

COUNTY OF MARQUETTE, MICHIGAN

Sawyer International Airport

Airport Advisory Committee

Thursday March 10th, 2022

Minutes

Members Present: Karen Alholm, Bob Muelle, Steve Rodgers, Vito Carello, and Frank Rosado

Members Absent: FBO Representative and Chris Sholander

Staff Present: Duane DuRay, Director of Operations, Megan Murray, Assistant Airport Manager, Scott Erbsich, County Administrator

Public Present: Greg Durand, MCFC

Call to Order: 4:01pm

1. **Approval of the Agenda:** The agenda was moved for approval by Bob Muelle with support from Karen Alholm. All members were in agreement.
2. **Approval of Minutes:** The minutes from February 10th were moved for approval by Bob Muelle with support from Vito Carello. All members were in agreement.
3. **Items of Discussion:**
 - A. Airport Advisory Restructure: Through advisement of Invest UP and the Sawyer Collaborative group, it is proposed that the Airport Advisory Committee is restructured to add five members to the group and by possibly removing one advisory seat. The additional seats would be from a representative of NMU/Education, Hospitality/Tourism, Medical Manufacturing, Mining, and Mergers/Acquisitions. Scott Erbsich was in attendance and after discussion it was decided that the next steps will be Sawyer staff working with Mr. Erbsich to revise the by-laws by the next meeting and they will follow up with Invest UP.
4. **Informational Items & Project Updates:**
 - A. Hangar 665 Expansion Progress: This project is slated to be completed in the next few weeks. Envoy has taken occupancy of the hangar.
 - B. Runway De-icing Liquid Purchase: A bulk load of 4,400 gallons has been approved, purchased, and delivered to Sawyer.
 - C. Bulk Tire Purchase: 17 tires were approved for purchase for both replacements and back-ups for Sawyer equipment. Installation should take place in the next few weeks.
 - D. Snow Blower Purchase: The County Board did originally approve to purchase a snow blower through Oshkosh, but it was found that the bid was non-compliant and the low bidder (M-B Companies) won the bid. The unit will be ordered soon.
5. **Late Additions:**
 - A. FBO Representative: Sawyer staff shared that Jackie Clairmont is the new Boreal Manager. It is expected she will soon join the committee.
 - B. TSA Checkpoint upgrades: Upgrades to the TSA checkpoint are on the horizon and are expected to be added come September. This will include the addition of an AIT scanner. The airport will take on a portion of the install, but this has not been finalized. More to come on this project.
 - C. Bipartisan Law Update: Sawyer staff shared that with the new infrastructure bill there is availability for airport funding. This includes the possibility of funding for the terminal improvements (approx. \$1 million to use in 5 years). This would include the possibility of ATC Tower improvements as well (approx. \$3 million).
 - D. Sawyer staff shared that they have received a more favorable quote to repair the ATC Tower elevator. An RFP will need to be developed and posted to move further on this project.
6. **Staff and Committee Member Comment:**
 - A. Duane shared that Skywest posted that they will be leaving multiple EAS markets, including in the UP. This is expected to alter Sawyer's traffic. More to come on this topic as it develops.
 - B. Megan shared that the mask mandate has been extended to 4-18-2022 by TSA.
 - C. Karen requested an update on the demolition project. Sawyer staff noted that the SHPO (Historical documents) have been submitted and demo is slated to begin in the spring.
 - D. Vito questioned if FOD has been an issue on the airfield and Sawyer staff stated there has not. Come spring/snow melt staff uses FOD removal equipment on all ramp areas to remove any FOD build up over the winter.

7. Public Comment:

A. Greg Durand shared that the areas surrounding the t-hangars and inside the areas are icy and requested that all hangar tenants were made aware.

8. Adjournment: 5:25pm; Steve Rodgers made the motion to adjourn the meeting and Frank Rosado supported. All members were in favor.