

**3CU AIRPORT COMMISSION MEETING
NOVEMBER 17, 2025 – 4:30 PM
CABLE UNION AIRPORT TERMINAL**

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

Skype: Commissioner Joe Garceau

Absent: Brad Volker, Cooper Engineering

Guests

John Sill

Sue Rosa, Bayfield County Board

Skype: Collin Davidson, Pam Ruegger, Blake Bristow

Approval of Agenda

Motion by Commissioner Ebert to approve as presented, seconded by Commissioner Hurula.

Motion carried unanimously.

Public Comments

None

Approval of Minutes – October 20, 2025

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

Treasurer's Report

Expenditures:	\$ 11,867.11
Receipts:	\$ 11,792.14 (\$ 2,703.37, 14 fuel sales)
Balance on 10/31/25:	\$ 95,602.33

Treasurer Kruse reported that after annual allotments from towns are received, the Commission can reevaluate and decide if additional funds should be transferred to the LGIP account to realize additional interest revenue.

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

Manager's Report

Mr. Nichols reported that Norvado is installing the conduit for fiber optic to be run to the Phase II hangar area, and once complete, hangar owners will have the option to connect. The new computer for the terminal building has not arrived yet. Deer culling efforts by the Bayfield County Sheriff's Department have yielded six deer, and two tags remain.

The Gordon Correctional Facility crew was onsite for seven days at the end of October. They chipped what had been cut in 2024 and were able to complete 80% of the necessary clearing on the south end of the turf runway. Manager Nichols will schedule them for October 2026.

There is a minimum base aircraft count of ten, and there are currently eleven aircraft registered at 3CU. Mr. Davidson verified that meeting the minimum requirement of base aircraft ensures the airport qualifies for federal aid.

OLD BUSINESS

Update BOA/Environmental Assessment (EA)

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

Chairman Rowe requested a meeting with Mr. Volker and Mr. Davidson to move the EA forward; Mr. Davidson will be discussing this at a BOA meeting this week.

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

Mr. Davidson reported that construction has begun on the SRE building, and a construction status meeting is scheduled for 11/19/25. Expecting bills to start arriving in December.

Mr. Volker sent an update on SRE building. Mild weather has allowed progress to move at a good rate. Future pace will be weather dependent.

NEW BUSINESS

Bayfield County Board - Sue Rosa

Nothing to report.

Correspondence

None

FAA Directed NEPA Study for Phase II Hangars

Progress with the BOA continues at a normal pace. Once they have completed their portion, it will be submitted to the FAA. The credit to new hangar owners from the electric installation currently stands at \$440. It is being held by the Commission until a final determination on the NEPA study has been reached.

Discussion 2026 Budget

Chairman Rowe, Commissioner Smits, and Treasurer Kruse met to review the 2026 budget.

Highlights include:

- Tractor Purchase – The expected sponsor portion listed was increased to \$32,000.
- SRE Building Sponsor Portion - \$27,000 (to include possible change orders which need to be paid by 3CU initially and then reviewed for reimbursement by state/federal funds)
- Second Courtesy Car – potential expenses are included in the proposed budget

Motion by Commissioner Rasmussen to approve the 2026 budget with the indicated changes, seconded by Commissioner Ebert. Motion carried unanimously.

Discussion and Possible Action – Hangar Lease Rate Adjustment 2027

Chairman Rowe explained that the lease rate has remained the same since the first hangars were built. Manager Nichols will research rates at other similar-sized airports, and a determination will be made on whether rates need to be adjusted to be competitive, effective in 2027.

Discussion and Possible Action – Electrical Building Insurance Coverage Review

Complete until the annual review in 2026.

Discussion for Deer Culling on Airport Property

To date, the Bayfield County Sheriff's Department sharpshooters have filled six of the eight tags.

Discussion of Telemark Road Easement–Matt Pobloske

Mr. Pobloske was not in attendance. The Commissioners determined that we can come to an agreement on Valhalla Road. In conjunction, the Commission will require Telemark Properties to discontinue the golf course easement on airport property. It was determined the easement will need to be signed by all three town boards as they are the property owners. Commissioner Ebert suggested having the town's attorney review the document. Chairman Rowe will contact Mr. Pobloske to have the documents prepared.

Discussion of “Through the Fence” – Matt Pobloske

No new discussion.

Discussion and Possible Action – Second Courtesy Car Donation

A Dodge Durango has been donated as a courtesy car, but several concerns exist with mechanical and moisture issues. Commissioner Hurula suggested sealing and disabling the sunroof to prevent further moisture issues. Manager Nichols will contact Performance Automotive to determine what mechanical work is required and if detailing the interior would eliminate the mold concern.

Discussion and Possible Action – Join WAMA (Wisconsin Airport Managers’ Association)

Chairman Rowe requested opinions on joining WAMA. Mr. Davidson, BOA, stated that they meet in person with WAMA leadership several times each year. John Sill shared that the Ashland Airport belongs to WAMA, and it has provided opportunities for networking with other airports in the state. The Commission agreed to join WAMA in January 2026 and review membership on an annual basis.

Rezoning and Land Ownership

Treasurer Kruse will meet with Bunkie Miller to organize the completion of the necessary paperwork required when the county zoning rewrite is complete.

Terminal Restoration Update

Window coverings need to be purchased for the terminal; \$2,000 has been allocated in the budget.

Future Airport Events

None.

Tree Clearing

Addressed in the Manager’s Report.

2026 Tractor Acquisition Discussion

Mr. Davidson, BOA, will coordinate the tractor acquisition and is requesting that the Commission indicate which vehicle, attachments, and requested specifications are desired by January 2026. He will prepare the estimate for a purchase in fall 2026. Commissioner Garceau will act as the lead on this project and will talk with other airports that have purchased similar equipment.

Closed Session – Discussion and Possible Action – 2026 Salaries

Motion by Commissioner Ebert to grant a 3% increase for all salaries in 2026, seconded by Commissioner Smits. Motion carried unanimously.

Items for Next Agenda:

Bayfield County Board

Correspondence

Deer Culling - DNR Nuisance Tags

Telemark Rd Easement/Matt Pobloske Requesting Approval from the Airport

Discussion & Possible Action-Phase II Electricity Installation Cost Settlement to Hangar Owners

Rezoning & Land Ownership

Terminal Restoration Discussion

Future Airport Events
Donated 2nd Courtesy Car
2026 Tractor Acquisition Discussion

Next Meeting:

Monday, December 15, 2025, at the Airport Terminal at 4:30 p.m.

Adjournment

Chairman Rowe declared the meeting adjourned at 5:34 p.m.