

COUNTY OF MARQUETTE, MICHIGAN

Sawyer International Airport
Airport Advisory Committee
Thursday, July 9th 2020

Minutes

- Members Present:** Bob Muelle, Sr., Karen Alholm, and Vito Carello, Walter Paegel, Frank Rosado, Christopher Sholander
- Members Absent:** Steve Rodgers, Duane DuRay, Director of Operations
- Staff Present:** Megan Murray, Assistant Airport Manger
- Guests Present:** Greg Durand, Roger Bentlage

1. Call to Order:

Chairperson Frank Rosado called the meeting to order at 4:10pm.

2. Approval of the Agenda:

The agenda was approved by Karen Alholm with support from Bob Muelle.

3. Public Comment:

None.

4. Approval of Minutes:

The meeting minutes from June 11th, 2020 were approved by Robert Muelle with support from Vito Carello.

5. Items of Discussion:

A. Marquette County Flying Club

- i. Further information was requested from the MCFC regarding the tax calculations of Hangar 402. Megan Murray with SAW and Greg Durand both reached out to Jackie Lykins regarding the tax calculations for the hangar. Jackie stated that the taxes will need to be paid by the lessee. Megan has continued to assist the MCFC in researching possible grants to assist with increasing the flying club's operating spaces and funding. Megan reached out to the Escanaba Airport as well to compare community hangar rental prices. These prices were 100\$ per aircraft. The MCFC stated they are interested in possibly renting spots in Hangar 402 instead similar to Escanaba's system. SAW will look into this option as well. At the end of the discussion, Megan stated she will reach out to Jackie again for the full appraisal value of the building and to have an in-person inspection. Concerns were shared between committee members on night-time operations at Hangar 402 as well due to low lighting.

6. Informational Items & Project Updates:

A. Roger Bentlage shared with the committee that the First Annual “Yooper Looper” Aerobatic Contest will take place on July 25th-26th and attended to answer any questions. The event is now closed to the public to help prevent any COVID risks. Roger stated due to COVID restrictions, the national aerobatic committee is meeting soon to discuss the possibility of future events for the year. He will update the Advisory Committee if the event is cancelled.

Update: The event has been cancelled for 2020

B. Project Updates

- i. Hangar 665 Expansion Project: The planning for the expansion of Hangar 665 is near completion. Bids have been received, but the project has not yet been awarded. Construction is expected to begin in early 2021.
- ii. The Crack Sealing and Pavement Marking project bids due were due on 5-8-2020. The project has yet to be awarded. Construction is expected to begin come August of this year. No updates.
- iii. The De-Ice Storage Tank project bids were due on 5-8-2020. The project award is still being determined. Construction is expected to begin August 2020. No updates.
- iv. The Security Cameras Installation project has begun and is expected to be completed in the next few weeks. The cameras will provide coverage in the public and secure areas. Almost all cameras have been installed and project completion is expected in the next few weeks.

C. CARES Grant Funds

- i. SAW was granted \$18,075,846 from CARES Act Funding. These funds will be used for operational expenses and airport development projects in the years to come to help recover from the effects of COVID-19. No updates.

D. National Carbon

- i. SAW shared that National Carbon is discussing the work with a roofing company as COVID restrictions are still in place.

E. MLI Update

- i. At this current time, there is no news regarding the MLI and the remaining projects.

F. FOD Possibly Causing Flats

- i. Walt Paegel shared with the committee a box of FOD he found on the GA ramps. Megan with SAW stated she will have the maintenance teams assess these areas and remove any visible FOD. SAW has applied for multiple grants to acquire FOD removal equipment for the future.

7. Late Additions:

- A. Greg Durand requested that a \$25 reduced rate be applied to Hangar 38, leased by the MCFC. This rent decrease will mirror the other rent decreases for their other lease agreements. This request was approved by the Advisory Committee and will be presented to the County Board at the August 4th Board Meeting.

8. Public Comment:

9. Staff and Committee Member Comment:

- A. 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. Megan with SAW stated this will be assessed by the airport immediately.
- B. Robert Muelle questioned the status of the repair of Hangar #26. Megan with SAW stated that an insurance claim is in progress and contractors have been contacted.
- C. The next meeting will take place on August 13th at 4:00pm in the Upper Conference Room in the Sawyer Services Center.

10. Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned at 5:10pm.

Respectfully submitted by Megan Murray, Assistant Airport Manager

Save the Date: Discover Sawyer now named Sawyer Fest, 2021, Building 662