

**CABLE UNION AIRPORT  
AIRPORT COMMISSION MEETING  
DECEMBER 16, 2024 – 4:30 PM  
CABLE COMMUNITY CENTRE**

**MINUTES**

**Call to Order**

Chairman Rowe called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m.

**Attendance:** Chairman Doug Rowe, Commissioners Ray Ebert, Joe Garceau, Bob Rasmussen, Susan Thurn, Airport Manager Mike Nichols, Treasurer Dale Kruse, Secretary Holly Holly.  
Absent: Commissioner Jeff Hurula

**Guests**

Brad Volker  
Skype: Matt Brynik

**Approval of Agenda**

Motion by Commissioner Ebert to approve as presented, seconded by Commissioner Rasmussen.  
Motion carried unanimously.

**Public Comments**

None

**Approval of Minutes – November 19, 2024**

Motion by Commissioner Garceau to approve minutes as presented, seconded by Commissioner Rasmussen. Motion carried unanimously.

**Treasurer's Report**

Expenditures were \$28,356.35. Receipts were \$5,542.51 (\$360.71, 65.110 gallons gas, 4 fuel sales). Balance on 11/30/24 was \$88,417.68.

Two invoices from Gordon Correctional Facility have been paid. BOA engineering for the hangar development area was paid. Chairman Rowe will work with Treasurer Krause and Mr. Brynick to allocate electrical work appropriately.

A very warm thank you to an anonymous friend of the airport for making a \$5,000 donation to be used for terminal restoration.

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

### **Manager's Report**

Mr. Nichols reported all lease notifications were sent and received with the exception of Matt Pobloski. Mike Wagner sent an email to rescind his lease for lot 10 and James Mellum requested it; lot 17 will be made available to other interested parties.

Brad Parker has not yet been to the terminal to discuss electrical work needing to be done. Mr. Nichols will follow up with him.

Mr. Nichols has plowed snow once this season and all equipment is working.

Mr. Volker is assisting new hangar owners file applications with the FAA. It appears each application is being treated as a federal project, despite each being a privately built hangar. The commission extended thanks for assisting with this work.

In preparation for the Birkebeiner ski race in February 2025, Chairman Rowe asked Mr. Nichols to request the Bayfield County Sheriff Department and Birkenbeiner security personnel to watch for private drone operators operating in violation of FAR part 107. Also post signage indicating that all drone operations in the vicinity of the airport must strictly adhere to FAR part 107. Mr. Brynik will let Mr. Nichols know where the BOA has official signs made.

Thank you to the anonymous party who delivered a holiday cheese platter to the airport.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

#### **Update BOA/EA – Brad Volker, Cooper Engineering & Matt Brynick, BOA**

Mr. Brynick reported the north side of the runway, along the river should be posted with 'No Trespassing' signs. Mr. Nichols will take a picture of signs at the Hayward Airport to see if Mr. Brynick can acquire something similar. Mr. Brynick also suggested adding rocks or a rope gate. Mr. Volker said the rope is currently not at the property line and presumes the National Park Service would only want foot traffic; therefore would likely not be opposed to boulders being placed. Commission Rasmussen will deliver some boulders.

### **SRE Building Update - Matt Brynick, BOA**

There are pending changes involving permits (dry well for floor drain and zoning issue); the project can still go to bid. March 9, 2025, is the target bid closing date. Contract amendment is required before Mr. Volker is able to work on permitting. Currently the request is with the BOA (Tammy) and should be moving forward.

There has been an update to the ALP submitted by Becker Hoppe (2017), several projects including new hangars, pavement, etc. have been kicked back due to processes changing within the BOA. Mr. Brynick encouraged everyone involved with applications being returned to keep working through the process as additional information is requested. Thanks again to Mr. Volker for his assistance.

Chairman Rowe inquired about billing from the BOA for electrical construction costs for new hangars. Mr. Brynick reported there will be a bill from BOA for approximately \$40,000 for electrical fees; he will be sure to itemize this work on the bill so it is clear.

The BOA is requesting the existing easement for the golf course be nullified; no response from Mr. Pobloski to date per Chairman Rowe.

