

MICHIGAN AERONAUTICS COMMISSION

Minutes of Meeting
Lansing, Michigan
July 29, 2020

Pursuant to Section 31 of Act 327 of the Public Acts of 1945 and Executive Directive 2020-129, the Commissioners of the Michigan Aeronautics Commission (MAC) met via video conference call, on Wednesday, July 29, 2020.

Members Present

Roger Salo, Chair
Rick Fiddler, Vice Chair
Dr. Brian Smith, Commissioner
Russ Kavalhuna, Commissioner
Kelly Burris, Commissioner
Laura Mester, Designee - MDOT
Kevin Jacobs, Designee – MDNR
F/Lt. Brian Bahlau, Designee – MSP
Mike Trout, Director
Bryan Budds, Commission Advisor
Alicia Morrison, Commission Assistant

Members Absent

Brig. Gen. Bryan Teff, Designee – MDMVA

I. OPENING REMARKS

Director Mike Trout began by explaining the meeting was being held via video conference call in accordance with Executive Directive 2020-129, enacted to allow teleconference public meetings due to the COVID-19 pandemic. He welcomed all who were participating and thanked the Commissioners for coming together, noting meeting attendance continues to increase with the new virtual format. He then turned the meeting over to Chairperson Roger Salo.

The July 29, 2020 MAC meeting was officially called to order by Chair Roger Salo at 10:01 a.m.

Chair Salo thanked the Commissioners and all in attendance on the call for participating.

Chair Salo asked for a formal roll call. Roll call was taken. It was announced there were seven (7) Commissioners present which is a quorum. *Note: Commissioner Dr. Brian Smith was not present for the roll call, however, did join the meeting and was present for the second roll call vote held.*



II. COMMISSION BUSINESS

A. Minutes of the May 27, 2020 Meeting

Chair Salo asked if there were any revisions to the minutes of the meeting held on May 27, 2020. There were none. He entertained a motion to approve the minutes. The motion was moved by Commissioner Russ Kavalhuna and seconded by Commissioner Rick Fiddler to approve the minutes as presented. A majority roll call vote was conducted. **All voted in favor. Chair Salo announced the motion is carried.**

B. Appointment of Nominating Committee

Chair Salo stated during the September meeting a new Chairperson and Vice Chairperson will be selected. In accordance with MAC bylaws, Chair Salo appointed Commissioner Brian Smith and Commissioner Kelly Burris to serve with him as the Nominating Committee. This Committee will recommend the persons considered for election to the Chair and Vice Chair positions for a one-year term beginning upon election, at the September meeting.

C. Request for Approval and Transfer of Appropriated Funds

Chair Salo called on Alissa VanHoof who then presented the Airport Sponsor Contracts and Supplemental Transfers.

Airport Sponsor Contracts

1. Gratiot Community Airport, Alma
2. Ann Arbor Municipal Airport, Ann Arbor
3. Huron County Memorial Airport, Bad Axe
4. W. K. Kellogg Airport, Battle Creek
5. W. K. Kellogg Airport, Battle Creek
6. James Clements Municipal Airport, Bay City
7. Antrim County Airport, Bellaire
8. Detroit Metro Wayne County Airport, Detroit
9. Bishop International Airport, Flint
10. Bishop International Airport, Flint
11. Gaylord Regional Airport, Gaylord
12. Grand Haven Memorial Airpark, Grand Haven
13. Houghton County Memorial Airport, Hancock
14. Houghton County Memorial Airport, Hancock
15. Houghton County Memorial Airport, Hancock
16. Houghton County Memorial Airport, Hancock
17. Houghton County Memorial Airport, Hancock
18. Hastings Airport, Hastings
19. Sawyer International Airport, Marquette
20. Sawyer International Airport, Marquette



21. Sawyer International Airport, Marquette
22. Mason Jewett Field, Mason
23. Muskegon County Airport, Muskegon
24. Muskegon County Airport, Muskegon
25. Muskegon County Airport, Muskegon
26. Ontonagon County Schuster Field, Ontonagon
27. Oakland County International Airport, Pontiac
28. Oakland County International Airport, Pontiac
29. Oakland County International Airport, Pontiac
30. MBS International Airport, Saginaw
31. MBS International Airport, Saginaw
32. MBS International Airport, Saginaw
33. MBS International Airport, Saginaw
34. MBS International Airport, Saginaw
35. Sandusky City Airport, Sandusky
36. South Haven Area Regional Airport, South Haven
37. Paul C. Miller – Sparta Airport, Sparta
38. Kirsch Municipal Airport, Sturgis
39. Cherry Capital Airport, Traverse City
40. Cherry Capital Airport, Traverse City
41. Cherry Capital Airport, Traverse City
42. Statewide Pavement Marking Program
43. Statewide Crack Sealing Program

Supplemental Transfers – *No Action Required*

1. Charlevoix Municipal Airport, Charlevoix
2. Hillsdale Municipal Airport, Hillsdale

Chair Salo asked if there were any further comments or questions. Hearing none, he entertained a motion to approve item Nos. 1-43. The motion was moved by Commissioner Rick Fiddler and seconded by Commissioner Russ Kavalhuna to approve the Airport Sponsor Contracts, as presented. A majority roll call vote was conducted. **All voted in favor. Chair Salo announced the motion is carried.**

A complete list of contract descriptions can be viewed at www.michigan.gov/aero under the Commission tab.

