



Winnebago County

The Wave of the Future

**AVIATION COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 6, 2025**

A. Call to Order

Supv. Hinz called the meeting to order at 8:00 am

B. Public Comments within the Jurisdiction of the Committee

None

C. Approval of Minutes

1. Approval of July 2, 2025 Meeting Minutes

Motion by Supv. Frassetto, seconded by Supv. Paterson to Approval of July 2, 2025 Meeting Minutes. . Yes 3, No 0, Abstained 0

D. Director's Report

1. AirVenture Recap

Mr. Schell stated that safety is his top priority during AirVenture and this year we had a very safe event. There were four minor accidents on the field that people walked away from and there was record attendance. Another area of top priority was airfield access. Airfield access was controlled better this year to keep people outside the fence that shouldn't be here. The pedestrian gates were controlled better this year and the north side and east side gates were patrolled. The biggest issues arise on the days that lead up to the night shows. We were a lot better this year, but we still have some work to do. We're already working on a debrief with EAA to figure out how we can do better next year and review any areas that may need improvement.

2. Tower Chiller Replacement Status

Mr. Schell advised that we are still working on getting this project off the ground. The biggest hurdle being the funds from the Bureau of Aeronautics. Mr. Schell has been touching base with the Bureau of Aeronautics at least monthly to check on the status of the funds since our requirements have been met. Once that funding is received, we will connect with the Facilities Department to get the project out to bid.

3. Hangar 13 Demo Update

Mr. Locke stated that just before the committee meeting last month, a portion of the hangar collapsed. The contractor mobilized right away and was able to get that portion cleaned up and secured before AirVenture. A temporary fence was put around the site to keep people away from it. The asbestos and lead remediation started on Monday. As soon as the remediation is done, the demolition contractor will return and take down the rest of the building. This is expected to be completed in early fall.

4. Summer Internship Report - Marcus Reid

Intern Marcus Reid shared that he is attending Central Washington University pursuing a degree in Aviation Management with a minor in Safety and Health Management. What drew Mr. Reid to the internship at Wittman Regional Airport was the uniqueness of the airport. He wanted to see how the airport operates during AirVenture and what goes into the preparation

for AirVenture. He was also interested in learning how a small to mid-size airport operates. His primary responsibilities were to shadow Mr. Locke, Deputy Airport Director, and assist Mr. Schell, Airport Director, and Mr. Shaffer, Maintenance and Operations Manager. Mr. Reid continued to share the various things that he learned while being an intern from the meetings he was able to sit in on, the changes that take place with AirVenture involving the FAA inspections, and responses to aircraft incidents.

E. Business Items

Action may be taken on any business items.

None

F. Operations & Maintenance Report

Mr. Shaffer shared with the committee that his crew did a great job with painting the dots and field paint. It took about seventy (70) gallons of StripeX temporary paint in the process to turn taxiway Alpha into 18L/36R runway.

The field grass was kept to a minimum length and certain areas had been rolled. This helped aircraft with a smoother taxi ride.

Post AirVenture kept the maintenance crew working through the heat to pressure wash the temporary paint off taxiway Alpha and runway 18/36. Along with the paint removal was changing the signs, reinstalling lights, and repainting the center line on Alpha.

G. EAA Report

Mr. Busha stated that AirVenture was a safe event this year with very minor accidents. There were 704,000 people in attendance, 63,000 cars were parked, and they wouldn't be able to do any of this without the 6,000 volunteers. There were tens of thousands of campers and they began to arrive on June 27th. The rain did affect certain areas of the campground, so they are looking at putting matting in to help with that in the future. With that being said, they are now planning for AirVenture 2026.

H. Committee Chair's Report

None

I. Communications Shared by Committee Members

Great communication and coordination between EAA, Airport Staff, Myer's Aviation, and the FAA made AirVenture 2025 a great success!

J. Items for Next Agenda

Suggestions from committee members for items to be addressed on a future agenda

None

K. Next Meeting Date

September 3, 2025

L. Adjourn

*Motion by Supv. Hinz, seconded by Supv. Paterson to Adjourn. . Yes 4, No 0, Abstained 0
Meeting adjourned at 08:36 am.*

[MIN FOOT]