

Interim City Manager Aeric Ripley called a special meeting of the Gratiot Community Airport Authority to order at 12:04 p.m. via Zoom. A quorum of the Board was present.

Roll Call

Present: Kevin Beeson (Midland), Jamey Conn (Ithaca), Kurt Giles (St. Louis), John Lemmerman (St. Johns), Dave Ringle (Alma), and Aeric Ripley (Alma).

Board members absent: none.

Others present: George Bailey, Tracey Cordes, Daryl Koch, Dennis McDonald, Doug Merchant, and Jim Wheeler.

Approval of Minutes

Motion by Authority Member Conn, seconded by Authority Member Ringle, to approve minutes of the regular meeting of May 6, 2021 and the special meeting of May 26, 2021, as presented. Motion carried.

Yes: Beeson, Conn, Giles, Lemmerman, Ringle, and Ripley.

No: none.

MDOT Contract

Ripley briefly explained the MDOT contract for the design phase of the fuel farm construction project. The contract total is \$31,000. \$27,900 is the federal share, and \$1,550 each will be paid by the state and Airport Authority. Ripley presented a signatory resolution for approval.

Motion by Authority Member Giles, seconded by Authority Member Lemmerman, to approve a resolution authorizing the execution of a contract with the Michigan Department of Transportation (#2022-0273) and the Gratiot Community Airport Authority for the purpose of fixing the rights and obligations of the parties in agreeing to the following undertaking at Gratiot Community Airport: Design Phase – To Construct Fuel Farm – 100LL & Jet A (12,000-gallon tank capacity) and to authorize Aeric Ripley to execute this agreement and any other agreements and documents related to this project on behalf of the Gratiot Community Airport Authority. Motion carried.

Yes: Beeson, Conn, Giles, Lemmerman, Ringle, and Ripley.

No: none.

Gratiot County ARPA Monies for an Airport Project

Ripley explained that Gratiot County had suggested the Airport Authority submit a project for ARPA Grant funds consideration. He proposed a project that is currently on the capital improvements list for 2024 and 2025; design and construction of runway lighting on runways 9/27 and 18/35. Ripley noted there would be federal entitlement dollars available in 2024, but early completion of this project would be beneficial to the airport. Tracey Cordes, Gratiot County Administrator spoke about eligibility requirements and project analyses.

Beeson asked for clarification on the Authority's portion of the project if we wait until 2024. Ripley said if the project is completed using ARPA funds, the full amount would be due.

Cordes asked if federal entitlement dollars could be used for sprucing up the lobby and waiting areas at the airport. Ripley replied those would be low priority. Cordes suggested updates and remodels could be eligible for ARPA funds in relation to economic development. Beeson suggested painting hangars. Discussion followed. Other Authority members agreed the airport could use some work. Cordes suggested surveying pilots for input.

Lemmerman suggested including the fuel tank project local share of \$1,550 in the ARPA funds request.

Dennis McDonald mentioned including costs for removal of old tanks, together with other smaller projects such as parking lot lighting.

Ripley will look at options for renovation and repainting projects.

Wheeler asked about tree removal. Discussion followed regarding the tree removal and timeline for completion of clean-up. McDonald said clean-up should be completed by March 1, 2022.

Old Business

Ripley asked if there would be any help from the county towards the municipal contribution to the airport budget. Discussion followed. Cordes said the county is looking for a clear proposal and timeline for transitioning to county oversight. Lemmerman and County Commissioner George Bailey agreed the county has not been provided a clear plan for how the transition will occur. Ripley will reach out to Attorney Kirsch to follow up, also to ask for an accounting of the five hours previously provided.

Manager's Report

Airport Manager Dennis McDonald reviewed the following items in his report:

- Flight statistics and flight events
- Airport aircraft inventory
- 2020 Airport inspection
- Maintenance and incident activity
- 2020 events, 2021 events, and ongoing events and activities

Motion by Authority Member Ringle, seconded by Authority Member Giles, to receive the Manager's Report. Motion carried.

Yes: Beeson, Conn, Giles, Lemmerman, Ringle, and Ripley.

No: none.

New Business

No items were suggested for new business.


Public Comment

No public comments were offered.

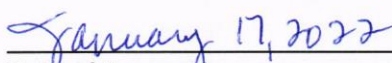
Motion by Authority Member Ringle, seconded by Authority Member Lemmerman, to adjourn the meeting at 1:05 p.m. Motion carried.

Yes: Beeson, Conn, Giles, Lemmerman, Ringle, and Ripley.

No: none.



Sara Anderson, Alma City Clerk



Date of Approval