

**CABLE UNION AIRPORT
AIRPORT COMMISSION MEETING
JANUARY 20, 2025 – 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, Jeff Hurula, Bob Rasmussen, Susan Thurn, Airport Manager Mike Nichols, Treasurer Dale Kruse, Secretary Holly Holly.
Skype: Joe Garceau

Guests

Rod & Theresa Peters

Rich Boley

Kristy Maki - American Birkebeiner Ski Foundation (ABSF)

Skype: Dennis Stieren, Brad Volker, Joe Garceau

Approval of Agenda

Motion by Commissioner Thurn to approve as presented, seconded by Commissioner Hurula.
Motion carried unanimously.

Public Comments

Rod and Theresa Peters expressed interest in leasing a Phase II lot, preferably in the back row.
Mr. Nichols will provide the lease agreement and hangar construction guidelines.

Approval of Minutes – December 16, 2024

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

Treasurer's Report

Expenditures were \$5,016.91. Receipts were \$25,098.31 (\$83.10, 15 gallons gas, 1 fuel sale). Balance on 01/03/25 was \$108,033.23.

Property tax and insurance bills will be paid this month

Invoices for 2025 airport operational expenses were sent to the towns of Cable, Drummond, Namakagon and Bayfield County. These invoices were incorrectly made out for \$10,000. The Commission passed a motion at the June 2024 meeting to increase the operational funding to \$12,000 from each town and the county. Invoices will be sent to each for the additional \$2,000.

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

Manager's Report

Mr. Nichols ordered two 36"x36" signs warning against drone activity in accordance with FAR part 107 as discussed at the December 2024 meeting. One sign will be located on Telemark Road alongside the existing 'Low Flying Aircraft' sign and a second location is yet to be determined.

Hangar owners are currently required by Bayfield County to have pumping of their holding tanks done every three months. That is excessive in that these are hangars, not residential buildings. There is a request form in which Bayfield County Zoning Department eliminates this requirement and allows for a Holding Tank Management Plan where the threshold for pumping is 90% capacity, not a timeframe. Chairman Rowe, acting on behalf of the airport as the land owner, will request approval for all hangars that have holding tanks be pumped based on capacity. Commissioner Rasmussen reported Tracy Pooler is no longer the zoning representative for southern Bayfield County; Mr. Nichols will find out who the new representative is.

Dennis Stieren has received his final determination from the FAA, 7460-1 Notification of Construction, allowing construction to begin. A number of restrictions and requirements were listed in the 7460-1. Mr. Volker is working with the FAA on this issue and indicated they appear to be treating private hangar projects as they would a federal building project.

Chairman Rowe noticed multiple vehicles have been driving on the grass in front of the terminal onto the apron. This cannot continue. Mr. Nichols will watch to see if he can identify who is driving across the grass and stop this behavior. Everyone visiting the airport must drive only on roadways.

OLD BUSINESS

Update BOA/EA – Brad Volker, Cooper Engineering, Matt Brynick, BOA - Absent

The BOA is reviewing Cooper Engineering work on the EA (Environmental Assessment). Mr. Brynick, BOA, has expressed that there is a backlog of work in its environmental department. The BOA now only has one person doing this environmental work for the entire state. Chairman Rowe will continue to contact the BOA in an effort to keep the project moving.

SRE Building Update - Brad Volker, Cooper Engineering, Matt Brynick, BOA - Absent

Mr. Volker has received a contract amendment from the BOA and has submitted a permit application to the DNR to allow a floor drain and dry well for the SRE (Snow Removal Equipment) building for the primary use of discharging water from hoses and snow melt to the

floor drain. He does not expect these to be finalized or approved prior to bidding, but this should not delay the bidding process which is tentatively set for March 6, 2025.

Submittals have been made to Bayfield County Zoning requesting a special use permit as the SRE Building parcel is zoned residential. Fees of \$1,600 will be sent by the end of January.

Phase II Hangar - Brad Volker, Cooper Engineering

Chairman Rowe inquired as to the final amount being billed for electrical work. Mr. Volker reported it is currently listed at \$23,266.80 which is in addition to \$15,000 already paid to Bayfield Electric. The BOA expressed an intent to prorate expenses for Cooper Engineering's planning work on the project. Chairman Rowe offered to contact Mr. Brynick and see if a specific dollar amount can be assessed to Cooper Engineering in place of a percentage as it will be several more months until the work will be complete and a percentage calculated. Chairman Rowe would like a final cost as soon as possible as the total is being distributed equally to each Phase II lot lessee.

