

COUNTY OF MARQUETTE, MICHIGAN

Sawyer International Airport Airport Advisory Committee Thursday August 13th, 2020 Held Via Zoom Meetings

Minutes

Members Present: Karen Alholm, Vito Carello, Walter Paegel, Frank Rosado, Christopher Sholander

Members Absent: Steve Rodgers, Bob Muelle, Sr.

Staff Present: Megan Murray, Assistant Airport Manger, Duane DuRay, Director of Operations

Guests Present: Greg Durand

1. **Call to Order:** Meeting was called to order at 4:00pm.
2. **Approval of the Agenda:** The agenda was moved for approval by Chris Sholander with support from Walt Paegel.
3. **Public Comment:** None.
4. **Approval of Minutes:** The meeting minutes from July 9th, 2020 were approved with a motion from Karen Alholm with a correction to change the wording of the previous meeting approval section of the agenda. This motion was supported by Chris Sholander.
5. **Items of Discussion:**
 - A. Marquette County Flying Club
 - i. Discussions continued with the MCFC possibly leasing Hangar 402. The MCFC is interested in possibly renting out spaces in hangar 402 instead of the entire hangar, similar to ESC's rate of 100\$ per aircraft. SAW proposed a rental rate of 400\$ a month (100\$ per aircraft), but they would have access to the entire hangar. The MCFC would need to cover utilities, insurance, and the property taxes. Greg Durand withdrew the option to rent Hangar 402. Duane DuRay offered to start discussing the possibility to rent a portion of Hangar 400. This discussion will continue between the MCFC and the airport.
 1. Concerns with the MCFC taking on a lease. Ex. Low-lighted areas, security, etc.?
 - a. The topic of snow removal arose during this discussion. Taxiway Golf would need to be cleared up to 5ft from the hangar. The gate access for the MCFC members would need to change to the gate nearest the hangar versus the gate

near Boreal. This would assist in lessening the amount of traffic on the non-movement area.

6. Informational Items & Project Updates:

A. Project Updates

- i. Hangar 665 Expansion Project: The planning for the expansion of Hangar 665 is near completion. Construction is expected to begin in early 2021. The grant schedule to fund this project will begin this year. Before the project begins in 2021, construction crews will begin stockpiling materials this year.
- ii. Crack Sealing and Pavement Marking and De-Ice Storage Tank Projects:
 1. The Crack Sealing and Pavement Marking project is expected to begin on August 22nd. The De-Ice Storage Tank project is currently under contract review, but is expected to start very soon.

B. CARES Grant Funds

- i. SAW granted \$18,075,846. Will be used for operational expenses and airport development projects. The first payment has been received totaling to over \$800,000.

C. National Carbon

- i. Roof repair coordination has begun with National Carbon. SAW is currently waiting for the scope of work from the contractor to be used. The repair work is expected to begin in September.

D. MLI Update

- i. Marquette County has been chosen as the next vertical launch site in partnership with the Michigan Launch Initiative (MLI) and the Michigan Aerospace Manufacturers Association (MAMA). The site will provide low-earth orbit vertical launch capabilities that are in high demand, including thousands of jobs for the surrounding area. Operation expected to begin in 2024. Duane DuRay with Sawyer, Vikki Kulju with Telekite, and Scott Erbisch with Marquette County will be attending the NASS Space Conference to share the UP's spaceport abilities to companies. Marquette County has also partnered with other UP communities, including Sault Ste. Marie who was awarded the unmanned drone launch site.

E. Flat Tires on Airfield

- i. There has been an increased number in flat tires possible caused by FOD on the airfield. SAW has purchased a magnet bar to be installed on their operations vehicles to assist in removes metal fragments from the airfield.

- F. Greg Durand with the MCFC requested that a \$25 reduced rate be added to the rent for Hangar 38. This request has been approved by the Marquette County Board and the addendum is being written by our civil council. This reduction is set to begin September 1st, 2020.

- G. Frank Rosado shared concerns with the status of the Air Traffic Control's emergency escape system. The tower repeller system is currently not to code and needs to be re-certified. SAW has sent out this system for re-certification.
- H. Robert Muelle questioned the status of the repair of Hangar #26. SAW is currently working with an engineer to assess and repair this hangar issue.

7. Late Additions:

- A. The topic of the elevator status in the ATC Tower arose. Duane DuRay will add this to the strategic planning discussions with Marquette County.
- B. Chris Sholander asked if the ATC Tower repeller system would be covered by the CARES Act funding. Sawyer confirmed that it is eligible to be covered under the funding.
- C. Discussions regarding MAMA and the future of the UP launch site took place. Sawyer shared that MAMA is planning on possibly starting an advisory committee.

8. Public Comment:

9. Staff and Committee Member Comment:

- 10. Adjournment:** Karen Alholm made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 4:53pm with the support of Chris Sholander.

Save the Date: Sawyer Fest, 2021, Building 662