

Grand Haven Airport Board Meeting Minutes April 23, 2024

Chairperson Ben Ennenga called the meeting to order at 5:30 pm

Roll Call: Richard Clapp

Members present: Ben Ennenga, Dale Hagenbuch, Richard Clapp, Dennis Swartout, Tricia Harrell

Others Present: Earle Bares -Airport Manager, Tom Mandersheid -Airport Liaison

Guests: Bob Monetza, Tom Howard, Roland Ashby

First Call to the audience

Earl Bares- Grand Haven Aviation Association, Airport open house on June 1, 2024 with Dawn patrol breakfast. 75th anniversary of the airport with breakfast and lunch. Hooligans flight team will have two performances.

April 4, 2024 chapter EAA 211, future events & plans discussed.

March 26, 2024 Minutes:

Amendment: Add Tom Mandersheid (Airport Liaison) to March meeting minutes in attendance.

Motion to accept the March 26,2024 minutes by Swartout, seconded by Hagenbuch. Motion carried.

New business:

Recommendation to Grand Haven City council to approve MDOT grant 2024-0507, \$48,000 design plan of new 18/36 runway. Motion to accept by Swartout, seconded by Clapp. Motion carried.

6-unit T-hangar estimate with probable cost. Close to \$1 million. Discussion ensued regarding the details of the estimate.

Clapp mentioned taking an 80th percentile of aircraft wingspans that are on the waiting list to help decide how wide of a hangar to build.

Clapp- Mobilization cost seems high at \$75k

Erectotube vs. Full Fab

Fullfab is a very competitive bidder, but less flexible in design.

Erectotube is able to accommodate change requests. Erectotube can provide 45-foot-wide doors.

Its time we all note the Pavement Index Ratings of the E/W taxiway and the 18/36 runway. Our pavement indexes are not good. Tom emphasized that MDOT will always err on the side of safety. The E/W taxiway has a worse rating than 18/36, yet we are looking to repave 18/36. Counter intuitive? We need to discuss this further and keep the discussion current.

- Should we explain to MDOT that we need more monies in order to do the runway and the taxiways?
- Rick- Perhaps we prioritize the runway. Problem is, the taxiway ratings are worse.
- Tricia- There seems to be inconsistencies with the ratings. Perhaps we should get a second professional opinion. Earle responded that John V. would be able to do this.
- Tom- Its takes a year to get the Pavement Index Report from MDOT. When we get it, the pavement is a year older!

Discussion of land lease option for private built box hangars.

- Tricia emphasized that she does not like the sublease agreement. Shouldn't do anything less than 20 years.
- Mayor Monetza- "City Attorneys opinion is that land lease could be longer than ten years."
- Earle indicates that a 20 year lease is not a good choice. "People won't want to do a 20 year lease. It has to be more like 25 or 30 years."

Old Business: (none)

Airport manager report: Earle Bares

Activity

Activity was down year over year.

Projects

Maintenance hangar painting coming along nicely. Contractor is doing nice work at an exceptional price and is local.

Painting of outside of hangars.

We have MDOT letter for interim use of hangar space authorization.

Fuel sales & Operations

- Fuel sales are going down for this time of year
- Fuel prices going up recently
- Flight instruction slow

156 log entries

Fuel Sales were 464 Gal.

59 Aircraft home based on the field.

Worked on 3 aircraft.

Hangars are fully occupied and adding more people. 5 very interested parties.

Airport Facilities

Southside of terminal fascia, still not repaired from last month.

A row painting and maintenance hangar painting nearly finished with painting. Airport board members did a walk through.

Civil Air Patrol has moved out of their space.

Safety & Security

No noise abatement complaints

2 Notams

Airport Liaison Report:

Airport Cash balance: \$348,000

Receivables under 30 days, \$2,701 due to the four to five tenants who pay monthly.

Budget looks really good, expenses are fine.

Second call to the audience:

- Tom Howard, “why are the design charges so high? These hangars are cookie cutter.”

Adjournment: 6:56 pm

Motion to adjourn: Ben Ennenga, seconded by Clapp

Minutes submitted by board secretary, Richard Clapp