

MONROE COUNTY BOARD OF  
AVIATION COMMISSIONERS  
REGULAR SESSION

DATE: April 16, 2019

TIME: 0800 hours

PLACE: Airport Administration Building

MEMBERS:

*Dr. William Pugh, President*

*Mr. Gene DeVane, Treasurer*

*Mr. Pat Murphy, Secretary*

OTHERS PRESENT:

Mrs. Amy Gharst, Financial Manager

Mr. Gerry Harkin, EAA 650 President

Mr. Rex Hinkle, Cook Aviation

Mrs. Nancy Johnson, Airport Secretary

Mrs. Iris Kiesling, Monroe County Citizen

Mr. Josh Lankford, ATCT Manager

Mr. Carlos Laverty, Airport Director

Ms. Kristine Rocca, Barber Shop Owner

Mr. Mikal Ryals, Maintenance Personnel

Mr. Joe Worley, Hanson Professional Services

Dr. Pugh called the meeting to order at 0809, he asked for approval of the February minutes. Mr. DeVane made the motion to approve the minutes as presented, Mr. Murphy seconded the motion. Minutes unanimously approved.

FINANCIAL REPORT:

Mrs. Gharst provided the members a copy of the financial report for January – March 2019. She pointed out that our budget is right on target at the end of the first quarter with 76.5% remaining. Dr. Pugh asked if there were any high or lows in the budget; of which she replied no. She also reported the interest on investments is doing ok in savings accounts. No further discussion.

Mr. Laverty requested the Board Members ratify the claims for April 17, 2019 from the emails sent out. Mr. DeVane made the motion to ratify the claims, Mr. Murphy seconded the motion. Claims approved. Mrs. Gharst explained that other county departments, with a board, email their claims in docket form for approval and if there is a question on a claim, a follow up email will be sent with an explanation to the members.

#### ENGINEER'S REPORT:

Mr. Worley reported the TWY A Rehabilitation bid advertisement will be published by the end of April with a bid opening held on May 17, 2019. After the review, it will be presented at the regularly scheduled May BOAC meeting. He stated the project should take approximately 45 days, with good weather. The second phase will be the intersection with RWY 6/24; of which, it will be closed during that portion. He provided the members with an update on the Northwest Parcel, stating that more karst/sinkholes are being found and that several marked graves were discovered; which will not be disturbed.

#### NEW BUSINESS:

##### COUNTY HIGHWAY RETENTION POND:

Mr. Laverty received a letter from County Highway stating they will need to upgrade their retention pond. The plan may be to move the pond farther east and enlarge it. He stated has sent all their information to the FAA and is currently waiting on a response. Mr. Murphy asked how you satisfy the FAA on a project like this. Mr. Laverty stated that the airport will follow the guidelines the FAA requires; the major concern being controlling birds that could migrate around the pond and being in close proximity to RWY 6/24.

##### PLAYGROUND ASSESMENT:

Mr. Laverty stated that the County Commissioners requested he serve on the ADA committee; during a meeting, he spoke to the group about the playground area on airport property and questions arose as to the condition of the airport equipment. The committee conducted an evaluation of the airport playground equipment and found it out of compliance and suggested it be replaced or removed. Mr. Murphy agreed not to replace, just remove the equipment and the liability. Mr. DeVane and Dr. Pugh also agreed. Mr. Laverty stated, that for the time being, the picnic tables would remain and the BBQ pits will be removed as they are rusted and unsafe for use.

#### OLD BUSINESS:

##### HANGAR H UPDATE:

Mr. Laverty stated that everything is moving forward nicely on the renovations. The metal roof is complete on the pitched side, the bathroom remodeled, and the furnaces replaced. The hangar door will be replaced this summer. He stated that he has discussed the possibility of an increase in rent with the tenant, and they are in agreement.

##### THE BARBER SHOP UPDATE:

Mr. Laverty introduced Ms. Kristine Roccia, owner of "The Barber." Ms. Roccia stated she should open in the next 2-3 weeks and hopes that in 9 months to a year, adding a second person in the shop.

#### **VAN BUREN FIRE DEPARTMENT APPRAISAL:**

Mr. Lavery reminded the members that he was contacted in January by Van Buren Trustee, Mrs. Rita Barrow, requesting a review of the current lease. He stated he then requested, and has received, a property appraisal and provided her a copy to review.

As a result of the appraisal, he will take fair market value into consideration and the benefit the Fire Department provides when he is reworking their lease. He informed the members that there has been talk of Van Buren Fire Department merging with Monroe County Fire Protection District, and has met with both groups.

#### **HANGAR I UPDATE:**

Mr. Lavery stated the installation of 6 new furnaces and ceiling fans is complete. The new exterior paint will have to wait until good weather.

#### **NORTHEAST PARCEL UPDATE:**

Mr. Lavery gave an update on the proposal to lease/purchase the Northeast parcel presented during the BOAC Executive Session last week. The interested party wanted a response in one week, of which the BOAC stated that is not possible.

#### **ASSISTANT DIRECTOR'S REPORT:**

Mr. Siniard is on vacation therefore Mr. Lavery will give both reports.

#### **AIRPORT DIRECTOR'S REPORT:**

Mr. Lavery stated that Mrs. Gharst has a new title of Financial Office Manager and her classification went from a COMOT 4 to a PAT 3. At this time, Mr. Siniard's reclassification is taking a little more time and extra effort. Mr. Lavery stated he is working on getting the information together for County Council.

Mr. Lavery will begin reviewing the Farm lease as they mature in 2020.

Mr. Lavery is in the process of requesting to borrow ARFF gear from local fire departments until the airport can replace the expired equipment as most of the current gear has expired or will expire soon. The approximate cost per person is \$3000.

Mr. Lavery introduced our new maintenance staff member, Mr. Mikal Ryals. The members welcomed him to our staff.

Mr. Lavery stated the maintenance staff began filling the karst openings RWY 17/35 with shot rock.

Mr. Lavery stated that he is considering trading the 2008 Ford F250 and the 2013 Ford Explorer for a truck with a utility bed which will hold tools, etc. He will consider replacing the director's vehicle at a later date as a utility vehicle is more important at this time.

Mr. Laverty stated the REILS are now working; with almost everything replaced.

Mr. Laverty informed the board that he has been reaching out to Monroe County schools to inform the children of the importance of aviation and the airport. This resulted in the principal of Templeton Elementary contacting him and telling him the school was doing a musical called "Wright Brothers." He asked the principal how he could help and the principal asked for props that could be used as backdrops. Mr. Laverty borrowed a couple windsocks from the airport and a propeller from Mr. Bob Burke. The children were excited to see the propeller. Also, he received a call last week from the Assistant Principal from Jackson Creek Middle School requesting him to attend career day as the person who was schedule to do a presentation on aviation cancelled. Mr. Laverty contacted Mr. Gerry Harkin, EAA Chapter 650, who agreed to attend on such short notice. Mr. Harkin said he enjoys doing presentations to school children.

Mr. Laverty will be attending the Aviation Indiana meeting this Thursday; which is being held at the New Castle Municipal Airport.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Mr. Rex Hinkle stated that he was worked the Franklin Initiative which includes attending science fairs at various schools, providing power point presentations and setting up a booth on aviation. He informed Mr. Laverty that he has received the bill for the furnaces and fans; just let him know about the paint.

The meeting adjourned at 0902 with the next meeting scheduled for May 21, 2019.

Carlos Laverty, Airport Director