

**Grand Haven Memorial Airpark
Airpark Board Meeting Minutes
March 20, 2018**

Meeting called to order: at 5:30 pm

Chairperson Ben Ennenga

Present: (Board Members) Craig Christilaw
Richard Klapp
Ben Ennenga
Jack Frost
Chris Kostamo
Tony VanHouwelingen

Tiffany Bowman (Board Liaison)

Earle Bares (Airport Manager)

Absent: None

Guests: Mike Weavers Bob Harsha
 Ed Stanisiewski Dale Neerken

Motion by Craig Christilaw, supported by Richard Klapp to approve the Board Meeting minutes of February 26, 2018. Motion passed unanimously.

Call to Audience:

Ed Stanisiewski addressed the board and asked for an overview of how the tree clearing was done. He made the statement that the current system was not working given he had several people on his property that had not obtained his permission to be there. Tiffany Bowman explained that by law, they didn't need permission but in consideration of the property owners, there had been a mailing to the residents to alert them of the pending tree trimming.

Another guest asked if there could be a way to get information from the airport board and the City to the Grand Haven township residents because there is "no communication from City to Township".

They asked if they couldn't have a township resident representative they selected on the airport board. It was explained that there were currently two Grand Haven Township residents on the board that had been approved by City of Grand Haven Council and that model needed to be followed.

Mike Weavers strongly suggested signage at the airport near the road to advertise Board meeting dates and other pertinent information. Tiffany was going to check with the City to determine what was allowable and report back at the next meeting.

Earle Bares speaking on behalf of Grand Haven Aviation Association

Grand Haven Aviation Association:

Dawn Patrol: GHAA is moving the date of the Dawn Patrol next year to June 2 in an effort to have fewer area events competing with the Dawn Patrol.

Playground Swing: GHAA has received funding from the Eagles for a swing set for the airport grounds. The swing set will be placed in the same location as the previous set. The swing set has been purchased and the painting and placement of the swing set are weather dependent.

EAA Chapter 211: Chapter 211 will conduct Young Eagle Flights for the June 2nd Dawn Patrol and July 14th Airport Open House.

New Business:

The General Operating License has been reinstated for Grand Haven Airpark., which is exciting news. It means that \$160,000.00 in past grant money is now eligible to be used toward runway and apron rehab and a new rotating beacon.

Earle Bares informed the board of an upcoming Aircraft Model/Drone Convention the RC Flyers Club wants to host at the airpark on June 23 of this year. I could bring a significant number of participants and spectators. Earle asked the Board for a motion to recommend to City Council approval for the event to take place.

Chris Kostamo asked about potential safety concerns. The board discussed the various potential issues and concluded that so long as the airport did not need to close, the event provided two spotters at all times for incoming and outgoing aircraft and there was direct communications with the airport manager during the event, the board would support a motion to recommend approval.

Motion was made by Craig Christilaw and supported by Chris Kostamo. The motion passed unanimously.

Old Business:

Tree Trimming Update: The tree trimming on Parcel E61 is complete. The Sate approach is in compliance but the FAA part 77 RNAV approach is not in compliance due to additional trees identified in the most recent survey. Most of the trees identified are not within plots with air easement rights secured unfortunately.

Hangar Door Replacement / Repair: There were no quotes received from the recent RFQ to replace and or repair hangar doors damaged in the storm of last July. The issue seems to be the

amount of work the qualified contractors already have in place. Tiffany Bowman and Earle Bares will follow up and try to find a contractor who can fit us in.

FBO Report:

Earle Bares (Airport Manager)

Earle Bares reports that February operations were up slightly over the same period last year with approx. 79% of fuel sales coming from aircraft not based in GH.

Earle also reported the likelihood of one based aircraft leaving because it was being sold to an out of state buyer.

The Grand Haven Skydive group is here and Earle is working with them on parking and signage details.

Fuel prices on the field remain competitive with area airports.

See flyer for additional FBO report information

Administrative Liaison Report:

Tiffany Bowman

Accounts Receivables:

Accounts receivables arrears to date are \$5,607.79 as of 2-28-2018.

Liquidity:

The Airport fund cash balance as of 2-28-2018 stands at \$213,366.05. This includes an insurance reimbursement check for \$148,030 and a reimbursement check for the E61 easement of \$52,000.00

Provisional License: The General Operating License has been reinstated. The tree trimming has been completed on E61 by Midwest. We have also had Get-R-Cut trim or remove over 60 trees. There is still a patch of 5-6 oak trees on a parcel at the very end of the east approach. We will be working on this final tree removal.

West Michigan Remote Control Festival: see note above in new business.

Airport Volunteer Position: We will continue to recruit for an airport volunteer to work with our Airport Manager on assisting with special events. Please see tiffany or Bonnie if you have an interested candidate.

2nd Call to Audience: Mike Weaver reiterated that he feels strongly about the signage discussed earlier in the evening. He also voiced his displeasure with the eviction notice he received for one of his hangars that only 12 to 14 day time frame to evacuate, especially in the dead of winter. Board members pointed out that the eviction process was spelled out in the hangar contract that he signed.

Mike also that he felt it was a bad decision for the airport board to walk away from the additional insurance money available and thought the Airport Board should have fought the

City harder on the decision. He feels the City is interested in closing the airport and re-purposing the property. So noted.

Motion made by Craig Christilaw and supported by Jack Frost to adjourn the meeting at 7:25pm. Motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Jack Frost
Airpark Board Secretary