

COUNTY OF MARQUETTE, MICHIGAN
Sawyer International Airport
Airport Advisory Committee
Thursday November 10, 2016 4:00 P.M.
Meeting Minutes

Members Present: John La Court, County Commissioner Karen Alholm, Frank Rosado, Donald Kristola, Steve Adamini, and Scott Schulz.

Members Absent: Steve Rodgers

Staff Present: Duane DuRay, Airport Manager and Steve Schenden, Director of Operations

Staff Absent: None

Guests Present: None

1. Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order by Chairman LaCourt at 4:00 pm.

2. Approval of the Agenda:

Motion was made by Commissioner Karen Alholm, supported by Member Donald Kristola to approve the agenda with the addition of Term Limits for Committee Members. Motion passed unanimously.

3. Public Comment:

A. None noted

4. Approval of Minutes:

Member Rosado made a motion, supported by Member Adamini, to approve the October 2016 minutes. Motion passed unanimously.

5. Items of Discussion:

A. Envoy Hangar Expansion: DuRay briefed the Advisory Committee on the decision of Chairman La Court to keep the Envoy Hangar Expansion project as a recurring Item for Discussion. DuRay provided an update on the current desire to get Sawyer International back into the Military Airport Program (MAP) if possible. The possibility of getting back into the MAP program will not be easy. The project will require a build out of the current Envoy hangars. Chairman La Court and Member Adamini spoke about a legislative and the Eagle Mill tax path for possible funding. Discussion took place.

6. Informational Items & Project Updates:

A. Biogenic Reagent: Chairman La Court voiced concerns with what group is financially responsible to return the facilities back to the original condition prior to operating there. Director Schenden updated the Committee on some of the previous agreements that were in place when Cleveland Cliffs had some controlling interests in place and now with the new group and what is in place insure the winter weather will not cause further damage. Discussion took place.

B. SkyWest Visit: DuRay informed the Committee on the latest visit to SkyWest Corporate office accompanied by Trillion Aviation. This was the second visit with SkyWest and the focus was on the development of a Minneapolis (MSP) flight. SkyWest had already begun planning a MSP flight and we were informed the flight will begin March 1, 2017 and it will run 7 days per week, slated for a trial run through August 2017. An advertising plan will need to be developed to advertise this addition flight and staff will reach out to Michigan Department of Transportation, Aeronautics to look for possible grant funding. Staff will be working with as many other community agencies for partnerships to get the word out. Discussion took place.

Late Additions: Term Limits Committee members: Director Schenden informed the Committee about expiring terms for John La Court, Donald Kristola, and Frank Rosado. Members will need to reapply for the positions. Chairman LaCourt stated the application for the positions have been already sent out to the members who have expiring terms.

7. **Public Comment:** None

8. **Staff and Committee Member Comment:** County Commissioner Alholm asked about the Envoy hangar repairs, Director Schenden informed the Committee of the current progress.

Member Rosado requested information on the emergency escape/ elevator progress. Director Schenden provided an update on the Tower elevator/ emergency escape system progress, discussion took place.

Member Adamini asked about the current status of the Category III transition, DuRay provided a brief update and indicated an extension with TSA and the current Alternate Means of Compliance will be needed to complete all of the steps, hoping it will not take too much longer. Member Adamini asked about the access control construction side of the project. DuRay informed the committee on the status of the project.

Chairman LaCourt asked to have Envoy and Biogenic Reagent back on the agenda for a continued update.

Director Schenden thanked airport manager DuRay on the MSP flights and continues success with SkyWest.

9. **Adjournment:** County Commissioner Karen Alholm made a motion, supported by Member Adamini to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted by Duane DuRay, Airport Manager