

COUNTY OF MARQUETTE, MICHIGAN

Sawyer International Airport Airport Advisory Committee Thursday, June 11th 2020

Minutes

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

1. Call to Order:

Bob Muelle called the meeting to order at 4:03pm.

2. Approval of the Agenda:

The agenda was approved by Karen Alholm with support from Walter Paegel.

3. Public Comment:

None.

4. Approval of Minutes:

The meeting minutes from May 14th, 2020 were approved by Robert Muelle with support from Vito Carello.

5. Items of Discussion:

A. Marquette County Flying Club

- i. The MCFC requested more information on the calculation of these amounts from Marquette County. Megan Murray reached out to Jackie Lykins with the county and Jackie stated it was based off the square footage of the hangar. Megan will reach out to Jackie again to gain more insight on if the MCFC can become tax-exempt. They are currently a 507c3 and tax exempt non-profits are a 503c3. Megan stated she will continue to assist in research for the MCFC on possible grants to assist with increasing the flying club's operating spaces and funding. Megan will also reach out to Escanaba Airport as they have a similar hangar situation to compare rental prices.

6. Informational Items & Project Updates:

- A. SAW shared with the committee that the First Annual "Yooper Looper" Aerobatic Contest will take place on July 25th-26th. The event will be open to the public for spectating and will enter through the EAA offices. More information on the event and volunteer opportunities can be found through Roger Bentlage, the event program coordinator via email at bentlage@tds.net.

B. SAW notified the committee that all Sawyer staff returned from temporary lay-offs on May 25th.

This included the Marking and Development Coordinator and Security/Badging Specialist.

C. Project Updates

i. 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.

ii. 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.

iii. 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.

D. 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. The possibilities of the use of these funds were discussed within the committee including possible building updates, tear-downs, and increases to the stabilization fund.

E. National Carbon

i. The airport has contacted National Carbon regarding the product contamination on the surrounding areas and discussions were made on proper handling of the material to minimize contamination of surrounding areas. The roads surrounding this area will be cleaned in the coming weeks. SAW shared that National Carbon is discussing the work with a roofing company as COVID restrictions are still in place.

F. MLI Update

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

7. Late Additions:

A. FOD Possibly Causing Flats

i. Greg Durand, Walt Paegel, and Mike Knight all shared experiences of getting flat tires on the airfield, possibly caused by broken off broom bristles from the snow removal equipment. SAW reassured the committee that regular airfield inspections are completed three times daily to check for FOD. SAW has notified their Operations staff to keep a heavier eye for broom bristles as well. It is also in the plans for Sawyer to acquire FOD Removal equipment in the future as well.

8. Public Comment:

- 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 will be drafted by SAW and be shared with the Advisory Committee at the next meeting for discussion to be sent to the Marquette County Board.

9. Staff and Committee Member Comment:

- A. The next meeting will take place on July 9th at 4:00pm in the Upper Conference Room in the Sawyer Services Center.

10. Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned at 5:18pm.

Respectfully submitted by Megan Murray, Assistant Airport Manager

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