MICHIGAN AERONAUTICS COMMISSION
Minutes of Meeting
Ypsilanti, Michigan
October 2, 2024

Pursuant to Section 31 of Act 327 of the Public Acts of 1945, the Commissioners of the Michigan Aeronautics Commission (MAC or Commission) met at Eagle Crest Marriott, 1275 South Huron Street, Ypsilanti, Michigan 48197 on Wednesday, October 2, 2024.

COMMISSION MEMBERS PRESENT

Dr. Brian Smith, Chair
Kelly Burris, Commissioner
Kevin Jacobs, Designee MDNR
Capt. Greg Setla, Designee MSP
Laura Mester, Designee MDOT
Brig. General Dan Kramer, Designee, MDMVA
Bryan Budds, Commission Advisor
Alicia Morrison, Commission Analyst

COMMISSION MEMBERS ABSENT

Benjamin Carter, Vice Chair
Rick Fiddler, Commissioner
Russ Kavalhuna, Commissioner

I. OPENING REMARKS, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE, ROLL CALL

The October 2, 2024, MAC meeting was officially called to order by Chair Brian Smith at 10:06 am.

Chair Smith welcomed all to the meeting and thanked all in attendance.

Chair Smith then asked everyone to join in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chair Smith asked for a formal roll call. Roll call was taken by Alicia Morrison. It was announced six (6) Commissioners were present in person for a quorum.

The Commission welcomed Brig. General Dan Kramer as the new designee representing Michigan Department of Military and Veterans Affairs. The Commission wished former Commissioner Brig General Bryan Teff good luck in his future endeavors.

II. AVIATION EDUCATION HIGHLIGHT

Chair Smith called on Eastern Michigan University's (EMU) Aviation Program to speak on their experiences. Students Joe Rockett, Elaina Howes, and Brennan Laing spoke about the EMU Chapter of American Association of Airport Executives and their future career plans in aviation.

III. COMMISSION BUSINESS

A. Minutes of July 17, 2024, Meeting

Chair Smith asked if there were any revisions to the minutes of the meeting held on July 17, 2024. There were none. Chair Smith entertained a motion to approve the minutes. The motion was moved by Commissioner Kelly Burris and seconded by Commissioner Laura Mester to approve the minutes as presented. **All voted in favor. Chair Smith announced the motion was carried.**

B. Request for Approval and Transfer of Appropriated Funds

Chair Smith called on Alissa VanHoof to present the Airport Sponsor Contracts and Supplemental Transfers.

Airport Sponsor Contracts

1. James Clements Municipal Airport, Bay City (3CM)
2. Branch County Memorial Airport, Coldwater (OEB)
3. Oceana County Airport, Hart/Shelby (C04)
4. Oceana County Airport, Hart/Shelby (C04)
5. Gogebic Iron County Airport, Ironwood (IWD)
6. Marlette Township Airport, Marlette (77G)
7. Marlette Township Airport, Marlette (77G)
8. Luce County Airport, Newberry (ERY)
9. Jerry Tyler Memorial Airport, Niles (3TR)
10. South Haven Area Regional Airport, South Haven (LWA)
11. Statewide Pavement Condition Index (PCI) Program

Supplemental Transfer >15% of Original Transfer

12. Mackinac Island Airport, Mackinac Island (MCD)

Supplemental Transfers — No Action Required

1. Beaver Island Airport, Beaver Island (SJX)
2. Jackson County Reynolds Field, Jackson (JXN)
3. Linden Prices Airport, Linden (9G2)

Chair Smith asked if there were any questions. There were none. He then asked for a motion to approve items 1-12 as presented. The motion was moved by Commissioner Kevin Jacobs and seconded by Commissioner Kelly Burris. **All voted in favor. Chair Smith announced the motion was carried.**

C. Establishment of Election Nominating Committee

Chair Smith stated during the November 13, 2024, meeting, a new Chair and Vice Chair will be elected. In accordance with the MAC Bylaws, Chair Smith appointed Commissioner Kelly Burris and Commissioner Russ Kavalhuna to serve along with himself as the Nominating Committee. This Committee will recommend to the MAC the people considered for election to the Chair and Vice Chair roles for a one-year term beginning immediately upon election. No action was required or taken.

IV. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Chair Smith called on Director Bryan Budds to present his Director's Report.

Director Budds shared Governor Whitmer declared September as General Aviation Month. He shared current budget, legislative, and fuel tax updates.

Director Budds discussed proposed changes to aircraft registration fees and that statutory changes would be needed. He also shared Office of Aeronautics information on airport inspection findings in hopes of bringing awareness to safety critical items that are often causes for provisional licenses being issued.

Director Budds shared the over 40 funding programs being tracked by Aero, the latest stats on various Aero staff activities, and kudos to staff on recognition and national awards.

Director Budds concluded with an update on Uncrewed Aerial Systems and Advanced Air Mobility initiatives and upcoming aviation events happening around the state.

V. MAC AWARDS OF EXCELLENCE

Chair Smith stated "In 1990, the MAC began a tradition to recognize individuals and organizations each year whose innovative contributions have led to significant improvements to facilities, operations, or public relations that support aviation in Michigan. Since that time, many groups and/or individuals throughout Michigan have been recognized by the MAC for their significant commitment to aviation and their extraordinary efforts, with the MAC Excellence Awards."

Individual Award

Chair Smith stated he was proud to announce the 2024 MAC Excellence Award winner in the individual category is former MAC and Office of Aeronautics Director Mike Trout. He read from the award, "For recognition of your decades of public service to the state of Michigan, and the valuable leadership you provided the MAC and Office of Aeronautics. Your dedication to ensuring the strength and stability of Michigan's airport system, and oversight of billions of dollars in airport capital improvements, secured Michigan's national status as a leader in aviation development and safety. Your continual support of forward-thinking policies and programs exemplified your state service and will outlast your tenure as Aeronautics Director. On behalf of the MAC and the Office of Aeronautics, it is a privilege to honor you with this fitting tribute." Chair Smith offered his congratulations and invited Mike Trout to say a few words. Mike Trout gratefully accepted the award noting it was an honor to be recognized.

Organization Award

Chair Smith announced the 2024 MAC Excellence Award winner for an organization is the Wings for Michigan event, held by the Wings of Mercy organization. He read from the award, "For recognition of your outstanding work providing free air transportation to patients requiring services at distant medical facilities. This collaborative event highlights

the critical service general aviation provides to Michigan residents by giving them access to care that would otherwise be unattainable. Held annually, Wings for Michigan showcases the economic contribution of Michigan's pilots and network of airports, flying thousands of missions and demonstrating true compassion for helping those in need. The MAC and the MDOT Office of Aeronautics commend this important event and are honored to present you with this award." Chair Smith offered his congratulations and invited Cody Welch and Fred Honore to say a few words on behalf of the Wings of Mercy organization. Cody Welch and Fred Honore gratefully accepted the award giving thanks to the many people who contribute to the organization's success and asking anyone who would like to volunteer with the mission to contact them.

VI. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

No Commissioner comments were made.

VII. PUBLIC COMMENTS

No public comments were made.

VIII. CLOSING

Chair Smith announced the next MAC meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, November 13 at Hillsdale Municipal Airport in Hillsdale, Michigan.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:01 am.

Brian R Smith

Bryan Budds

Brian Smith, Chair

Bryan Budds, Director