

WINNEBAGO COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

AVIATION COMMITTEE

Terminal Conference Room

DATE: December 2, 2009

TIME: 8:00 a.m.

PRESENT: Kathleen Lennon, Maribeth Gabert, Arlene Schmuhl, Shiloh Ramos & Stan Kline

ALSO PRESENT: Peter Moll, Airport Director; John Dorcey, Mgr. of Maint/Operations; Diana Ulrich, Airport Secretary; David Albrecht, County Board Chairman; Pat Brennand, County Board Vice Chairman; Ian Billington, Air Traffic Control; Mary Garcia, Basler Flight Service, Tom Weigt, Basler Turbo Conversions; Bruce Botterman, NewView Technologies; Sandy Forsgren, tenant; Teresa Novak, tenant; Red Oak Court neighbors/tenants Debbie & Larry Last, Jim Drummond, Wayne Daniels; Red Oak Court neighbors, Gerald Noe & S. Bryson; Bill Roh, citizen; Mark Nielson, citizen Jeff Bollier, Oshkosh Northwestern

Meeting was called to order by Committee Chairman Kathleen Lennon at 8:00 a.m.

1. Public Comments on Agenda Items: Ian Billington of Midwest ATC Services, Inc., presented information on the responsibilities of the air traffic control (ATC) personnel, stating that ATC is in control of all movement and safety on the airfield. ATC applies and enforces FAA regulations. Some of the responsibilities require issuing safety alerts to aircraft while maintaining the security of the Air Traffic Control Facility & to assist the Airport Authority with security. This involves alerting the airport authority to suspicious activity, unauthorized access to the airport and problems with wildlife. With the lack of proper perimeter fencing the amount of wildlife encounters by aircraft, and the occurrences of pedestrian/vehicle deviations are on the rise. Over the last year ATC had more than 30 incidents of unauthorized personnel and vehicles accessing the airfield, and wildlife encounters. Some examples of things Wittman Airport has experienced in the last year were unauthorized personnel golfing along side the taxiway (they trespassed onto airport property along the east side from the housing areas where there presently is no fencing). In the last week we had hunters with loaded weapons shooting deer on airport property. Many, if not all, of these incidents could have been avoided if the airport was properly secured, meaning gates being closed and locked and proper perimeter fencing of the whole airport. It is very hard for the Airport Authority to protect the airfield when it is not secure. All of these things jeopardize the safety of the airfield. From information received from the Oshkosh Airport Manager, Oshkosh is near the top of the FAA list for vehicle and pedestrian deviations. Wittman Airport used to have an FAR Part 139 certification which requires the airfield to have at least an eight foot high woven wire game fence. Oshkosh is no longer under Part 139 requirements but the FAA recommends that all airports adhere to these safety procedures and practices. This protection is not only for the airfield but for the protection of the public so they will not inadvertently enter into a

hazardous area. The ATC tower recommends the transfer of funds to finish the security fencing on the airport.

Red Oak Court resident Larry Last told the committee of his concerns on cutting the trees at the end of his property line, stating that he isn't against the fence but would like the trees saved. Mr. Last would like the fence to be put up where the orange snow fencing currently is, which is approximately fifteen feet onto County property.

Red Oak Court resident Jim Drummond doesn't feel a fence is warranted, stating that Oshkosh Corporation didn't ask for a fence to be put up and that there were other areas of the airport where fencing could be done better. Mr. Drummond stated that he had spoken with Mark Weaver from Oshkosh Corporation and that Mark Weaver told Mr. Drummond that they never asked for fencing.

Ms. Gabert asked how long the fence would be and how high. Mr. Dorcey stated there would be three sections going up, two sections along 20<sup>th</sup> Avenue and one coming north from Ripple Road about 2000 feet. The fence would be eight feet high with no barbed wire. Mr. Dorcey stated that the FAA has several fence recommendations for airports, the highest is twelve feet topped with 3 strands of barbed wire.

