

**CABLE UNION AIRPORT  
AIRPORT COMMISSION MEETING  
TUESDAY, AUGUST 22, 2023 – 4:30 PM  
CABLE COMMUNITY CENTRE**

**MINUTES**

**Call to Order**

Chairman Rowe called the meeting to order at 4:33 p.m.

**Attendance:** Chairman Doug Rowe, Commissioners Jeff Hurula, Bob Rasmussen, Sue Thurn; Airport Manager Mike Nichols, Treasurer Dale Kruse; Secretary Holly Holly.

Absent: Commissioners Ray Ebert and Kelly Nelson.

**Guests**

Rich & Lora Boley

Brad Volker, Cooper Engineering

Matt Messina, BOA Representative

**Approval of Agenda**

Motion by Commissioner Thurn to approve the agenda as presented, seconded by Commissioner Rasmussen. Motion carried unanimously.

**Approval of Minutes – July 25, 2023**

Motion by Commissioner Rasmussen to approve the July 25, 2023, minutes as presented, seconded by Commissioner Hurula. Motion carried unanimously.

**Treasurer's Report 7/1/23-7/30/23**

Expenditures were \$9,853.11. Receipts were \$2,785.33 (\$2,785.33 - 14 fuel sales). Balance on 7/30/23 was \$112,844.32.

Commissioner Hurula will be purchasing electrical supplies to complete the storage building project at an expected cost of about \$400.

Commissioner Rasmussen found a sale on a brush mower for \$2,000 and purchased it. Commissioner Ebert was willing to pick it up in Rice Lake, so he may need to be reimbursed for travel expenses.

Chairman Rowe was asked by Bayfield County for budget requests and he requested the annual amount of \$10,000.

Commissioner Rasmussen reported the Town of Namakagon has paid \$5,000 to Chris Brinker for terminal restoration carpentry work.

Lora Boley asked the current fuel price and Mr. Nichols verified the price is currently \$5.41.

Commissioner Thurn and Treasurer Kruse presented a draft budget for 2024 and additions to the 2023 budget to include the storage building and terminal restoration. There is also \$41,000 contingency fund included that all should be aware of. Commissioner Thurn spoke with Town of Cable Supervisor Hambrecht regarding upcoming expenses the airport will be incurring and asked if the Town would be able to allocate more than the normal \$10,000 and he stated he would advocate for additional funds if needed. Commissioners Rasmussen and Hurula will also consider requesting this from their respective towns.

Chairman Rowe verified with Mr. Messina the sponsor share of the hangar expansion project was to be 5% with the entire project estimated at \$200,000. Discussion regarding BOA project expenses budgeted for 2024 may be higher than necessary based on estimates from Mr. Messina. This will be evaluated closer as more details of the project are decided.

Additions to the budget brought forward were positive cash flow from tractor insurance claim last month per Mr. Nichols.

Motion by Chairman Rowe to accept the treasurer's report and file it for audit, seconded by Commissioner Hurula. Motion carried unanimously.

### **Manager's Report**

Young Eagles had a successful event with 20 kids participating, the weather was good, and five pilots participated.

Joe Garceau has been assisting with moving dirt and planting grass. His efforts are greatly appreciated.

During July, the internet service went down three times due to equipment failures which is concerning as fuel cannot be sold without internet service. A switch failed and the repair cost was \$247. Norvado now has an option for business accounts to lease network equipment for an additional \$30/month and a five-year commitment covering service and equipment (except security cameras). Norvado will waive \$247 bill if decision to lease is made.

Motion by Commissioner Hurula to lease equipment from Norvado at an additional monthly fee of \$30, seconded by Commissioner Rasmussen. Motion carried unanimously. Mr. Nichols will contact Norvado to set up lease.

The fat tire race group moved rocks, added a gravel path, and installed an 8' wide pedestrian gate next to the runway. Mr. Nichols has keys for lock on gate. This eliminates the need for moving rocks before events and replacing after. Mr. Nichols questioned whether there will be further discussion on a security gate; Mr. Messina verified that it is part of the petition and not Phase 2 due to the location being on National Park Service property.

Mr. Nichols reported the old appliances and computer equipment in the terminal could be disposed of this Saturday at the Town of Cable clean up event if someone was available to help him haul the items. Commissioner Rasmussen offered to dispose of the item through the Town of Namakagon later this fall.

There are currently eight planes based in Cable. Mr. Nichols spoke with Jay Edwards regarding his son's plane, but he is not able to move it here. Mr. Lewis should be approached to reregister his plane in Wisconsin if he plans to keep it here.