III. REPORTS

A. MAC Director's Report

Chair Salo called on Director Trout who then presented his report.



Director Trout began with an overview of the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act funding, stating 94 Michigan airports are eligible for a total amount of \$256,958,769 in operational funds. He shared a breakdown of State Block Grant and Direct FAA Grant amounts, as well as the amount of reimbursement requests. He discussed the Governor's Executive Summary which is provided to the state Executive Office.

Director Trout shared the aviation excise fuel tax revenue collected of \$3,112,053 through June 2020. He stated this reflects a (\$810,910) or -20.67% decrease from June 2019.

Director Trout discussed various statistics on Airport Improvement Program Grants and Projects for Fiscal Year (FY) 2020 to date. Director Trout also shared Office of Aeronautics Aviation Services stats for this same period, including a near record number 4,402 tall structure permits processed.

Director Trout provided the following updates on various topics of interest:

- The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) issued a Special Federal Aviation Regulation Amendment during Covid-19. Additional information can be found at www.faa.gov.
- The Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) Federal Work Share Program (layoff days) has ended and regular work hours have resumed.
- Requests for Proposal (RFP) for the sale of state-owned airports have been developed in accordance with legislative boilerplate requirements.
- 2020 Michigan Airport Planning meetings will be held in a virtual format with group sessions for efficiency.
- The Office of Aeronautics King Air inspection has been completed and the plane has returned to flying.

Director Trout relayed the Unmanned Aerial Systems (UAS) Task Force is holding a meeting via Microsoft Teams on Tuesday, August 18. He stated the Office of Aeronautics took delivery of a new unmanned aircraft with LIDAR and has 19 UAS pilots trained across MDOT. He also noted the creation of a new state agency, the Office of Future Mobility and Electrification, led by Trevor Pawl, who will be a guest speaker at the upcoming Task Force meeting.

Director Trout updated that 11 PFAS grant offers totaling \$2.5M were made in the first RFP round. A second RFP for the remaining funds was posted and closed on July 15 with joint reviews currently being conducted by MDOT and EGLE. He also commended the PFAS Grant program for being recommended for American Association of State Highway Transportation Officials (AASHTO) and National Association of State Aviation Officials (NASAO) awards.



Director Trout shared upcoming virtual webinars and training being held by Transportation Research Board and the FAA. He regretfully noted that both the fall Airport Conference and the Michigan Aviation Professions Training Course (Airport 101) were cancelled for this year.

Director Trout concluded his presentation with acknowledgement of the following:

- Raymond Rought, former NASAO President and MN Aero Director, passed away
- Jeff Nagel, MBS – Congratulations on his upcoming retirement
- Brian Picardat, GRR – Congratulations on his upcoming retirement
- Paul Bruder, Office of Aeronautics – Recognition for the successful completion of the King Air inspection
- Tammie Lewandowski, Office of Aeronautics – Governor’s Office recognition for work on the Covid-19 public hotline
- Joel Camfield, Office of Aeronautics – Recognition for his exceptional work on processing CARES Act grants
- Oakland County International Airport – [Fox 2 Detroit News Story](#) w/former MAC Chair David Vanderveen; 1st licensed airport, 2nd busiest airport in Michigan

Chair Salo questioned what the record number of Tall Structure Permits were being issued for. Director Trout responded not all were issued. Bryan Budds then responded most are for utility upgrades requiring taller lines and that these numbers included verifications and contacts from potential applicants, not necessarily actual permits issued.

IV. COMMISSION COMMENTS

Chair Salo asked if any Commissioner would like to make a comment.

Commissioner Kevin Jacobs requested a follow up from Dr. Brian Smith on his flight demo team event, however, Dr. Smith was unavailable to answer. Commissioner Jacobs will follow up with him at a later date.

V. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Chair Salo asked if anyone would like to make a public comment.

There were no public comments made.

CLOSING

The next Michigan Aeronautics Commission meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, September 16, 2020, as a virtual teleconference via Microsoft Teams.

Chair Salo thanked the Commissioners, Office of Aeronautics staff, and the public for their participation today.



The meeting was adjourned at 10:34 a.m.

Roger Salo, Chairman

Michael G. Trout, Director

