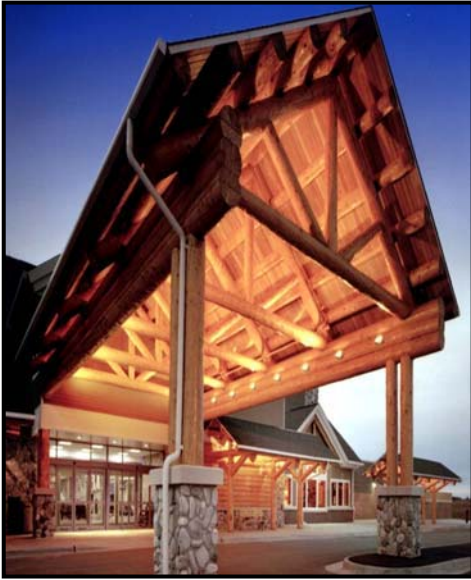


New Terminal Building at Pellston Regional Airport



Context

The airport in the village of Pellston, located in Emmet County, serves as the gateway to the north woods of Michigan. The area offers many opportunities for visitors to enjoy the natural beauty of the state's northern forests and lakeshores.

Purpose and Description

The former terminal building (built in 1972) was too small for present-day passenger volume, operationally inefficient, and did not comply with current ADA standards. The new terminal building, which opened in 2003, was constructed to remedy these inefficiencies and to enhance airport safety and security.

Public Engagement

Although direct public engagement was minor, the Emmet County Board of Commissioners and the Pellston Regional Airport Board took active roles in representing local citizens.



Challenges

The primary challenge was to design and construct a modern airport terminal facility that provided air passengers with a memorable rustic, warm, north woods feel, rather than the cold, sterile environment of most airport terminal buildings.

Context Sensitive Solutions Approach

The County Board of Commissioners and Airport Board wanted very much to create an identity with the new terminal as a "gateway to the north woods" of Michigan. The architect spent a considerable amount of time in northern Michigan to obtain a feel for the local ambiance prior to designing the structure.

Outcome

The result is a beautiful modern terminal building that is not only fully functional, but very reminiscent of a rustic northern Michigan lodge. The architectural style consists of log and stone construction, a large stone fireplace, and north woods lodge interior decor. Nearly the entire terminal is accessible to the public, enjoyed by the public and passengers. When arriving passengers step off their aircraft and enter the terminal building, even though they may still be miles from their final destination, they immediately have the feeling that they have arrived in the north country.



Funding

Total cost of the project was \$8,472,000. Funding was provided by a combination of federal, state, and local sources.

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