

# MICHIGAN AERONAUTICS COMMISSION

Minutes of Meeting  
Lansing, Michigan  
November 6, 2019

Pursuant to Section 31 of Act 327 of the Public Acts of 1945, the Commissioners of the Michigan Aeronautics Commission met at the Aeronautics Building, 2700 Port Lansing Road, Lansing, Michigan, on Wednesday, November 6, 2019.

## Members Present

Roger Salo, Chair  
Kelly Burris, Commissioner  
Laura Mester, Designee – MDOT  
Brig. Gen. Bryan Teff, Designee – MDMVA  
Kevin Jacobs, Designee – MDNR  
F/Lt. Brian Bahlau, Designee – MSP  
Jim Shell, Legal Counsel  
Mike Trout, Director  
Bryan Budds, Commission Advisor  
Alicia Morrison, Senior Executive Assistant

## Staff Present

Judy Baker  
Steve Houtteman  
Alissa VanHoof  
Tammie Lewandowsky  
Mark Noel  
Sue Payne  
Linn Smith  
Mary Kay Trierweiler  
Michele Duncan  
Jennifer Forbes  
Mike Soper  
Zach Tecson  
Ralph Sims

## Members Absent

Rick Fiddler, Vice Chair  
Dr. Brian Smith, Commissioner  
Russ Kavalhuna, Commissioner

## Also Present

Michael Frezell, MDOT, Office of Communications  
Phillip Johnson, Prein & Newhof  
Keith Newell, CAYIAEA  
Clint Nemeth, GFIAA  
Brian Merk, Prein & Newhof  
Casey Ries, GFIAA  
Mike Pelzer, Pegasus Parachuting  
Tory Richardson, GFIAA  
Ron LeBron  
Mike Borta, Prein & Newhoff  
Marty Coaker, Sparta Airport  
Mark Johnson, KOZW  
John Strehl, ACB  
John Stroo, Prein & Newhoff  
John Mayfield, FAA  
Rita Bierman, MKG

## I. OPENING REMARKS

The November 6, 2019 Michigan Aeronautics Commission (MAC or Commission) meeting was called to order by Chair Roger Salo at 10:00 a.m.

Chair Salo welcomed all those present. He asked everyone to rise, and the Pledge of Allegiance was cited. Roll call was taken.



## II. COMMISSION BUSINESS

- A. Chair Salo asked if there were any revisions to the minutes of the meeting held on September 11, 2019. There were none. He entertained a motion to approve the minutes. The motion was moved by Commissioner Kevin Jacobs and seconded by Commissioner Kelly Burris to approve the minutes as presented. **All voted in favor.**
- B. The proposed MAC 2020 meeting schedule was reviewed and discussed by the Commission. Meetings scheduled for the months of January, March, and November will be held in the Aeronautics Auditorium in Lansing, including a joint meeting with the State Transportation Commission in January. The meetings scheduled for May and July are proposed to be off site. A location will be determined later. The meeting scheduled for September will be held in conjunction with the Michigan Association of Airport Executive's (MAAE) Fall Conference on Mackinac Island, Michigan.

Chair Salo asked if there were any revisions to the schedule. Hearing none, he entertained a motion to approve the MAC meeting schedule as presented. The motion was moved by Commissioner Bryan Teff and seconded by Commissioner Kevin Jacobs to approve the meeting schedule for 2020. **All voted in favor.**

- C. Alissa VanHoof presented the airport sponsor contracts.
1. Lenawee County Airport, Adrian
  2. Lenawee County Airport, Adrian
  3. Cheboygan County Airport, Cheboygan
  4. Livingston County - Spencer J. Hardy, Howell
  5. Lakeview - Griffith Field, Lakeview
  6. Sawyer International, Marquette
  7. Sawyer International, Marquette
  8. Muskegon County Airport, Muskegon
  9. Muskegon County Airport, Muskegon
  10. Kirsch Municipal Airport, Sturgis

Chair Salo asked if there were any further comments or questions. Hearing none, he entertained a motion to approve item Nos. 1 – 10. The motion was moved by Commissioner Brian Bahlau and seconded by Commissioner Kelly Burris to approve the airport sponsor contracts. **All voted in favor.**

A complete list of contract descriptions can be viewed on the MAC web page under "Meetings" and then "Contract Approvals" at [www.michigan.gov/aero](http://www.michigan.gov/aero).

