

ROCHELLE AIRPORT ADVISORY BOARD
REGULAR MEETING
MONDAY, November 25, 2013

The Rochelle Airport Advisory Board met on Monday, November 25, 2013 at 3:00 p.m. in lower level conference center at City Hall.

Call Meeting to Order: The meeting was called to order at 3:15 p.m. by Greg Sparrow, Chairman.

Roll Call: Present: John Kenney, Dale Meyers, Greg Sparrow and Joel Thompson. Absent: Norm Jenkins, William Tyler and Mike Wood. Quorum of 4 present. Also present were Mark Delhotal (Airport Manager), Jeff Leon (WRHL), Chet Olson (Mayor) and Katie Wolf (Economic Development Admin. Assist.)

Approval of Minutes: Moved by John Kenney and seconded by Dale Meyers: **“I move the minutes of August 26, 2013 be approved.”** Motion passed by voice vote without dissent.

Public Commentary: None

Old Business:

1. Runway Project Update

- The runway project began today. They plan to do 2-3 weeks of work now and then finish the work in April.

2. Land Reimbursement

- A reimbursement check in the amount of \$655,066 has been received.
- As noted at the last meeting, Mark’s suggestion/recommendation is to use this money as a revolving loan fund to continue to purchase/acquire land for future airport expansion. The board was in agreement with this concept. The board noted that Mark be specific what the money is being used for including plans, descriptions when going before the council. Mark has conveyed this concept to the City Manager.

New Business:

1. Rochelle Avionics

- Rochelle Avionics committed to a 5 year lease in 2009. Over the past few months, a new lease rate has been negotiated for the fifth year.
- The rate is \$1000/month for 11 months and \$1379.50/1 month.
- The rate for the one month is \$.25 a square foot
- Rochelle Avionics declined extending their lease for another year at this rate.

2. Revenue Generating Ideas

- Mark asked the board to discuss and brainstorm ideas that would bring revenue to the airport in the future. The ultimate goal is generate revenue and expose the community to the airport/Rochelle.
- Some ideas that were brought to the table were:
 - Buy enough land around the airport to put small businesses near the airport. (i.e. transportation businesses, secure parking area, bus operations, solar farm, RV dealer)
 - Build a hanger and raffle it off
 - Ski Planes
 - BBQ/RIB Fest
 - Chili Cook off in the fall
 - EAA

3. CSC Overview

- The total number of jumps was down this year, mostly due to the weather.
- The total number of new customers was up.
- Working now to market the new facility.
- CSC will be partnering with iFly in 2014. iFly is an indoor skydiving facility being built in the sub-burbs. This will be a great partnership for both CSC and iFly.
- There were only 3 injuries at CSC this year that required called the fire department.
- Working on details at the facility, landscaping, signage and flow of the restaurant
- Events that were held in the summer were all really good.
- A goal of CSC would be to host the nationals in 2016.
- Overall, a great year at the airport and CSC.
- CSC will meet with the “neighbors” around Christmas time to continue developing good working relationships with the famers and businesses located around CSC.

4. TIPS Update

- Mark attending the TIPS meeting in Springfield.
- Mark showed the board the improvement plan for the 5 years at the airport.

Operations Update:

1. Hanger Rental

- A Light Sport Rental operation is looking to rent hanger space.
- After December, all of the hangers will be full.
- If the hangers stay full through the winter, this creates the demand/need for additional hangers to be built.

2. November 17, 2013 storm damage

- The storm on November 17th caused more damage at the airport than ever before.
- There was no airplane damage.
- Two hanger doors flew off.
- All the repairs have been done and the airport is back in good shape.

- Mark, Danny and Rob did all of the repairs.

Announcements/Concerns: Next meeting is January 27, 2014

New Agenda Requests:

- None

Adjourn Meeting: At 4:10 p.m., moved by Joel Thompson and seconded by Dale Meyers, "**I move we adjourn the meeting.**" Motion passed by voice vote without dissent.

Katie Wolf _____

Submitted by Katie Wolf
Economic Development Administrative Assistant