to present his report.

Mr. Abent gave a brief budget update. The aviation fuel tax revenue continues to decline, now down nearly 12% this year. A bill has been drafted that will enhance fuel tax revenue.

Mr. Abent then spoke about the recent WK Kellogg Airport AOMF building dedication. He recognized Larry Bowron, who invited MDOT to the event. He mentioned the state-of-the-art facility which is an excellent model for today's airports. Mr. Bowron should be congratulated for the project.



Mr. Abent asked Mr. Baker to give a report on the five-year plan. Mr. Baker will also be giving this presentation to the State Transportation Commission. He gave information on annual revenue assumptions, funding crisis, funding crisis impacts, average annual breakdown, AIP breakdown by airport type, investment strategy and project highlights.

Chairman Everman thanked Mr. Baker for his presentation.

Chairman Everman mentioned the next regularly scheduled MAC meeting will be Wednesday, January 27, 10:00 a.m., in the Aeronautics Building Auditorium. The meeting was adjourned at 11:06 a.m.

Director

Chairman

Dated _____

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