### **Public**

Rich Boley was interested about security gate and terminal renovation discussions.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### **Update BOA – Matt Messina**

Mr. Messina questioned if the security gate was a stand-alone project or part of the fencing. Mr. Volker informed the fencing is part of the EA and planned for the river down to SRE building, across driveway, East on south side of Telemark Rd, where there is swampy ground. Fencing will not cover the entire perimeter, but enough to hinder ATV traffic. Fencing is a large project estimated at \$130,000 (1100 feet chain link, 800 ft woven wire). Commissioner Hurula suggested a manual swing gate could be at the entrance to the tarmac and another by hangar entrance. Mr. Volker agreed as electric gates become a maintenance issue and approximate cost is \$35,000. Chairman Rowe and commissioners agreed an electric gate is not feasible at this time and further discussion included ideas of security cameras and swing gates with chain giving the appearance of being locked as there are serious safety concerns about traffic on taxi way. Lora suggested painting on blacktop "Do Not Enter" and a swing gate at new SRE building entrance. Chairman Rowe, Commissioner Rasmussen and Mr. Nichols will investigate cost of swing gates.

### **EA Update/Hangar Expansion – Brad Volker**

Mr. Volker continues working on draft of EA with Mr. Messina and it will be sent to FAA for review in September. Hangar Development project bid date will be set by November 2023.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **Airport Operation Ordinance – Tabled until September 2023**

#### **Chamber of Commerce Discussion**

Chairman Rowe and Treasurer Kruse completed silver membership application for chamber and the Cable Union Airport is now a member of the Cable Chamber of Commerce.

#### **Fall Bike Races**

Gates are in and ready to go for the races. Mike Most will mow the grass for the race on Labor Day. Treasurer Kruse will invoice for parking.

#### **Pancake Breakfast – September 30, 2023**

Flyer has been sent out and is the same day as Cable Fall Fest. Kay Rowe will contact Commissioner Rasmussen on quantities of meat needed. Commissioner Rasmussen will request use of griddle to cook pancakes.

#### **SRE Building Update**

Cooper Engineering is very grateful to be ranked #1 in the SRE building consultant selection.

SRE building kick off meeting is scheduled for August 31, 2023, at 10am and it will be an opportunity for Cooper & Westlund to hear what the desired outcomes of the building are so pricing can be determined. Mr. Nichols and Commissioner Rasmussen plan to attend and Mr. Messina requested they have insurance information available. Mr. Volker suggested the Park Service be kept informed of the process.

Chairman Rowe reported insurance agent indicated claim may not have to be complete within two years and there may be potential for extended time. Receipt for clean-up can be sent to the insurance company to start the claim.

#### **Storage Building Update**

Commissioner Rasmussen reported the garage door issue was an incorrectly installed spring and is now working well. Commissioner Hurula will complete electrical within the next few weeks.

#### **Terminal Restoration**

Work continues on replacing windows, removing siding and addressing issues as they arise (missing window headers, rotten boards, etc.).

Commissioner Thurn reported new half log, vinyl siding will be \$2000 more than the previous estimate. Volunteer labor will be required to install yet this fall. Town of Cable Supervisor, Jamie Holly will be contacted to see if he is available to lead the project and Chairman Rowe, Rasmussen, Mr. Volker, and Mike are willing to assist.

Motion by Commissioner Hurula, to purchase siding materials not to exceed \$9000, seconded by Commissioner Thurn (Commissioner Rasmussen abstained). Motion carried unanimously.

### **Tree Clearing**

Thank you to Birkie Crew for the clearing they have completed already.

Commissioner Hurula reported a 12-person work crew from the Gordon Correctional Facility have been confirmed for November 6-9 and 13-16. He will meet for a site assessment and to finalize dates. If a chipper is used, the facility requires the Airport Commission to provide a supervisor, Commissioner Hurula will see if Town of Drummond may be able to provide a supervisor. Commissioner Thurn reported Town of Cable Supervisor Hambrick said the Town of Cable has a chipper that would be available.

### **Toro Parts Mower**

Brian Titus still has a parts mower available. Commission would be willing to purchase for \$500. Mr. Nichols will discuss offer with Brian Titus.

### **Commissioner Resignation**

Commissioner Kelly Nelson resigned as of August 22, 2023, due to health issues. The commission regretfully accepts his resignation and is very appreciative of his efforts and contributions to the commission during his time of service.

A suggested replacement is Joe Garceau, as a hangar owner he would provide vital perspective to the commission. Commissioner Rasmussen will approach him about the opportunity.

### **Items for Next Agenda:**

2024 Budget

Toro Parts Mower

Airport Ordinance

SRE Building Update

Pancake Breakfast

Terminal Building Update

Tree Clearing

Bike Races

### **Next Meeting:**

Monday, September 18, 2023 at 4:30 pm at the Cable Community Centre.

### **Adjournment**

Chairman Rowe declared the meeting adjourned at 6:00 p.m.