

**AIRPORT COMMISSION MEETING  
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 18, 2021  
4:30 P.M. CABLE UNION AIRPORT**

**MINUTES**

**Call to Order**

Chairman Rowe called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m.

**Attendance:** Chairman Doug Rowe; Commissioners Jeff Hurula, Kelly Nelson, Bob Rasmussen, Pat Rogers, Sue Thurn; Airport Manager Mike Nichols.

Also attending was Engineering Consultant Brad Volker by zoom.

**Approval of Agenda**

Motion by Commissioner Rasmussen, seconded by Chairman Rowe to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried.

**Approval of Minutes - July 22, 2021**

The following corrections were made to the July 22, 2021 minutes:

- Page 1, Commissioner Hurula did attend the meeting
- Page 2, Reference to EA should be EAA
- Page 3, Reference to Matthew Jacobson should be Matthew Jacobs from WI DNR

Motion by Commissioner Hurula, seconded by Commissioner Nelson to approve the July 22, 2021 minutes as corrected. Motion carried.

**Treasurer's Report**

**July 31, 2021:**

<b>General Account Balance:</b>	<b>\$32,365.57</b>
<b>Gas Savings Account Balance:</b>	<b>\$11,650.56</b>

**August 2021 (to date)**

<b>General Account Balance:</b>	<b>\$27,040.86</b>
<b>Gas Savings Account Balance:</b>	<b>\$13,761.21</b>

Commissioner Thurn reported that Cable, Drummond, Namakagon and Bayfield County have all paid the annual airport funding request of \$8500.

Rental has not been received for Parod Hangar and one hangar lease. Notices will be sent. Also, an invoice will be sent for the electrical connection to the new hangar being built.

Propane quotes were received from Northland Coop and Midland. After a brief discussion, it was decided to contract with Midland for 2021-2022.

Motion by Commissioner Hurula, seconded by Commissioner Nelson to execute a contract with Midland for propane 2021-2022 at \$1.44/gallon. Motion carried.

WI/DOT project expenses were not included in the 2021 budget. The budget needs to be amended to include \$25,000 WI/DOT projects. This amount will be budgeted every year until projects are completed.

Matt Messina noted that the Commission has \$150,000 in entitlement funds and would be responsible for 5% of the WI/DOT project costs, which is \$8,666. Budgeting \$25,000 is aggressive. However, there will be hangar development costs.

He will send a statement of what BOA has paid toward the Environmental Assessment and costs that are left on the contract to be paid.

Motion by Commissioner Rogers, seconded by Commissioner Rasmussen to approve the Treasurer's Report and a \$25,000 amendment to the budget for WI/DOT projects. Motion carried.

### **Manager's Report**

The annual fuel terminal inspection was completed without requiring calibration. Fuel delivery today was \$4.20/gallon. Cable gas rate is \$4.85/gallon.

The Young Eagles airplane rides for youth were cancelled due to weather. Seventeen children had signed up.

Commissioner Nelson will arrange for a controller for the Fall Festival FlyIn.

A new hangar may be built next spring; two pilots are planning to build and share the hangar.

The Toro mower has been working but is now broken. Mike tried to fix it but had to call Al Kolve. In the meantime, Mike will use the John Deere.

Mike has talked with Jason, Road Foreman for Cable, about brushing one area this fall. The Namakagon Road Crew, Clay and Brian, have suggested the airport look into purchasing a mower, possibly available on Wisconsin surplus at a cost of around \$8,000. The Town of Namakagon would then use their tractor to mow once a year and keep smaller trees from growing. Matt Messina shared information on how we could acquire the Ashland tractor. Ashland has purchased a new tractor. If the value of the old one is under \$5,000, it could be gifted to Cable. The value is determined by blue book values.

### **Public Comment**

There was none.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

#### **Birkie Telemark Properties Update**

There was no new information to report.