### **Phase II Hangar - Brad Volker, Cooper Engineering**

Mr. Volker is talking with McCabe Construction and verifying work and invoicing. Cooper Engineering will request the BOA to pay McCabe Construction, with the exception of a portion that will be paid once grass is established. Mr. Volker will be sure to work with Mr. Brynick to itemize electrical work. He is working with multiple new hangar owners to complete FAA applications now requiring additional information.

There was a ruling by the FAA in November that a “stand alone” Environmental Assessment (EA) for the SRE building project would be necessary. The Commission and the BOA were able to convince the FAA to reconsider. Such a requirement would have delayed the project by several years and increased its cost significantly. A more modest environmental study will suffice. The project remains on track to go to bid by March 2025.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **Buildings, Fixtures, and Improvements (BFI) Discussion and Possible Action**

Commissioner Garceau reported BFI gives each hangar owner a clear title to their property. Steve Nordquist confirmed BFI is the correct path. The attorney suggested the commission hold a vote to process the forms (chairman will sign the form & forward to Bayfield County Recording Office), showing clear title to each property and tax bill will go directly to each

owner.

Motion by Commissioner Ebert proposing the Airport Commission Chairman sign the BFI form and forward to the Bayfield County for recording, seconded by Commissioner Rasmussen. Motion carried unanimously. Commissioner Garceau abstained from the vote.

### **Terminal Restoration Discussion and Possible Action**

Commissioner Ebert reported the manager's office is about 90% complete with electrical work still needing to be done. The bathroom work requires input from Dennis Rasmussen before John Collins is able to begin working in this area. Commissioner Rasmussen reported the Town of Namakagon paid Chris Brinker for his labor in 2024 and will bill the airport that cost.

### **Telemark Properties**

The FAA is requesting the golf course easement be nullified. Chairman Rowe is in contact with Mr. Pobloski.

### **Bayfield County Board Update**

No updates at this time.

### **Budget**

Commissioner Thurn reported the hangar electrical line item now reflects payments received in 2024. BOA charges have been listed as one item in the past, but going forward will split out actual expenses based on projects (i.e., State BOA listed separately based on monthly engineering invoices). She is hopeful contingency funds will not need to be utilized in 2025.

Commissioner Thurn also stated that correcting the zoning should be addressed with Bayfield County. Mr. Volker reported a county wide rezoning effort is being addressed by Ruth Hulstrom, Bayfield County Planning and Zoning Director, who is suggesting airports have their own zoning and would also like the Airport Commission's involvement in the process. Mr. Nichols said there are 22 parcels within the airport with various zoning designations. Chairman Rowe offered to contact Ms. Hulstrom to discuss further. Commissioner Ebert suggested attending an open session planned for January 19, 2025, where community members can meet with county officials beginning at 9:00 a.m.

Motion by Commissioner Ebert for the Airport Commission to enter into a closed session at 5:35 p.m. pursuant to Wisconsin Statute 19.85 (1)(c), with a roll call vote of the commissioners present and voting on this motion. The commission will reconvene in open session after the closed session, seconded by Commissioner Garceau.

Roll Call: Ayes: 5 Nays: 0

**Open Session - Reconvened at 6:02 p.m.**

Closed session held to discuss salaries in 2025. The treasurer and secretary salaries will increase from \$110 to \$150 per month, airport manager yearly salary will increase from \$8,757 to \$10,000. Hourly wage will increase \$.50/hour (\$20.12 to \$20.62). Increases are based on increased work required.

**Budget Adjustments**

Changes were made to the budget which reflected salaries; office salaries increased to \$3,600 and manager salary increased to \$10,000. Commissioner Rasmussen requested each person who donated to the airport throughout 2024 be provided with a donation letter from the Cable Union Airport for tax deduction purposes.

Motion by Commissioner Thurn to accept budget as amended & proposed, seconded by Commissioner Garceau. Motion carried unanimously.

**Items for Next Agenda:**

Birkie Parking

Bank Discussion - Seek a High Interest Checking/Savings Account

Bayfield County Board

Correspondence

Future Airport Event

Hayward Airport 2025 Temporary Closing

Election of Commission Officers

Rezoning & Land Ownership

Terminal Restoration Discussion and Possible Action

Tree Clearing

**Next Meeting:**

Monday, January 20, 2025, at the Cable Community Centre at 4:30 p.m.

**Adjournment**

Chairman Rowe declared the meeting adjourned at 6:10 p.m.