Ms. VanHoof reported on one supplemental transfer: DuPont - Lapeer Airport, Lapeer. **No Commission action was required.**

- D. Mike Soper presented the following contracts for Fiscal Year (FY) 2020.  
**Automated Weather Observation Systems (AWOS)**
1. Drummond Island Airports, Drummond Island – expires 1/20/2020
  2. Three Rivers Municipal, Dr. Haines, Three Rivers – expires 1/25/2020
  3. Livingston County – Spencer J. Hardy, Howell – expires 3/2/2020



**Weather Briefing System (WBS)**

- 4. Mackinac County Airport, St. Ignace – expires 6/14/2020
- 5. Sault Ste. Marie Municipal Sanderson Airport, Sault Ste. Marie – expires 7/20/2020

Mr. Soper provided information regarding the contracts explaining that with the installation of each AWOS, the Office of Aeronautics establishes a contract with the sponsor to set the responsibilities of each party for the shared maintenance and operation of the AWOS, a Data Collection System, and a WBS, if contracted through MDOT. These maintenance contracts have a limited duration, and several contracts expire in 2020.

Chair Salo asked if there were any further comments or questions. Commissioner Burris asked how long the duration of the contracts was, and Mr. Soper responded they are five years. Hearing no further comments or questions, Chair Salo entertained a motion to approve item Nos. 1 – 5. The motion was moved by Commissioner Kelly Burris and seconded by Commissioner Kevin Jacobs to approve the contracts. **All voted in favor.**

- E. Director Trout welcomed everyone and introduced John Mayfield, Federal Aviation Administration, and the new Grand Rapids Airport Director and Chief Executive Office, Tory Richardson. He then presented the MDOT/MAAE FY 2020 Training Contract. The contract will provide a grant for the conduct of workshops, training programs, seminars, and conferences. These events are intended to support the education and training of airport managers and staff throughout Michigan. In addition, the grant will help support student scholarships for those pursuing an aviation-related education, promote internships at airports, and provide ground school assistance to high school students. This award results in an investment of \$30,000 from MDOT and \$6,000 from MAAE, for a total of \$36,000.

The contract will be effective from the date of award through September 30, 2020, which will include supporting the 2020 winter and fall conference activities.

<b>Funding Breakdown</b>	<b>MDOT Funding</b>	<b>MAAE Contribution</b>	<b>Total</b>
Workshops, Training Programs, Seminars and Conferences	\$19,500	\$ 500	\$20,000
Grants/Scholarships	\$ 4,000	\$3,000	\$ 7,000
Airport Internship Program	\$ 5,000	\$1,000	\$ 6,000
Ground School Program	\$ 1,500	\$1,500	\$ 3,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$30,000</b>	<b>\$6,000</b>	<b>\$36,000</b>

Chair Salo asked if there were any further comments or questions on the proposed MDOT/MAAE 2020 training contract. Hearing none, he entertained a motion to approve the contract as presented. The motion was moved by Commissioner Bryan Teff and seconded by Commissioner Kevin Jacobs to approve the contract. **All voted in favor.**

**III. REPORT**

A. MAC Director Report

FY 2020 Budget Bill Boilerplate Provisions (Public Act 66)

Director Trout reviewed boilerplate provisions in the FY 2020 budget bill.



1. Sec. 324 (New) State-Owned Airport Sale RFP
2. Sec. 383 (Restores) Aircraft Travel Report
3. Sec. 802 (Restores) Legislative encouragement language regarding the assumption of ownership and operations for airports currently owned by MDOT
4. Sec. 804 (Revised) MDOT Owned Airplanes (Unenforceable)
5. Sec. 805 (New) State Airplanes (Unenforceable)
6. Sec. 806 (New) State Aeronautics Code

Chair Salo stated there is a knowledge gap regarding Sec. 804 with regards to the importance of on demand transportation. Director Trout agreed that further and continuing education on this matter needs to occur.

Director Trout discussed the Ad Board's transfer of \$1,774,500 from Airfleet Operations and Maintenance to Aviation Services within the State Aeronautics Fund. This effectively combines two operating line items into a single operating line item.

#### Recent Events

Director Trout gave brief updates on the recent aviation events.