#### **Update from BOA**

**ARPA** - The BOA sent out a notification to all airports last week about another round of airport stimulus funding. Cable has been allocated to receive \$22,000. This funding is similar to the CARES and CRSSA funding that requires invoices and cancelled checks for reimbursement. Once the grant is processed through the FAA, BOA will begin processing reimbursements.

Matt agreed to check on reimbursement for the pavement in front of the old hangar.

#### **Environmental Assessment Update - Brad Volker**

Mr. Volker presented a large color coded chart to review pros and cons for different alternatives for the Environmental Assessment. The alternatives are:

0 = No build - do nothing (this is mandatory to include in the EA)

1 = Try to clear air space for current displaced thresholds

2 = Remove both displaced thresholds and move them to locations shown on the future  
ALP

3 = 3400 feet slides to north end of pavement

4 = 3400 feet slides to south end of pavement

5 = Try to achieve full runway of 3700 feet

The chart shows criteria for each alternative and includes:

- concerns of neighbors,
- easements required,
- installation of precision approach path indicators,

- accommodation of 3400 feet thresholds,
- use of height limitation ordinance,
- impact to trees,
- impact to wetland,
- impact to Spring Creek to the southeast,
- impact to scenic river way,
- impact to rare and endangered species,
- impact to airport historic district.

Chairman Rowe reported a conference call with the National Park Service (NPS) and the FAA. NPS was very defensive about removing trees on their property. Pilots have repeatedly written letters to the NPS about tree issues with Cable Union Airport. Mr. Volker suggested bringing federal representatives into the conversation. The airport existed before the scenic river way. Other airports have been helped by federal participation.

Mr. Messina agreed. Decisions need to be made that are best for everyone. FAA will sign off on the preferred alternative, and the NPS will have to comply.

Commissioner Thurn noted that this is the second Environmental Assessment for the airport. All the trees the NPS is trying to protect have grown higher. She supports using the airport's easement rights to take out trees.

It was the consensus of the Commission to bring the FAA into the discussion to find mutually agreeable solutions.

### **Hangar Development**

Matt Messina reported that a design contract has been fully negotiated with Cooper Engineering. funding has been approved for the Phase 2 expansion. A contract will be signed soon. A taxiway approach to the main runway is shown outside of the middle third of the runway. Boulders, fencing and gates will be used for airport security. Bidding and constructing the project is planned for next year.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### **Airport Security\**

The Commission discussed placing rocks in some places to prohibit airport access. It was the consensus of the Commission to also put signs up as soon as possible.

#### **New Terminal**

Federal funding for a new terminal requires the Commission to commit four years of entitlement funding for enough (approximately \$650,000) to begin the process of FAA soliciting a contract for the work.

Commissioner Thurn presented a Needs Assessment of the existing Terminal and Hangar with a possible plan for restoration. Several concerns with restoration include: 1) being able to meet the needs of an airport terminal; 2) foundation issues, although it appears that the foundation is solid.

After further discussion the Commission agreed to ask Dean Hambrecht for an estimate for exterior siding and replacement of windows to be considered at the September meeting. Commissioner Rasmussen noted that Bayfield County is willing to contribute to specific projects if all the towns donate the same amount.

### **Fly-Ins:**

August 31 will be the Cable Hamburger Fly-In. Plans for logistics of cooking, ordering, and setup were discussed. It is planned that burgers will be ready to be served by 4:30 p.m.

As part of the Cable Fall Fest on September 25th, the Airport will host a Fly-In pancake breakfast.

### **Treasurer Search**

Chairman Rowe and Commissioner Rasmussen will follow up on contacts they have made regarding this position.

### **Next Meeting Agenda Items:**

New Terminal

Parod Hangar Restoration

Treasurer Position

Fall Fest Pancake Breakfast

**Next Meeting - September 21, 2021, 4:30 p.m. at Cable Union Airport**

### **Adjournment**

Chair Rowe declared the meeting adjourned at \_\_\_\_.