

COUNTY OF MARQUETTE, MICHIGAN

Marquette Sawyer Regional Airport Airport Advisory Committee Thursday, November 14, 2024

Minutes

Members Present: Karen Alholm, Christopher Sholander, Scott Bolster, Michael Roe
Staff Present: Duane DuRay, Airport Manager, Bradley Wheeler, Assistant Airport Manager
Public Present: Mathias Munger, Bruce McCollough

Call to Order: 4:05 p.m.

1. **Approval of the Agenda:** The agenda was moved for approval by Christopher Sholander with support from Scott Bolster. All members were in agreement.
2. **Approval of the Minutes:** The minutes from August and October were moved for approval by Scott Bolster with support from Christopher Sholander. All members were in agreement
3. **Public Comment:**
 - A. None
4. **Items of Discussion:**
 - A. KCI GSE Passenger Boarding Ramp: Assistant Airport Manager Bradley Wheeler presented some updated information regarding the boarding ramp at the suggestion of Commissioner Alholm. The discussion surrounded the pricing of this unit and the ability to apply it to some funding allocations the County has made towards safety improvements. This ramp would function as a contingency for jet bridge operations and could be marketed as a cheaper option for future airline service providers.
5. **Informational Items & Project Updates:**
 - A. Terminal Reconfiguration Project: The project is moving forward. Closner Construction and Sales, Inc. was awarded the contract and will complete the work. In addition, Northern Design Works has provided the architecture and design needs. The contractors are have put up walls and window framing. Windows and storefronts should be in place in the coming weeks. The plan is for TSA screening equipment to be moved in January and the project complete by February 2025. The project is on schedule.
 - B. Taxiway Rehabilitation Project: The bulk of the project is complete. The project went well, and the airport is pleased to have the new taxiway surfaces in use.
 - C. Selfridge ANGB Refueling Wing Relocation –The KC-135’s and Air National Guard personnel departed on October 16th. This deployment was a success, and airport staff will work to get the unit to relocate here again in 2026, when another round of airfield work is scheduled at Selfridge ANGB. Airmen were able to expand skills and get practical cross-training experience, while the region’s offerings contributed to a high morale amongst those stationed here.
 - D. Army Ice-Testing Group – A smooth transition between the Air National Guard and the Army Ice-Testing Group took place. Once again, the airport is excited to host the Army Ice-Testing Group. They are anticipating the arrival of Army aircraft in Late-October. The test aircraft should arrive around Thanksgiving. The Army will remain in Hangar 663 until April 2025.
 - E. FDA Potable Water: With the anticipation of expanded Delta Air Lines service, including a RON flight, the airport is working to certify the airport terminal’s watering point. An FDA representative has come out to inspect the location, and we are awaiting final certification letter. The airport watering point will be added to the FDA web database during the next update.
 - F. 2023 FAA Supplementary Discretionary Funding ZEV Application Award: Back in May, the airport applied for grant funding under the FY 2023 Airport Improvement Program Supplemental Discretionary Grant program. The funding is in pursuit of purchasing an electric SUV and electric UTV and the necessary charging stations. The airport received the notice of award in September that

our project will receive \$201,094 in FAA funding. It will go to the County Board on November 19th for acceptance and scope approval. The project timeline will run into mid-2025.

G. Hangar Occupancy Update: The monthly update of the available hangar space at the Marquette Sawyer Regional Airport. Also the airport announced a new Waitlist procedure is in effect for the T-Hangars. This new policy will be sent out to all present T-Hangar tenants in a future letter.

- a. T-Hangars: Full Capacity
- b. 661: Available
- c. 663: USAF until mid-October, Army Ice-Testing taking over mid-October
- d. 400 series: 2 bays available
- e. Kubick (423 E/W, 424, 425): Space available, contact FBO staff for details.

6. Late Addition:

A. None

7. Public Comment:

A. None

8. Staff and Committee Member Comment:

A. Staff and Committee exchanged wishes for a safe and happy Thanksgiving holiday!

9. Adjournment: Motion by Christopher Sholander with support by Scott Bolster. All members were in agreement. Meeting adjourned at 4:46 p.m.