

**COUNTY OF MARQUETTE, MICHIGAN**  
**Sawyer International Airport**  
**Airport Advisory Committee**  
**Thursday June 8, 2017 4:00 P.M.**  
**Meeting Minutes**

**Members Present:** Bob Muelle, County Commissioner Steve Adamini, Frank Rosado, and County Commissioner Alholm.

**Members Absent:** Steve Rodgers, John LaCourt, and Scott Schulz.

**Staff Present:** Duane DuRay, Airport Manager

**Staff Absent:** Director of Operations, Mr. Steve Schenden

**Guests Present:** Marquette County Flying Club President, Mr. Greg Durand

**1. Call to Order:**

The meeting was called to order by Frank Rosado at 4:05 pm.

**2. Approval of the Agenda:**

Motion was made by Commissioner Alholm, supported by Member Muelle to approve the Agenda. Motion passed unanimously.

**3. Public Comment:** None.

**4. Approval of Minutes May 2017:**

Motion was made by Commissioner Alholm, supported by Member Muelle, to approve the Minutes. Motion passed unanimously.

**5. Items of Discussion:**

- A. Envoy Hangar Update: Airport Manager DuRay reminded the Committee of the request by Member LaCourt to keep the Envoy Hangar Update on the agenda to insure the subject remains as a top priority. No updates to report at this time.

**6. Informational Items & Project Updates:**

- A. Marquette County Flying Club (MCFC): Manager DuRay informed the Committee of the desire for the MCFC to request support for a reduction of hangar rent for a second aircraft they just purchased. DuRay provided documents concerning the past County Board support for the Flying Club and a current letter of benefits the Flying Club brings to the Airport and Marquette County. The current hangar reduction on hangar rent is \$15.00 per month with the monthly hangar bill being \$90.00. In 2013 the Marquette County Board approved a reduction of hangar rent of \$50.00, this amount was adjusted when the MCFC moved to a different hangar and the price reduction was reduced by \$35.00 through a book keeping error.

Manager DuRay made the recommendation to the Committee to approve a recommendation for a reduction in hangar rent of \$50.00 between the two hangars for the MCFC. Mr. Greg Durand provided information on the benefits the MCFC are able to provide for the general aviation community at Sawyer International Airport. Currently the MCFC's goal is to offer the community an economical aircraft rental rate for club members and the club has 32 members with approximately 17

student pilots varying from the age of 15 through 70. The MCFC also provides assistance to young people through school programs to promote the private pilot training. Discussion took place. Motion was made by Commissioner Alholm, supported by Member Muelle to recommend to the Marquette County Board of Commissioners a reduction of \$50.00 per month for a period of 24 months for the hangar rent on the two hangars. Motion passed unanimously.

- B. US Army Update: DuRay briefed the Committee of the visit from the Army and the South Koreans, both groups met in Marquette to do a site visit and discuss the next icing season. The intentions of the groups are to be on site in early November and remain through March or possibly April. The combined group size will be upwards of 50 individuals.
- C. MAP Funding Application: DuRay informed the Committee that the FAA denied the MAP application; conversations with the FAA stated the size of the overall application was the primary reason for the denial. The Detroit Airports District Office (ADO) will be working closely with the airport staff to resubmit the next application and DuRay is setting up a meeting with Mr. John Mayfield, the Director of the Detroit ADO to discuss the next application.
- D. Light Poles: DuRay briefed the Committee on the ongoing issues with the wind damage to more parking lot light poles, DuRay stated an additional 9 poles have experienced varying degrees of damage and a claim is going to be submitted. Discussion took place.
- E. Discover Sawyer Day: DuRay provided information on the Discover Sawyer Day event, the date is set for August 6, 2017. The MCFC and the EAA Chapter have taken a more active role in the planning and execution of the event.
- F. Summer Flight Schedule: DuRay informed the Committee of the revised summer air carrier flight. The flight schedule has changed the Detroit turn flight was a 5 PM turn and is now scheduled for a 11:20 am flight. This change should work well for Marquette travelers with 4 round trips per day going to Detroit, Chicago, and Minneapolis. Discussion took place
- G. Russian Jet Payment: DuRay briefed the Committee on the payment status of the Russian aircraft; the holding company is paid in full up to this date. This is very good news because they were in arrears for over \$27,515.
- H. LEO Contract Approval: DuRay provided an update on the Law Enforcement Officer program between Marquette County and Transportation Security Administration. Marquette County was awarded the latest contract amount of \$33,069.00 and with previously remaining funds; the current balance is \$45,844.00 for the calendar year of 2017. The funds will assist in paying for the Marquette County Sheriff's Department participation to provide Law enforcement coverage. Discussion took place.

**7. Late Additions:** None

**8. Public Comment:** None

- 9. Staff and Committee Member Comment:** Commissioner Alholm asked Chairman Rosado if he had tested the repelling system. Mr. Rosado stated the unit was not tested, but was never used and appears to be in good shape. Mr. Rosado contacted the manufacturer and said the unit can be sent back to the manufacturer for inspection. Discussion took place; Mr. Rosado will contact the manufacturer to get the information on testing and recertification.
- 10. Adjournment:** Commissioner Alholm made a motion, supported by Committee Member Muelle to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed unanimously.

Adjourned.

Respectfully submitted by Duane DuRay, Airport Manager