

**WINNEBAGO COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**  
**AVIATION COMMITTEE**

**Date:** May 3, 2023  
**Time:** 8:00 am (in person and virtual)  
**Present:** John Hinz, Maribeth Gabert, Jeffrey Beem, Betsy Ellenberger, Koby Schellenger  
**Virtual:** Justin Rust, Basler Flight Service; Tricia Rathermel, GO-EDC  
**Also Present:** Jim Schell, Airport Director; Cameron Hallock, Deputy Airport Director; Jason Stuker, Maintenance & Operations Manager; Sean Elliott, EAA; Fred Stadler, tenant; Tom Gabert, tenant

Meeting was called to order at 8:00 am

1. **Approve Minutes of April 5, 2023:** Supv. Ellenberger moved to approve the minutes from April 5, 2023, seconded by Supv. Beem. Motion carried 5/0
2. **Public Comment on agenda items or any item under the jurisdiction of this committee:** None
3. **Airport Director's Report:**
  - a) *East GA Hangar Project Update:* Mr. Schell advised that our hangar project is moving along well. In the past month, our civil contractor has done the majority of the work to prep the building pads for both of the hangar buildings. The first proof roll was last Friday. Unfortunately, both of the pads did not pass the proof roll on this first attempt. This is pretty standard as it often takes multiple attempts to achieve building pad acceptance. We have a lot of clay that holds the water from our rainfall we've been having. The contractors feel confident that they will have the building pads ready by the end of this week. Once the building pads are certified, they will be handed over to the building contractor. We anticipate Cardinal to be able to start at the end of this week or the very beginning of next week. Once that happens, the hangar building materials should be delivered around the end of May.
  - b) *Business Park Development Update:* Mr. Schell spoke to his attendance at the MRO (Maintenance, Repair and Overhaul) Convention with Kim Maki. This is the best single event to attend to work on prospects for building out the business park. Mr. Hallock had attended this conference with Mr. Schell the previous year. There are over nine hundred exhibitors at the convention and this year Mr. Schell had targeted a little over a dozen companies. We met with the majority of companies on our list and a few that weren't on the list. Some of the companies that weren't initially on our list may actually be some of the better contacts that were made. Right now we are in the process of following up with the good prospects we identified from the convention. We do have the promo boxes that were developed last year to send out and help with continuing our conversations. With that, we also identified about ten airports that were exhibiting at this convention. We did stop to talk with the airports to find out what successes they had and see what their marketing efforts looked like. Through the conversations that were had, it was apparent that we need to be exhibiting at the next MRO Convention. The benefit to next year is that the MRO Convention is being hosted in Chicago, so we can drive there and bring our materials with us.
  - c) In addition to the MRO Convention, Mr. Schell advised that there have been monthly meetings with GO-EDC, City of Oshkosh, Discover Oshkosh and The Chamber on preparations for our booth at AirVenture this year. We have a 10'X40' booth again this year and we are trying to get everyone under one umbrella in this space. We're very

excited for this year's event. We try to improve our presence each year and Mr. Schell feels as though we are on track to do that.

4. **Deputy Director's Report:**

a) *NIFA Safecon Update:* Mr. Hallock stated that we already have six schools here as of this morning. As a reminder, there will be up to thirty schools, about one hundred airplanes, four hundred to five hundred competitors, plus more that will be here by the end of the week. Everything's going as expected. We had our busiest day ever last Friday, outside of AirVenture, we had over eight hundred take offs and landings. We have not had any noise complaints from the community or complaints from our tenants. Everything has been going smoothly. All the groups will move over to EAA starting tomorrow. Supv. Gabert stated that she has heard the community commenting that it is busy at the airport and wondering what is going on here. Mr. Schell added that our conference rooms have been full every day with students using them and mentioned that as soon as our meeting is done, students will be right back in the conference room using it.

5. **Discuss & Approve a Resolution to Petition the WI DOT Secretary for Airport Improvement Aid:**

Mr. Hallock stated that this was spoken about last month. We had the Public Hearing last week and everything went well. There were some good questions asked, no negative comments regarding the grant for Control Tower upgrades. We normally do a large list of projects on a petition, but we just received this BIL grant within the last few weeks and we had to do another petition to add that so the state and federal government could fund it. The next process is for our Aviation Committee to review the documentation. If approved, this can then go before our county board later this month. Supv. Schellenger made a motion to approve the Resolution to Petition the WI DOT Secretary for Airport Improvement. Supv. Ellenberger seconded this motion. Motion carried 5/0

6. **Operations & Maintenance Report:**

Mr. Stuker stated that he has had hangar inspections taking place this past month that should wrap up today. Mr. Stuker has also received a quote for spray foam insulation for the NewView hangars and expects to receive another quote for this project this Thursday. He has received in quotes for the crack seal and Sealcoat for the DNR hangar. The DNR hangar is just awaiting scheduling at this point.

a) *AirVenture 2023:* All paint has been ordered. No delays are expected so whatever problems that were brought about due to Covid seem to have been resolved at this point.

b) *Seasonal Employees:* Mr. Stuker advised that we will have two Seasonal Employees start tomorrow. By the beginning of June, we will have three full time seasonal employees helping to mow and perform other summer projects.

b) *Airfield Painting:* Mr. Stuker advised that we had some problems with the yellow airfield paint. This issue seems to be resolved as well. Yellow airfield paint is expected to ship next Friday. We should have all areas that need attention completed before AirVenture painting needs to begin.

c) *NIFA/SAFECON 2023:* Mr. Stuker stated that temporary landing boxes were painted on runway 18/36 to judge the landing events. We were told they usually use chalk or about four hundred to eight hundred pounds of flour are used to do this. With the lines being painted, this will make a big difference for their judges.

d) *New Self-Serve Fuel Area Light:* Mr. Stuker said that Facilities was finally able to come out with their bucket truck to get everything wired and installed. Mr. Stuker came out to the airport on Saturday night to check on it and everything was working well and looked good.

7. **EAA Report:** Mr. Elliott stated that is has been very busy. EAA is going to have one new restoration of a very large airplane, a Constellation, as well as the NASA Super Guppy, another iconic plane. Mr. Elliott stated that their themes are coming together very strong. They have

eleven Corsairs that will coming in. This will be the largest number of Corsair's gathered at AirVenture probably since the 90's.

8. **Chairman's Report:** Mr. Schell wanted to state that we hosted the EAA Chapter Pancake Breakfast here a couple of weeks ago and from what Mr. Schell saw, it appeared to be a very successful event. Mr. Stadler stated that fifty-four Young Eagles were flown, and the event coincided with the Chapter Leadership event that was taking place at EAA. Everything worked out very well.
9. **Committee Member Statements/Suggestions/Items for Future Agenda:** Supv. Hinz questioned how the new Priority Based Budgeting will affect existing leases at the airport. Mr. Schell stated that our existing leases that have set terms and set rates will not be affected by this. Our t-hangar rates were increased recently with the change in the ordinance rates last year, so Mr. Schell does not believe that our current leases would be affected.
10. **Set Next Meeting Date:** June 7, 2023
11. **Adjourn:** Motion to adjourn was made by Supv. Schellenger, seconded by Supv. Hinz. Motion carried 5/0. Meeting adjourned at 08:26 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kim Maki  
Administrative Associate  
Wittman Regional Airport