

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE PRINCETON AIRPORT ADVISORY BOARD  
HELD ON APRIL 2, 2012, AT 5:30 P.M., AT THE AIRPORT A/D BUILDING**

\*\*\*\*\*

**CALL TO ORDER**

The Chair, Gene Stoeckel, called the meeting to order at 5:30 P.M. Other members present included Joe Glenn, Jim Ferlaak, Duane Kruse and Jeff Dotseth. Others present: Airport Engineer Joel Dresel, City Administrator/Airport Manager Mark Karnowski, Larry Handshoe (Baldwin Township), Jack Edmonds (Mille Lacs Co.), Sharon Sandberg, Richard Anderson, and Rick Hoffman

**AGENDA ADDITIONS/DELETIONS:** Stoeckel questioned whether the Board should continue to have "Through The Fence Operations update" on the agenda (the ensuing discussion is noted below). Rick Hoffman asked to give an update on the PAPI's operation. There were no objections and no other additions to the agenda.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Stoeckel noted that the date at the end of the third paragraph under "Joint Meeting with City Council" should be "May 3<sup>rd</sup>" and not "April 5<sup>th</sup>".

DOTSETH MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE MARCH 5, 2012 MEETING AS CORRECTED. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY GLENN. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**A. Through The Fence Operations**

Stoeckel said it was his understanding that, as of a year ago, the topic was to be added to the agenda only if there was something new to report and suggested that be the case from this meeting forward.

Ferlaak agreed, stating that, while the issue has an impact on the operation of the airport, it is not an issue that the AAB has any control.

Kruse gave a synopsis of the issue from his first interaction with the city through today.

Sharon Sandberg suggested that it be kept on the agenda to keep it alive.

Dotseth suggested that employing a mediator might work to bring both sides together and made the following motion:

DOTSETH MOVED TO RECOMMEND TO THE CITY COUNCIL THAT A MEDIATOR BE MUTUALLY AGREED UPON TO WORK ON SOLVING THE DISAGREEMENT AND THAT THE MEDIATION TAKE PLACE WITHIN 45 DAYS AND THE COST SPLIT EQUALLY BETWEEN THE CITY AND KRUSE/SANDBERG. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY GLENN. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Engineer Dresel noted that he was not giving legal advice, but – based on his experience on other similar boards in similar circumstances – he suggested that Kruse acknowledge that he had a conflict voting on the issue.

Kruse agreed.

Accordingly, a second vote was taken and passed 4-0 (with Kruse abstaining).

### **B. Airport Beacon Update**

Rick Hoffman advised that the maintenance on the beacon had been completed. All agreed that the maintenance done greatly improved the situation. There was discussion about painting the mast supporting the beacon. Hoffman said he'd gotten three quotes to repaint the mast and they all ran between \$1,725 and \$1,775. The cost to sandblast the mast prior to painting would be about \$1,800 more and using a urethane paint would be about \$1,000 more.

Since the painting was not a budgeted item, it was agreed that the city public works staff would be asked to do the work. The AAB expressed the hope that the painting could be done by the date of the fly-in (June 24<sup>th</sup>).

### **C. CIP Project(s) Update**

Dresel advised that, although the enabling bill passed congress, there was no money allocated. A new bill does fund the original program and that bill is working its way through the process. He anticipates being advised of available money in July or August. Accordingly, he's moving forward with obtaining bids for the previously agreed to projects with hopes that they will be able to move as soon as notice is given by the FAA.

### **D. PAPI Lighting Update**

Rick Hoffman advised that the PAPI's are working inconsistently after activation by pilots. He noted that a new radio controller is needed but that we cannot buy one until we get the entitlement grant funding notice. That said, he'll be working with MnDOT's John Schroeder who thinks he has a unit that he can lend us until the new one is approved and available. Dresel suggested that a NOTAM be issued until the controller is dependably functional.

## **NEW BUSINESS:**

### **A. Industrial Park Road Alternative**

Richard Anderson addressed the Board and presented what he feels is a viable alternative to extending 21<sup>st</sup> Avenue south to 19<sup>th</sup> Avenue.

His alternative proposal would connect Mille Lacs CR39 (21<sup>st</sup> Avenue) to Sherburne CR45 at its intersection with Rum River Drive and re-name that new section as "Inter-county 39" allowing vehicles coming from the south to access the new proposed Wal-Mart store without going through the industrial park or via TH169/TH95. It would also provide a second entrance/exit for the industrial park as well as preserve the proposed Turf Crosswind Runway at the Princeton Airport.

Anderson asserted that the crosswind runway is necessary because the future of aviation is "light sport" planes, which require a crosswind runway during crosswind situations.

Anderson suggested that the new road would not have any stop signs between Co. 45 and 1st. St. thus making it a usable through County Road. The proposal would also reduce the possible impact of vehicle traffic with the truck traffic inside the industrial park.

As an ancillary recommendation, Anderson suggested that the former "Doebler property" currently owned by Tim Strong, should be purchased by the city's EDA and rezoned as a location for a second Industrial park to be developed to increase the local tax base. Acquisition would also allow the city to contribute the ROW for the new road.

Anderson suggested that funding for the proposal be borne by both Mille Lacs County and Sherburne County as it is linking two important County Roads. Anderson pointed out that using county funding brings in the possibility of State Aid funds for the construction

Anderson further reasoned that Princeton, having already built the north section of Mille Lacs CR39, has already contributed to the larger project.

Anderson also suggested that the city could move their existing 21<sup>st</sup> Avenue extension easement (purchased from Westling) to the east side of the property to, again, provide the necessary ROW.

Anderson suggested that other land acquisition costs could be negotiated on the premise that it will develop and enhance the property and thus should be donated in exchange for the road's development.

Anderson went on to assert that the proposed new road connecting the new inter-county road and the airport as well as a future hanger area be included in an ALP and thus paid for out of State and/or Federal funds.

Anderson said that the new Princeton Airport Pilots group and Flight Expo Inc. (a 501C3 nonprofit) will work together with the Airport commission, City, Counties, State and Federal governments to enable and secure the funding necessary to make this proposed project a reality in exchange for preserving the original Crosswind Runway.

Anderson then asked if there were any questions.

Dotseth asked if the EAW that would be necessary for the new road be used for the crosswind project as well. Dresel indicated that it probably could not.

Dotseth asked if any board support was suggested.

Karnowski responded that it was his understanding that Anderson was giving the AAB a preview of the presentation he plans on giving the Council at the upcoming joint meeting.

## **B. Joint Meeting with City Council**

The Board was advised that the City received notice from Mille Lacs County that their Board of Review had to be moved to May 2<sup>nd</sup>. So that kicks the joint meeting to June 7<sup>th</sup>. It was noted that June 7<sup>th</sup> is the date for the Rum River Festival Parade.

Karnowski advised that the Council usually adjusts so the Council doesn't meet on the parade date. He's guessing the meeting will probably be changed to the Tuesday before the 7<sup>th</sup> (June 5<sup>th</sup>). He'll advise the board when a date is set.

**E.A.A. REPORT:** Kruse advised that the group was getting planning on having a BBQ this summer. He'll have more info at the next meeting.

## **MANAGERS REPORT:**

**Fuel Sales** – Karnowski advised that the monthly sales figures would be emailed to the members when it's prepared.

**MISCELLANEOUS:** - none

**ADJOURNMENT:**

DOTSETH MOVED TO ADJOURN. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY KRUSE. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY. THE MEETING ADJOURNED AT 6:54 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mark Karnowski,  
City Admin/Airport Mgr.

ATTEST:

---

Gene Stoeckel, Chair