

**3CU AIRPORT COMMISSION MEETING
JANAUARY 19, 2026 – 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 Bob Rasmussen, Jeff Smits, Airport Manager Mike Nichols, Treasurer Dale Kruse, Secretary Holly Holly.

Virtual: Commissioners Ray Ebert, Joe Garceau, Jeff Hurula

Guests

Brad Volker, Cooper Engineering

Sue Rosa, Bayfield County Board

Virtual: Dennis Stieren, Blake Bristow – Hangar Owners

Approval of Agenda

Motion by Commissioner Smits to approve the agenda as presented, seconded by Commissioner Garceau. Motion carried unanimously.

Public Comments

None

Approval of Minutes – December 15, 2025

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

Treasurer's Report

Expenditures: \$ 1,663.63

Receipts: \$ 531.55 (\$395.01, 76.7 gallons, 2 fuel sales)

Balance on 10/31/25: \$94,977.17

Treasurer Kruse reported that annual invoices have been sent to all three towns, Bayfield County, and all hangar owners for a total of \$55,000; several payments have been received.

The 2026 insurance policy from Young & Associates is \$9,620.91 (6% premium increase), which includes increased coverage for the directors and liability, electrical building equipment, runway lights, and tractor. Commissioner Smits believes the increase is reasonable given the expanded coverage. Still, the commissioners agreed to rebid in July

2026, when coverage for the SRE building will need to be added, to ensure the best rates.

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 reported fuel is available, but the reel still will not retract; Westmore is working on an estimate for repair/replacement.

According to the FAA, commercial drone operators are responsible for posting the FAA Notam. Mr. Nichols has notified Mike Olson, the Birkie Drone Coordinator, who will post for February 18-22, 2026, for the annual Birkebeiner ski race.

The new computer and printer have been installed in the airport terminal. Thank you to Blake Bristow for donating a laptop and Wi-Fi plaques that can be scanned for easy internet access.

The rotating beacon is inoperative. A Notam has been posted, and Manager Nichols and Commissioner Hurula will repair it when the snow has lessened and the beacon is accessible.

Manager Nichols suggested adding gutters over the doorways to the terminal to prevent ice buildup on the walkway.

Manager Nichols will send WAMA login information to each commissioner.

Commissioner Garceau's neighbor donated a snowblower; currently stored in his hangar, but will be in the SRE building once completed. Plowing has been going smoothly, but contact Manager Nichols immediately if concerns arise.

OLD BUSINESS

Update BOA/Environmental Assessment (EA)

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

Chairman Rowe spoke with Mr. Davidson last week and will address the issues discussed later in the meeting.

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

Mr. Volker reported that Northwest Builders has suspended work on the SRE building due to weather conditions and lack of payment. Three requests have been submitted by Northwest Builder to BOA since October 2025, which Matt Malicki has indicated are approved, but have not been received. The Commission has no control over this issue, but Chairman Rowe will contact Mr. Davidson for assistance.

The EA (Environmental Assessment) continues to be reviewed by Mr. Davidson and Mr.

Volker is doing the same until he hears from Mr. Davidson. Chairman Rowe, Commissioner Smits, and Mr. Davidson will meet on January 28, 2026, regarding the EA status. Chairman Rowe will reach out to state representatives Chanz Green and/or Romaine Quinn for possible assistance with EA progress. He also contacted Steve Maciosek, who purchased the clubhouse south of the airport in Telemark Hills, regarding future tree clearing that may be required on property adjoining the airport. The commission wishes to have open communication with all neighboring property owners.

NEW BUSINESS

Bayfield County Board - Sue Rosa

Ms. Rosa reported that Jake Benson, Bayfield County Highway Department, is willing to assist with plowing the airport runway after county roads are cleared if the towns are unable to do so.

Correspondence

Chairman Rowe shared that a resident expressed his appreciation for the Town of Cable and the airport for their efforts to clear the runway for a recent medical helicopter transfer to Duluth.

FAA Directed NEPA Study for Phase II Hangars

The UW-Milwaukee Cultural Resources Team was hired to determine if hangars to be constructed in the Phase II Hangar Construction Project would cause an adverse effect on existing architectural properties. No adverse effect was determined, and a letter indicating this will be submitted as an addendum to the existing CATIX to the Wisconsin DOT by March 2026, satisfying the NEPA study. There will be a nominal fee for the addendum, to be paid from the excess funds collected for the Phase II electrical installation. The balance of the funds will be reimbursed to hangar owners.

Discussion and Possible Action – Phase II Electricity Installation Cost Settlement with Hangar Owners

Addressed in FAA Directed NEPA Study for Phase II Hangars.

Discussion of Telemark Road Easement–Matt Pobloske

Mr. Pobloske will have his attorney submit the proposed easement. Blake Bristow's wife, a commercial real estate attorney, offered to review the proposed easement.

Discussion and Possible Action – Second Courtesy Car Donation

No update.

Discussion for Snow Plowing

Snow plowing is going smoothly.

Rezoning and Land Ownership

No update.

Future Airport Events

No events at this time.

Tree Clearing

The Gordon Correctional Facility crew has been scheduled for the last two weeks of October 2026. Commissioner Hurula will coordinate reserving the wood chipper.

2026 Tractor Acquisition Discussion

Commissioner Garcearu has submitted the requested equipment to Mr. Davidson, BOA, who will revisit the request this fall when funds are available.

Audit Review

Chairman Rowe, Treasurer Kruse, and Commissioner Smits completed an audit for 2025. All records appear to be in order and well-organized. The audit has been filed in the office for reference.

Items for Next Agenda:

Bayfield County Board

Historical Museum Items

Correspondence

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

Future Airport Events

Donated 2nd Courtesy Car

2026 Tractor Acquisition Discussion

Next Meeting:

Monday, February 16, 2026, at the Airport Terminal at 4:30 p.m.

Adjournment

Chairman Rowe declared the meeting adjourned at 5:20 p.m.