Mr. Dorcey stated that while there is no specific federal regulation requiring a perimeter fence, there are numerous requirements that the airport owner maintain a safe facility for both users of the airport and its neighbors. The FAA's Order 5190.6B and the Wisconsin Guide to Airport Management state that airport management's number one priority is maintaining a safe facility.

Mr. Dorcey reported violations of the airport's vehicle and pedestrian ordinance continue to increase. He stated the Winnebago Sheriff cited five individuals for trespass on November 25 while hunting on airport property. He also reported numerous deer, coyote, fox and other small mammals enter onto airport property through unfenced areas.

Mr. Brennand told the committee that he and his family are very careful with giving instructions to hunters who hunt their land so that they do not come onto airport property.

Mr. Dorcey placed a call to Mr. Mark Weaver from Oshkosh Corporation, who, while on cell phone speaker, reported to the committee that Oshkosh Corporation had, in fact, asked for a fence to be erected along the Red Oak Court properties. This was done at the time when government vehicles had been stored on airport property adjacent to the neighborhood. Mr. Weaver indicated that this needed to be done so as to protect government property from being accessed. He further noted that failure to maintain a perimeter fence around stored government property may result in the property being removed from the premises.

2. Approve minutes of November 4, 2009: Mr. Kline moved to approve the minutes of November 4, 2009, seconded by Ms. Schmuhl. Motion carried 5/0.
3. Airport Director's Report:
  - a) Runway 18/36 Reconstruction Project Update: Mr. Moll told the committee that Runway 18/36 phase 1 was complete and the runway is open once again to air traffic.
  - b) Control Tower Update: Mr. Moll stated that the City of Oshkosh Electrical Inspector has signed off on previously-noted violations, but, now inspectors have questions and concerns about the fireproofing between the elevator shaft and the elevator equipment room. Mr. Moll will be meeting with the inspectors, and with OMNNI Associates representatives and Miron Construction engineers to review this alleged violation.
  - c) 2009 Budget Review/2010 Budget Discussions: Mr. Moll told the committee that a \$40,000 transfer for overtime overages due to snow removal and extra hours worked during AirVenture will be going to the Personnel & Finance Committee for approval.
  - d) Discuss/Approve Budget Transfer for Security Fencing: This item was pulled from the agenda and will come back at next meeting with more documentation on items such as the height, length, and type of fencing. Mr. Kline asked Mr. Moll to contact John Bodnar of Corporation Counsel on this matter.
  - e) Discuss/Approve budget transfer for control tower elevator repair: Mr. Moll stated that Schindler Elevator is still working on and researching the operational problem which occurred with the elevator during AirVenture. Schindler is now under the county's blanket elevator maintenance contract. Mr. Kline moved to approve the transfer, seconded by Mr. Ramos. Motion carried 5/0.
  - f) Discuss/Approve Novak ground lease: Mr. Moll informed the committee that the Novak's were building another hanger on the backside of their current hangar. Both leases will be incorporated into one lease with 3 year adjustments. Mr. Kline moved to approve the lease, seconded by Mr. Ramos. Motion carried 5/0.
  - g) Discuss acquisition of property on the SE corner of the Airport: Mr. Moll stated that there are several parcels that are available adjacent to the southeast side of the airport. Mr. Albrecht stated that he introduced a resolution during budget session to have money available in the Airport's capital fund for the purchase of property. The property was identified as those owned by the Brennand and Glatz families. Mr. Albrecht stated that he would like Mr. Moll to initiate the process for obtaining appraisals of the land. Mr. Ramos asked if this item could be put on the next agenda. Bill Roh asked Mr. Brennand if the property was still listed at 3.1 million.
4. Chairman's Report: None
5. Committee Member Statements/Suggestions/Items for Future Agenda: Mr. Kline stated that the committee should take action on the items of the property acquisition and the fencing project at the next meeting.

6. Set next Meeting Date & Adjourn: Next meeting was set for January 6, 2010 at 8:00 a.m. Wittman Regional Airport terminal conference room. Ms. Gabert motioned to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Ramos. Motion carried 5/0.

Meeting adjourned at 9:45 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Diana M. Ulrich  
Airport Secretary