

Chairman Matt Schooley called a special meeting of the Gratiot Community Airport Authority to order at 5:00 p.m. via Zoom. A quorum of the Board was present.

Present: Jamey Conn, Kurt Giles, John Lemmerman, Dave Ringle, and Matt Schooley.

Board members absent: Kevin Beeson.

Others present: Dennis McDonald, Jim Wheeler, Aeric Ripley, Chuck Murphy, and Doug Merchant.

Motion by Board Member Giles, seconded by Board Member Ringle, to approve the minutes of October 26, 2020, as presented. Motion carried with a voice vote.

Yes: Conn, Giles, Lemmerman, Ringle, and Schooley.

No: none.

Absent: Beeson.

Motion by Board Member Ringle, seconded by Board Member Conn, to ratify a one-year extension of the agricultural land leases with Stone Fence Organics and Grafton Farms. Motion carried with a voice vote.

Yes: Conn, Giles, Lemmerman, Ringle, and Schooley.

No: none.

Absent: Beeson.

Aeric Ripley asked the Board to consider approval of the Airport Emergency Plan. He explained the plan had been prepared by Dennis McDonald, Airport Manager, and had been sent to Gratiot County Administration for review. They found one item to be corrected.

Motion by Board Member Lemmerman, seconded by Board Member Giles, to adopt the Gratiot Community Airport Emergency Plan with the following amendments: replace all sections of the AEP which reference the Alma Police Department with the Gratiot County Sheriff. Motion carried with a voice vote.

Yes: Conn, Giles, Lemmerman, Ringle, and Schooley.

No: none.

Absent: Beeson.

Ripley moved to an update on the progress of the Airport Layout Plan. Plan sheets have been submitted to the MDOT Office of Aeronautics for review but have been delayed due to pandemic circumstances. He doesn't believe they will receive approval until late July. He expects they will be able to move from a provisional license to a full license. Dennis McDonald answered questions about the progress. Further discussion was held regarding removal of trees and stumps surrounding the runways.

Chairman Schooley took a brief moment to introduce John Lemmerman, member of behalf of Gratiot County.

Dennis McDonald presented his Airport Manager's Report and reviewed items of note in the report including flight statistics, maintenance & incident activity, the 2020 airport inspection, and airport events.

Motion by Board Member Giles, seconded by Board Member Ringle, to receive the Airport Manager's report and place it on file. Motion carried with a voice vote.

Yes: Conn, Giles, Lemmerman, Ringle, and Schooley.
No: none.
Absent: Beeson.

New and Old Business

Ripley began discussion on the FY 2022 budget by acknowledging the many factors that will go into the budget considering the possible transition of administration. He asked for input from Board members about setting up the budget to allow for a transition. He said a budget will need to be approved in the next couple of weeks. Conn noted Ithaca is still favor of the transition and asked what kind of mechanism could be used to transition to the county's fiscal year. Discussion followed. A pro-rated interim budget was suggested. Ripley will work on numbers. The proposed budget will need to be approved by the Authority before it can be sent to the Alma City Commission and County Commission for approval. A follow-up meeting will be scheduled soon to review the proposed budget.

Public Comment

No public comments were received.

Motion by Board Member Ringle, seconded by Board Member Giles, to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 5:36 p.m.



Sara Anderson, Recording Secretary

April 21 2021

Date of Approval