



**AIRPORT ADVISORY BOARD
REGULAR MEETING
Monday, April 22, 2019**

The Rochelle Airport Advisory Board met on Monday, April 22, 2019 at 3:00 p.m. in the conference room at the Rochelle Municipal Airport.

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

Roll Call: Present at the meeting Board Members: Greg Sparrow, Bill Tyler, William Siemer, and Doug Smith. Also present: Mike Hudetz, Mayor Olson, Adriana Milan and Rob Flannigan.

Absent: Norman Jenkins, Gary Dunn, Skip Kenney, and Joel Thompson.

Minutes: *A Motion by Mr. Tyler and Seconded by Mr. Smith to approve the Airport Advisory Minutes dated January 28, 2019.* Motion passed by voice vote.

Operations:

a. Airport –

- Airport was closed January 29-February. 1 NOTAM due to ice and cold temperatures.
- The 25 PAPI with NOTAMs are being repaired and re-aligned.
- Staff is exploring a new hangar rental permit agreement option.
- Staff addressed issues over the winter with the electric gate as its circuits failed in the cold.
- On March 23, 2019, a Cessna 172 owned by Joliet Avionics and piloted by their student, lost control of the aircraft and slid off the runway causing damage to a runway light and turf on the northside. Damaged estimated at \$850 reimbursable by Joliet Avionics insurance.
- Rochelle Avionics has been purchased by Lumanair Aviation Services in Aurora, Illinois and will vacate Rochelle Municipal Airport by the end of April. Two Rochelle Avionics planes remain in the hangar; 1 in dispute and the other to be tethered to Aurora. Temporary office space has been leased to Stenstrom who will be working on the runway upgrades beginning this summer. Tenants are being sought for the remaining space.
- A wide-angle lens has been installed on the airport security camera for a wider field of vision.
- Three sets of hangar doors were repaired from wind and ice damage.

- Applied for an Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) permit to discharge fireworks on July 6. Permit has yet to be received.
 - Television Producer Mike Rowe brought a camera crew on March 21, 2019, filming at the center ramp.
 - Pre-season maintenance is being done on mowers and rolling turf.
 - Members of the Rockford Air Traffic Control Team will be in Rochelle on April 28 to host a discussion with local pilots on a variety of topics.
- b. Rochelle Avionics** – Relocated to Lumanair Aviation Services, 43W624 US 30, Sugar Grove, Illinois.
- c. Chicago Skydiving Center** – A new advertising agency has been retained to improve exposure and marketing. Some management positions eliminated to reduce overhead. Anticipating a successful 2019 season.
- d. A&M Air Sports** – Annual Pre-Osh Wingfest will be held at Cushing Field, Sheridan, Illinois due to the reconstruction of the taxiway. Mike Hudetz will exhibit at EAA AirVenture OshKosh for seven days in July. Training business dependent upon weather.

New Business:

- a. Landing Incident** – See Operations above.
- b. Marketing Hangar Space** – Available space is listed on Barnstormers.com, Trade-A-Plane, and City of Rochelle websites. Aviation-related businesses preferred.
- c. Revise Hangar Lease** – Since hangar rates have not been reviewed in three years, staff is considering a permit-based program instead of leases. A sample Hangar Permit document and Tenant Application was shared with the group for their review. No action taken.
- d. New Plow Truck** – Airport will inherit a plow truck and spray tank from a Street Department upgrade. Tank could be mounted on the truck to assist with de-icing.
- e. Appointment and Reappointment of Board Members** – Chairman Greg Sparrow will not seek reappointment to the Airport Advisory Board, so a new chairman must be appointed at the August 5, 2019 meeting. There are two openings for Alternates.

Old Business:

- a. Runway Icing Project** – Mike Hudetz distributed information concerning *Runway Icing Situations at Rochelle Airport/Koritz Field*. Since the airport received federal funding, the airport is required to close during poor winter weather conditions when braking is nil. The group discussed costs and options for winter operations.

- b. Center Ramp Project** – Tenants will soon receive a construction schedule. Low-profile barricades should minimize disruptions. Concrete to replace asphalt. Stenstrom will remain onsite during the project.

- c. RV Parking Project** – Staff is researching the feasibility to accommodate up to 10 recreational vehicles onsite with water, electrical and septic services. Early estimate of \$69,850 includes site plan design (\$4,850), submersible frost-free hydrants (\$10,000), electric pedestals (\$18,000), parking lots, gravel, excavating, and grading (\$37,000). Return on investment could be realized within 3 years. City Manager approval given for site plan design. Transient and long-term rates to be determined and bids should be sought to control costs. RV storage is also a potential revenue option. Doug Smith expressed an interest in Chicagoland Skydiving Center (CSC) patrons using the sites and offered his assistance in marketing the service.

- d. Pilot – Ground School** – Mike Hudetz led a 9-week Ground School with seven students. A Winter 2019/Spring 2020 class could be held with a minimum of six students participating.

Public Commentary: Outgoing Mayor Chet Olson expressed his appreciation for the time and dedication of this Board and the knowledge and service of Chairman Sparrow. He recognized Doug Smith and CSC for its operations. The airport has the attention of state and federal aviation agencies and is a model for Illinois Airports.

Next Meeting: The next Airport Advisory Board meeting is August 5, 2019, at 3:45 p.m.

Adjournment: *“A Motion by Mr. Smith and Seconded by Mr. Tyler to adjourn at 4:00 p.m.”* Motion passed by voice vote.

Submitted By,
Peggy Friday