NEW BUSINESS

Bayfield County Board Update - Sue Rosa Absent

None

American Birkebeiner Events Discussion - Kristy Maki

Chairman Rowe requested that event drone operators be reminded of airport proximity and verbiage added to the ABSF website regarding FAA regulations for drones near airports. Ms. Maki will be sure security personnel are aware of this requirement. She will also forward contact information to Mr. Nichols for Michael Olson, Air Boss/Emergency Management with Verizon, and Tom Renz, Security Liaison. Mr. Nichols will also coordinate parking with Ms. Maki.

Ms. Maki reported the ABSF is considering alternative race routes in the event of insufficient snow. The Commission and the ABSF will remain in communication on this subject.

Ms. Maki thought there was an easement for parking at the old Telemark Lodge site, but the official determination is that no parking can be approved in that area; the FAA has determined it to be an obstruction.

Bank Discussion - Higher Interest & Savings

Commission checking and savings accounts are currently at Chippewa Valley Bank, but Commissioner Rasmussen suggested utilizing the State of WI Government Investment Pool, currently earning greater interest than the bank.

Commissioner Rasmussen made a motion to pursue using the state investment fund for airport

funds, seconded by Commissioner Ebert. Motion carried unanimously.

Correspondence

None

Terminal Restoration Discussion and Possible Action

Commissioner Ebert reported that Dennis Rasmussen has been making significant progress on the bathroom and will be operational soon. Painting will be subcontracted for \$20/hr. The plywood on the ceiling will be painted to match the wall color. A six foot span of upper and lower kitchen cabinets to include a sink base is still needed. Commissioner Rasmussen may have cabinets available through Cable Lumber. A floating floor will be installed throughout due to multiple floor materials already in place. All lights will be on switches. Commissioner Hurula will determine if a dimmer switch can be installed for the LED lights. Commissioner Rasmussen will schedule the dumpster to be emptied. Commissioner Thurn will send pictures of progress.

Rezoning & Land Ownership

Per Mr. Volker, Ruth Hulstrom, Bayfield County Zoning Director, had talked about creating an Airport District or possibly a Municipal zone. Chairman Rowe will contact Ruth and possibly attend the listening session January 29, 2025, from 9-10 am at the Cable Community Centre.

Tree Clearing

Chairman Rowe suggested having the Gordon Correctional Facility crew back this spring to chip what was cleared this past fall and additional clearing if their schedule allows. Mr. Volker said the SRE building project involves a small area to be cleared which could be accomplished by a few commissioners and the contractor would be able to clean it up.

Telemark Properties

Chairman Rowe, Mr. Volker, Mr. Brynick and Mr. Pobloski discussed the process for “through the fence” lots as an option for lots adjacent to the airport. Mr. Pobloski will pursue nullifying the golf course easement and establish an easement on the airport owned section of Valhalla Road. Commissioner Thurn reported a draft covenants agreement from Fred Scheer was presented to the Planning Commission. Mr. Volker is pleased the covenants include the airport avigation request, but suggested it include all potential obstructions, not just trees. Chairman Rowe and Commission Thurn will address this and forward their recommendations to Mr. Pobloski.

Election of Officers

Commissioner Thurn made a motion to nominate the current slate of officers to continue in 2025, seconded by Commissioner Ramsussen. Motion carried unanimously.

Chairman, Doug Rowe; Vice Chairman, Jeff Hurula

Commissioners: Ray Ebert, Joe Garceau, Bob Rasmussen, Sue Thurn
Airport Manager, Mike Nichols; Treasurer, Dale Kruse; Secretary, Holly Holly

Items for Next Agenda:

Bank Discussion - Seek a High Interest Checking/Savings Account
Bayfield County Board
Correspondence
Future Airport Event
Hayward Airport 2025 Temporary Closing
Rezoning & Land Ownership
Terminal Restoration Discussion and Possible Action
Tree Clearing

Next Meeting:

Wednesday, February 12, 2025, at the Cable Community Centre at 4:30 p.m.

Adjournment

Chairman Rowe declared the meeting adjourned at 5:53 p.m.