

**ROCHELLE AIRPORT ADVISORY BOARD
REGULAR MEETING
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2013**

The Rochelle Airport Advisory Board met on Monday, February 25, 2013 at 3:00 p.m. in the Lower Level Conference Room of City Hall.

Call Meeting to Order: The meeting was called to order at 3:00 p.m. by Greg Sparrow, Chairman.

Roll Call: Present: Greg Sparrow, Norman Jenkins, John Kenney, and William Tyler. Absent: Dale Meyers and Joel Thompson. Had a quorum of 4. Also present were Mark Delhotal (Airport Manager), Judy Schermerhorn (Deputy City Clerk), and Mayor Olson.

Approval of Minutes: Moved by Bill Tyler and seconded by Norm Jenkins: **“I move the minutes of October 22, 2012 be approved.”** Motion passed by voice vote without dissent.

Public Commentary: None

Old Business:

1) **Airport Strategic Plan Discussion:** Scott Rozanas

- Handouts given showing updated Strategic Plan.
- Strategic Goals completed previously; Still able to add more goals
 - Goal #4 was changed to read “Improve the image/perception of the airport” (removed “in regards to Skydiving center” as the perceived apprehension didn’t happen.
 - Per Mark, new-business recruiting is still stagnate for the most part; seems to be the norm with other airports as well; the economy plays a part in this.
 - Goals still relevant at this point.
 - Once extension and taxiway in, usage will increase.
 - CSC would like to have an International Competition in the future, which would draw a lot of people; this would mean the need for a “swoop pond” but the FAA does not allow a retention pond on airport property as it is a wild life attractant. They have considered temporarily leasing adjacent land for the pond as well as some other options they’ve considered. “Swooping” draws in more skydivers.
 - Scott Rozanas mentioned that the GREDCO board wants to come along beside the City and partner with them. The airport is one project that they could help with. There are two empty hangars at this time; also need to rent out maintenance hangar; again the present economy effects this.
- Main item to touch on at this meeting was specifically “Action Steps.”
 - Scott Rozanas asked if the GREDCO board could help out with land acquisition in the future.
 - When runway is extended it should bring in some corporate jets.
 - Potential customers.
 - Continue to improve image of airport.

New Business:

1) **Safety and Communication Enhancement Update:** Mark Delhotal

- Realizing the need for better radio frequency, Mark made request to FCC to change frequency as 122.8 is one of the most used and congested frequency in the nation. After going through all frequencies in area states, he found that 122.975 was not being used. The Chicagoland Skydiving Center can stay on this frequency all the way up and communicate with inbound traffic.

- Letter of agreement with CSC and Chicago center. We are directly west of O'Hare Airport. Letter has to be approved by FFA. Handouts were given showing airspace usage by CSC, jumping section, and O'Hare's incoming arrivals. Will "tweak" agreement before sending to FFA and it should be in place by October. O'Hare has three departure lanes that go over or near the Rochelle area but planes are at 15,000 feet by the time they are over DeKalb. There will be a "no-fly" area of about a mile along the TRIDE arrival that CSC cannot use. CSC announces over the radio at two minutes and one minute prior to jumpers and "jumpers away".

2) State Local Airport Improvement Program Grant update: Mark Delhotal

- Governor announced \$9-million grant for airports. Rochelle was awarded \$630,000 and our portion will be \$70,000 which will be used for a taxiway of about 1200 feet. The letting will be in August and will probably start work in the spring.
- The taxiway will extend to the west.

3) Runway Project Update: Mark Delhotal

- Letting for bids will be in March; start work in June.
- Takes about 144 days for the work.
- Some farmland will not be usable during that time.
- The project cost is \$1.8-million and our share will be \$90,000. Our entitlement money will be put into it.
- East end stays for now.
- Still have a "B" category.

Announcements/Concerns:

- Mayor announced that there is still a vacancy on the board. Requested the board to consider Woody of CSC, who put in the only application so far. Most of the board were OK with it.
- Next meeting is on calendar for **Monday, April 22, 2013 at 3:00.**

New Agenda Requests:

- Requested that the Airport Advisory Board be in on emailing list of any information or changes at the airport, rather than hearing things at the coffee shop which are often times misconstrued.
- Asked about the airplane being put on a post at the airport. The plane was donated by Bob Barron's heirs. It was suggested that Bruce Griffith and his kids could perhaps help with this.
- The Rochelle Municipal Airport is on an F-15's list for donation. The mayor suggested coordinating with the VFW, which could move Rochelle up the list.

Adjourn Meeting: At 3:55 pm., Greg Sparrow adjourned the meeting.

Submitted by Judy Schermerhorn
Deputy City Clerk