



## AIRPORT ADVISORY BOARD MEETING MINUTES

**January 17, 2018**

**7:00 a.m.**

**Airport Meeting Room**

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### **1. CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order by P. Johnson at 7:00 a.m.

Members present: F. Ahlman, M. Brown, R. Goracke, P. Johnson

Members absent: C. Hooper, D. Nelson, T. Waarvik

Airport staff: J. Serres

Staff present: T. Block, T. Manz

Others present: Mark Knoff, Foth Infrastructure and Environment, LLC, Jim Henry, Dr. Chris Larson, Philip Hult and Ian Kline

### **2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Minutes of November 15, 2017, were submitted for approval. A motion was made by M. Brown, seconded by R. Goracke, for approval of the minutes of November 15, 2017. Motion passed.

### **3. AIRPORT MANAGER UPDATE**

J. Serres received a rendering of the proposed rendering of the fuel system. The existing system would stay operational until the new system is approved by the State. It will take approximately six to eight months for the tanks to be manufactured, and all prep work will be completed before the tanks are delivered.

Surveying for the taxiway pavement project is complete. Soil samples will be taken this week.

### **4. AIRPORT IMPROVEMENTS UPDATE**

Project updates were provided in the Airport Manager Update.

### **5. OTHER**

- a. The Air Race Classic:** Dr. Chris Larson with the Faribault Area Pilot's Association (FAPA) was present and, provided an outline and background information about the Air Race Classic. They have scheduled Faribault Municipal Airport as an official stop on the 2018 42<sup>nd</sup> Annual Air Race Classic taking place June 19-22, 2018. There is a potential for 55 planes and approximately 140 people at the airport. This year's race honors the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the WWII WASPs, which makes The Faribault Municipal Airport – Liz Wall Strohfus field a fitting location for a stop.

**b. SteinAir:** T. Block indicated the Economic Development Authority (EDA) has offered funds up to \$100,000 towards the potential SteinAir project. Dr. Larson, who was present with a group in support of Cross Country Soaring, expressed concern for replacement of an existing building. She explained Cross Country Soaring has submitted a purchase offer for the building. Dr. Larson provided a statement prepared by friends of the soaring flight operations endorsing support of the business to remain in its current location, along with an endorsement from a former student. Block indicated that he spoke to Don Ingraham yesterday and Don did mention that a potential hangar builder has approached him regarding an alternate site. J. Serres indicated he is not aware that Don has spoken to any city staff regarding purchase of the building. The City has received a letter of intent from SteinAir which lists this as the desired location, and the Airport Advisory Board has given support for the location as well. The EDA has also approved demolition of the existing hangar. Dr. Larson countered that there is no written contract at this time. Serres informed the group that Don has no formal lease with the airport or with Quality Aviation for use of the space. He was notified in 2014 Quality Aviation wanted to retain the space and he asked for additional time. Serres expressed again that he does not own the hangar and there is only a verbal contract with Don for use of the location. He stressed that the glider business is a great asset to the airport and provides a lot of activity, and he doesn't want to see him leave, but is also in support of having the SteinAir project move forward with this desired location. There are several alternate options available for relocation of Cross Country Soaring. M. Brown added the location is a good fit for SteinAir and allows for the desired 14,000 square foot building with room to expand. He agreed there are other locations for the glider operations at the airport. Dr. Larson called Don and placed him on speaker phone. Don indicated he had approached J. Serres in the past and was told the city wasn't interested in tank removal and asbestos removal at that time. Don also indicated that he is interested in purchasing the building. M. Brown asked what improvements he would make to the structure. Don indicated he would paint, repair broken glass, asbestos removal. He feels people appreciate the history and uniqueness of the hangar. Brown stated he understood the concerns, but indicated the Board was making their decision based on what was best for the airport. SteinAir and their business and potential job creation are a great asset to the airport. P. Johnson indicated he would like to see the glider operation remain at the airport, but concurred they need to make the best decision for the city. After further discussion, it was brought up to meet with Don after things are finalized with SteinAir.

**c. Summer Camp:** Dr. Larson asked if the board would be open to having her organize a summer day camp for kids to expose them to aeronautics. After discussion, Dr. Larson will have a presentation available for the February meeting.

**6. NEXT AIRPORT BOARD MEETING** – February 21, 2018.

**7. ADJOURN** – P. Johnson adjourned the meeting at 8:04 a.m.