



**Airport Advisory Committee**  
**Gratiot County**  
**214 E Center St., Ithaca, MI 48847**  
**Phone (989) 875-5282**

## Proposed Minutes of the June 26<sup>th</sup>, 2024 Meeting

The Gratiot County Airport Advisory Committee Meeting will be **Wednesday, June 26<sup>th</sup>, 2024** beginning at 1:30pm at 3999 W Seaman Rd. Alma, MI 48801.

1. Call to Order at 1:32pm
2. Roll Call
  - a. Present: George Bailey, Aerick Ripley, Kurt Giles, Kevin Beeson, Jim Wheeler, Steve Meinhardt, Manager Dennis McDonald, County Administrator Chris Oosterhoff
  - b. Absent: John Leppien
3. Approval of Agenda

Board Action: Motion by Kevin Beeson, supported by George Bailey to approve Agenda.  
Motion Carried 6-0-1
4. Approval of **May 15<sup>th</sup>, 2024** Minutes

Board Action: Motion by George Baily, supported by Jim Wheeler to approve May 15<sup>th</sup>, 2024 Minutes. Motion Carried 6-0-1.
5. Old Business
  - a. Fuel Tanks (High Priority)
    - i. Minimal Grinding during pumping occurring
    - ii. Sparling Corp coming 6/28 to move old fuel to new tanks
    - iii. 2 vents in 12,000gal tank that "popped" when new fuel was pumped in
    - iv. Sparling Corp checking w/ manufacturers on potential defects with the vents
    - v. If pumping issue is not fixed by Monday, July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024, Sparling Corp or General Contractor will have 30 days, (July 31<sup>st</sup>, 2024), to fix the issue. Following 30 days, if no remedy is found, pumps should be shut off to avoid risk of damage to the pumps with the loss of daily income being covered by Sparling Corp. Chris Oosterhoff to determine the exact details with the County Attorney.
  - b. Roof Repair Status (Complete)
  - c. Sealing Project Status
    - i. Sealing complete for now, square footage calculation was off as certain cracks were deeper than anticipated, one section is not sealed.
    - ii. Cost of overband is .50c/sq.ft. and cost of mastic is \$7/sq.ft.
    - iii. Airport Manager presents options to complete sealing
      1. Wait 4-5 years for more funding from the state and use new sq. footage
      2. Review the open sealing contract the County has with Fox Sealcoating to determine *if* they can do the work, when, and at what cost.
      3. When PK visits on Friday, ask them to determine *if* they can do the work, when, and at what cost.
    - iv. PK is painting lines and numbers on Friday 6/28

- d. Tree Trimming RFP Status
  - i. Closed – received 3 bids
  - ii. Need Advisory Committee recommendation  
Motion by Aeric Ripley, supported by Kurt Giles to recommend Carman’s Tree Service Bid at \$39,500 for Removal of 36 Trees and Topping of 23 Trees per RFP Specs. Motion Carried 6-0-1
- e. Beacon RFP Status
  - i. Closed – received 1 bid
  - ii. Need Advisory Committee recommendation  
Motion by Kevin Beeson, seconded by George Bailey, to recommend JT Tower Service LLC Bid at \$38,878 for Repair & Replacement of the Airport Light Tower. Motion Carried 6-0-1.
- f. AWOS Storm Device – (Completed)
  - i. Stormscope to be installed in summer or fall of 2025
  - ii. Brush removal can occur at any time; to be completed by Joe Butcher
- g. Flight Aware
  - i. ADSB Device – may be free, just need to connect to tv
    - 1. Wifi needs to be updated

**6. New Business**

- a. Terminal Study
  - i. Study to be completed by our engineering firm with Spicer subcontracted in for their architectural engineer; proposed to be complete with results 60 days from when the contract is signed.
  - ii. Study provides plan of site elevation and the proposed terminal building & use
  - iii. Engineering Firm would send study with grant application to MDOT for funding. Timeline as follows; Grant Application sent Oct. 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024, expected decision in April of 2025, if approved, construction would need to begin by April of 2026.  
Motion by Aeric Ripley, second by Kurt Giles, to recommend approval of Prein & Newhof Contract for Professional Engineering Service for the Total Contract Rate of \$19,500.00 and Total Out of Pocket Expenses of \$8,999.25. Motion carried 6-0-1.
- b. Hangar Asphalt Project
- c. Phone Line (landline) Cancellation (to be handled by Becky Clark)  
Motion by Jim Wheeler, supported by Kevin Beeson, to remove phone line. Motion carried 6-0-1.
- d. Airport Lunch & Fly-In
  - i. August 24<sup>th</sup> 11-2
  - ii. Ribbon Cutting for the Fuel Tanks – invite Chamber of Commerce
  - iii. 10c off per gallon

**7. Adjournment**

Board Action: Motion by Kevin Beeson, supported by Kurt Giles to adjourn at 3:09pm. Motion Carried 5-1-1.

**Gratiot Community Airport Advisory Committee**

George Bailey	Aeric Ripley	Kurt Giles
John Leppien	Kevin Beeson	Jim Wheeler
Steve Meinhardt	Manager, Dennis McDonald	