

**CABLE UNION AIRPORT
AIRPORT COMMISSION MEETING
JULY 15, 2025 – 4:30 PM
CABLE UNION AIRPORT**

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, Jeff Hurula, Bob Rasmussen, Jeff Smits, Airport Manager Mike Nichols, Treasurer Dale Kruse, Secretary Holly Holly.

Absent: Colin Davidson

Guests

Rich Boley, Hangar Owner
Denise Stieren, Hangar Owner
John Pohle, Hangar Owner
James Mellom, Architect
Skype: Blake Bristow, Brad Volker

Approval of Agenda

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

Public Comments

Rich Boley will have a sidewalk estimate for next month.

Approval of Minutes – June 17, 2025

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

Treasurer's Report

Expenditures:	\$ 9,458.16
Receipts:	\$ 3,268.56 (\$1,805.79, 15 fuel sales, 342.160 gal)
Balance on 06/30/25:	\$103,110.57

Treasurer Kruse reported Rod Peters received a refund of \$4,000 (80% of electrical down payment). The final bill from the Town of Namakagon for terminal restoration labor has been paid. Chairman Rowe requested the final bill for Phase II electrical installation from Mr. Volker. Mr. Volker will work with Colin Davidson, BOA, to finalize the amount due.

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

Manager's Report

Mr. Nichols reminded all new hangar owners that cement contractors are not to wash out trucks on the property or leave building materials behind.

Ashland Glass will repair the broken terminal window without needing to remove the entire window. The warranty was void as it was purchased in 2022, but not installed until 2025.

OLD BUSINESS

Update BOA/Environmental Assessment (EA)

– **Brad Volker, Cooper Engineering, Colin Davidson, BOA Project Manager**

Colin Davidson was absent. Chairman Rowe has been attempting to contact him regarding the tractor acquisition and other updates.

Mr. Volker reported the BOA is currently responsible for the next steps of the EA and is unaware of any new progress. He suggested scheduling a meeting with Chairman Rowe, Mr. Davidson, and himself.

SRE Building Update - Brad Volker, Cooper Engineering, Colin Davidson, BOA

Chairman Rowe has verified the grant funding should be available by the end of August. Mr. Volker reported 9/30/25 is the last date to receive funds. Northwest Builders is interested, but they are required to submit a truss estimate, which can only be acquired with a signed contract, once funds are received. Final pay request to McCabe Construction has been submitted.

Phase II Hangar Development - Brad Volker, Cooper Engineering

John Pohle received a letter from the FAA requesting an environmental study prior to being approved to build his hangar. This has not been requested for any other hangar. Mr. Davidson and Brenda Hanson, BOA, have been contacted for clarification, with no response. Mr. Pohle composed a letter to Brenda Hanson regarding the NEPA study completed as part of the Phase II Development project to see if that meets the request. Mr. Pohle submitted Form #7460 to which the FAA must respond within 45 days. If the FAA does not respond, according to the form instructions, approval is assumed.

Norvado will install fiber optic in the Phase II area once a service request is received. Dennis Stieren will request service. It is requested they coordinate with John Pohle and Mike Nichols to avoid areas where wells and electric are scheduled to be installed.

NEW BUSINESS

Bruss Hangar Approval

Lots 8 and 9 will have one hangar, but with two separate bays connected by a garage space for snow removal equipment, tug, etc. Mr. Volker collaborated with Mr. Mellom to design a 2% slope for the ramp, which is gradual enough to push an airplane in. Commissioner Ebert verified colors are consistent with existing hangars, Chairman Rowe verified the height of the hangar has no airspace penetration.

Motion by Commissioner Ebert to approve Steve Bruss's hangar plans, seconded by Commissioner Garceau. Motion carried unanimously.

Bayfield County Board - Sue Rosa

Ms. Rosa absent.

Correspondence

None

Hamburger Fly-In Review

Chairman Rowe expressed thanks to everyone for their help and reported the Fly-In was a huge success. Twenty airplanes flew in, 135 people attended, and \$1,130 in donations were received. Treasurer Kruse is waiting on an invoice from Lakewoods.

Discussion and Possible Action – Raising Insurance Coverage on Electrical Building

Commissioner Smits reported Directors' Liability/General Liability raised from \$1 to \$2 million, and a check has been sent for the difference in premiums for this plan year.

Commissioner Smits verified that the equipment value is \$37,000 and the building value is \$35,000, but the current coverage is \$25,200 for just the building. Steve Bruss suggested verifying the conditions of the policy and if it includes loss of use, actual cash value, replacement cost, etc. Mr. Volker suggested contacting the Rice Lake Airport as they had a lightning strike which disabled the runway lights, resulting in \$100,000 of repair costs. Commissioner Smits will reach out to that airport manager, Ben Moline (contractor), and the insurance agent to determine the best coverage for this type of situation, as well as the electrical building coverage.

Steve Bruss offered to contact underwriters to gather more information in deciding on coverage. Mr. Bruss and Commissioner Smits will discuss further and report their findings at the next meeting.

Discussion and Possible Action – Join Wisconsin Airport Management Assoc. (WAMA)

Chairman Rowe proposed that 3CU join WAMA. Mr. Volker noted that larger airports with full-time managers are more involved in the association and may see more benefits, but if more airports joined, there may be an incentive to lobby for specific interests. The annual fee is \$150.

Commissioner Hurula made a motion to join the Wisconsin Airport Management Association for \$150, seconded by Commissioner Garceau. Motion carried unanimously.

Chairman Rowe & Treasurer Kruse will complete the application and pay the fee.

Discussion Nels Hanson Hangar Lot

Mr. Nichols received an email from Nels Hanson rescinding his intent to build a hangar on his leased lot. Treasurer Kruse will send the \$4,000 reimbursement. There are currently two lots available for lease.

Future Airport Events

August 2nd 10 am-1 pm - Young Eagles

September 27th - Fall Fest, Annual Pancake Fly-In, Possible Hangar Party

Rezoning and Land Ownership

No updates at this time.

Terminal Restoration Update

There were many positive comments from attendees at the Hamburger Fly-In. Mr. Nichols reported that there is still insulation to be installed before the weather turns cold.

Tree Clearing

Commissioner Hurula is working to secure the chipper while the Gordon Correctional Facility work crew is on site in August or September. He suggested clearing up to the river and Chairman Rowe also suggested clearing along the turf runway.

Fuel Price Discussion

Current price is \$4.97/gallon.

2026 Tractor Acquisition Discussion

Chairman Rowe has reached out to Mr. Davidson, but has not received a response to date. Commissioner Garceau will assist with this project.

Items for Next Agenda:

Bayfield County Board

Correspondence

Future Airport Events
Electrical Building Insurance Coverage Review
September 27th – Pancake Fly In
Rezoning & Land Ownership
Terminal Restoration Discussion
Tree Clearing
Fuel Prices
2026 Tractor Acquisition Discussion

Next Meeting:

Tuesday, August 12, 2025, at the Airport Terminal at 4:30 p.m.

Adjournment

Chairman Rowe declared the meeting adjourned at 5:24 p.m.