

AIRPORT ADVISORY BOARD

City of Findlay

February 8, 2018

MINUTES

ATTENDANCE

Members Present: Service Director Brian Thomas, Roy Alexander, Matt Rutter, Matt Cordonnier, Gary Junker, Jeff Koehler, John Harrington, Matt McVicker.

Staff Present: Mayor Lydia Mihalik, Safety Director Paul Schmelzer, Don Rasmussen, Kathy Launder.

DEPARTMENT REPORT

Runway 18/36 Rehabilitation and Taxiway Marking: Project has been completed. Post project issues have been smoothed out.

Ground Maintenance Program: Will have crack sealing done this year on Runway 7/25 and other areas.

Lighting Upgrade: Four lamps on the north ramp will be replaced.

Camera: Will cover access points; can remote in to see what is going on; will have the ability to time stamp; can look at existing conditions.

SPCC Plan Update: The introduction of a new 20,000 gallon Jet fuel bulk tank has required an update to the plan.

Drainage Project on Gray Street: There has been quite a bit of pooling and ponding by fuel farm. Direct tie in of downspout off Marathon Petroleum Company facility at Gray Street will be done in 2018.

Runway Designation Change: Need to change runway number designations due to magnetic shifting. Can marry with future on field project.

Potential Replacement of Terminal Building: New terminal/FBO facility in 10 year plan. Potential within four years. Will have a lot of changes in area of airport due to SR 15/I-75 project. We have received negative feedback on the current facility. The facility is dated. There are major issues with the HVAC system. Terminal building is a low priority item for funding unless all pavement on runways & taxiways are in good condition.

NEW BUSINESS

Wind Turbines: McVicker stated that FAA 7460 applications have been submitted to the FAA for the construction of seven more turbines. There are currently five. The City has no jurisdiction over the permitting, however the Ohio Department of Transportation, Office of Aviation, wants an opinion from the City on the turbines. The FAA states there are no aeronautical hazards. One proposed turbine would interfere with Category D aircraft operations, approximately 11 operations per year. We will need to submit a letter with technical data if we are against the turbines.

The intention of the company is to add additional turbines. Cordonnier stated that the company would have to apply for variances in the township due to maximum height requirements of structures in the township.

Rutter stated that the ODOT, Office of Aviation is looking for a response on these issues, what our overall sense is, need to have a firm response.

It is important that the City of Findlay be on record. The closer the towers get, the more impactful they will be on airport users. FAA said ODOT is responsible for enforcement/permitting. No teeth – putting onus on locals. Rasmussen will draft a letter and will circulate for comment, President of Board or all members to sign. McVicker stated that we will be giving away a piece of development of airport if these turbines are permitted. This is the importance of responding. The City of Findlay should have the ability to control space that impacts airspace. Need to consider the future operation of airport if turbines are permitted. McVicker stated that the response will go to the FAA, not ODOT. ODOT wants copied on the response to the FAA. Schmelzer stated that McVicker should start the response letter and give to Rasmussen to finish, then circulate.

Wildlife on and near Airport: McVicker stated that birds, seagulls, and water fowl/geese are flying over the airport from Lake Cascades and borrow pits. The geese are getting used to the floating light deterrents in Lake Cascades. Do not see a lot of birds on the airport itself. Deer on the airport grounds are also an issue. These are transients that jump the fence. Part of the issue is the no till on farm fields around the airport. The City does require lessees to till the farmland that it leases out.

Election of Officers: Brian Thomas was nominated as President of the Airport Advisory Board. Will vote for Vice President at next meeting.

OTHER BUSINESS

Next Meeting: The next meeting of the Airport Advisory Board is scheduled for April 12, 2018, at 4:00pm in the third floor conference room of the Municipal Building.

Being no further business, the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy K. Launder
City Clerk