1. Michigan Aviation Talent Summit
2. Michigan UAS Task Force meeting
3. FAA State Director's Meeting
4. Commercial UAV Expo
5. GLAAE Operations and Maintenance Conference

Director Trout stated the Michigan PFAS Action Response Team (MPART) was given recognition at both the GLAAE Conference and State Director's Meeting for its excellent work on PFAS.

#### Current Issues

Director Trout briefly discussed current issues including the federal continuing resolution, airport loan program, airport registrations, helipad inspections and Michigan PFAS Action Response Team (MPART). Most MPART involvement by MDOT is being transferred to the Environmental Section. MDOT Aeronautics will stay involved in the relevant subcommittees regarding aeronautic issues. Commissioner Burris asked how many registered aircraft are in the state. Director Trout responded there were approximately 6500 aircraft in the state, and of those, approximately 5000 are registered.

#### Statistics

- Fuel Tax Revenue (October – September)
  - Excise (3¢)
  - FY 2019 = \$5,422,958** (\$401,752 FY Decrease)
  - FY 2018 = \$5,824,709

- Sales (2%)
- FY 2019 Total = \$10,876,720**
- FY 2018 Total = \$7,157,622



**SAF 2019 FY Total = \$3,806,852** (35% of Total)  
SAF 2018 FY Total = \$2,505,166 (\$1,301.686 FY Increase)

- FY 2019 Grants
  - \$126.4 Million Total Funding**
    - \$105.6M federal funding
    - \$3.4M state funding
    - \$17.4M local funding
  - Primary Airports: \$97.3M**
    - 16 airports are eligible
  - State Block Grant Program: \$29.1M**
    - 74 airports are eligible
- Open Grants End of FY 2019
  - 56 Primary Airport Grants
  - 16 State Block Sub-Grants
- Open Grants End of FY 2018
  - 61 Primary Airport Grants
  - 16 State Block Sub-Grants
- Tall Structure Permits (FY Totals)
  - **2019 = 5,414 (511 wind turbines)**
  - 2018 = 5,298 (611 wind turbines)
- State Aircraft Flight Hours (FY Totals)
  - **2019 = 638.3**
  - 2018 = 840.6

#### Staff News

- Alicia Morrison – Senior Executive Management Assistant
- Joel Canfield – Pilot
- Jim Hartman – Licensed Engineering Manager

#### Coming Soon

- MiCareerQuest Southeast – November 8, 2019, Novi
- MAC/STC Joint Meeting – January 30, 2020, Lansing
- Michigan Airport Conference – February 19-20, 2020, East Lansing
- Michigan Aviation Professional Course – April 23-24, Howell

#### Special Recognition

A special recognition was given to Gordon “Gordy” Bogner, P.E. for 50 years of service to aviation in Michigan.



Director Trout's report can be viewed in full on the Michigan Aeronautics Commission web page under "Meetings" and then "Director's Reports" at [www.michigan.gov/aero](http://www.michigan.gov/aero).

#### IV. PRESENTATIONS

##### UAS/GIS Updates – Zach Tecson

Zach Tecson, MDOT Aeronautics Analyst, presented on MDOT Cost Savings/Data Improvements via UAS. He gave an overview of what MDOT Aeronautics uses UAS for, how initial data verification is completed, and future uses of UAS at MDOT and other state agencies. The Commissioners asked a variety of questions about sensors on drones, other uses to collect data, how receptive airports are to UAS uses, and safety plans for drone use. Mr. Tecson answered all questions and the Commissioners were excited with the potential and feedback received.

#### V. COMMISSION COMMENTS

Chair Salo asked if any of the commissioners would like to make a comment. Commissioner Kelly Burris reminded all of Operation Good Cheer, in its 48<sup>th</sup> year of delivering holiday gifts to children and youth in foster care, being held on December 6-7. No additional comments were made.

#### VI. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Chair Salo asked if anyone would like to make a public comment. There were no public comments.

#### CLOSING

The next Michigan Aeronautics Commission meeting is scheduled for Thursday, January 30, 2020, along with a joint meeting with the State Transportation Commission, at the Office of Aeronautics, 2700 Port Lansing Road, Lansing, Michigan.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:15 a.m.



Roger Salo, Chairman



Michael G. Trout, Director

Dated: January 30, 2020

