



Winnebago County

The Wave of the Future

**AVIATION COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 14, 2024**

A. Call to Order

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

B. Public Comments within the Jurisdiction of the Committee

Attendee from the community, Mr. Last, asked about who carried the insurance on the hangar that the roof blew off. Mr. Schell answered that it is under general insurance with Winnebago County.

C. Approval of Minutes

1. Approve July 10, 2024 Meeting Minutes

Motion by Supv. Hinz, seconded by Supv. Paterson to Approve July 10, 2024 Meeting Minutes. . Yes 5, No 0, Abstained 0

D. Director's Report

1. AirVenture Recap

Mr. Schell spoke about AirVenture being another great event with record-breaking numbers. Sixteen thousand (16,000) aircraft operations over ten (10) days. Safe event with one bad accident around noon on Monday, south of the airport in the town of Nekimi. Our staff assisted with the recovery of that fatal accident along with Myer's Aviation. Our accident rate does remain low. Mr. Schell added that there were some challenges on the nights of the airshow with the number of people on our north and east sides. He stated that he is working on some ideas for a plan to put in place next year to control the crowds and ensure safety. Mr. Schell also commented about our record number of visitors to our exhibit booth on the AirVenture grounds as well. The exhibit booth brought a couple more prospects for the business park that we are currently in contact with.

E. Operations & Maintenance Report

Mr. Schell spoke about airport staff getting the airfield ready for AirVenture. With new employees assisting this year, our staff did an excellent job getting everything ready. We had the Snow Birds here that incorporated an expanded aerobatic box. Our tenants were very cooperative with moving to the hospitality tent that was provided by EAA during the expanded aerobatic box timeframe. The restoration after AirVenture was also prompt and seamless. Supv. Hinz asked about expansion areas for aircraft during AirVenture. Mr. Schell believes that the number of aircraft on the field were actually a little lower this year. If there is a need for additional space, Mr. Schell believes this is something that can be discussed down the line. Supv. Hinz also inquired about prospective tenants for the Business Park. Mr. Schell advised that with the two prospects, there was a meeting last week with one prospect and the other prospect that we are also talking to is very interested. Supv. Frassetto had asked about "curb appeal" for the business park. Mr. Schell advised that the area is currently being leased out for agriculture. Our staff does try to maintain the area around the land. However, the revenue brought in on the business park land right now is beneficial. Supv. Paterson spoke about the Honor Flight being a high point of AirVenture and the

positive light that it puts on the airport terminal. He recommends anyone who hasn't attended an Honor Flight to attend next year. Supv. Paterson thought it was a great day.

F. EAA Report

None

G. Committee Chair's Report

Supv. Gabert questioned if there has already been a prospective tenant for the business park area that may have backed out and wondered if there is a reason a business would not want to be a tenant in the business park. Mr. Schell stated that it is mostly according to this area being a fit for the current business looking to locate here. The city's parcels are for sale and ours are for lease. The city parcels are on the other side of the road, while our parcels provide easy access to the airfield. Depending on the business, it's a matter of what fits their needs.

H. Communications Shared by Committee Members

None

I. Items for Next Agenda

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

Supv. Frassetto asked about a summary report on the leased properties here at the airport. Mr. Schell stated that we have a summary report of the leased properties that can be handed out and advised that it is mostly land leases in our report summary.

J. Next Meeting Date

September 4, 2024

K. Adjourn

*Motion by Supv. Lutz, seconded by Supv. Hinz to Adjourn. . Yes 5, No 0, Abstained 0
The meeting adjourned at 8:33 am.*