

MICHIGAN AERONAUTICS COMMISSION

Minutes of Meeting
Port Huron, Michigan
September 11, 2019

Pursuant to Section 31 of Act 327 of the Public Acts of 1945, Commissioners of the Michigan Aeronautics Commission met in Port Huron, Michigan, Blue Water Convention Center, in conjunction with the Michigan Association of Airport Executives Fall Conference on September 11, 2019.

Members Present

Roger Salo, Acting Chair
Rick Fiddler, Commissioner
Russ Kavalhuna, Commissioner
Kelly Burris, Commissioner
Dr. Brian Smith, Commissioner
Tim Hoeffner, Alternate Designee – MDOT
Kevin Jacobs, Designee – MDNR
F/Lt. Brian Bahlau, Designee – MSP
Brig. Gen. Bryan Teff, Designee – MDMVA
Mike Dittenber, Legal Counsel
Mike Trout, Director
Bryan Budds, Commission Advisor
Judy Baker, Commission Analyst

Staff Present

Kenny Bowers
Michele Duncan
Jennifer Forbes
Steve Houtteman
Elyse Lower
Nikki Moore
Mark Noel
Jeremy Riley
Ralph Sims
Linn Smith
Mike Soper
Anu Taneja
Mary Kay Trierweiler
Alissa VanHoof

Members Absent

Also Present

Courtney Beard, Mead & Hunt
Tami Beseau, Chippewa County International Airport
Mike Borta, Prein&Newhof
Larry Bowron, City of Battle Creek
Brian Davis
Katherine Delaney, Federal Aviation Administration
Nate Granger, Foth Infrastructure & Environment
Ernest Gubry, Federal Aviation Administration
Helen Hagg, GrandAir Aviation/Women Aviation
Career Symposium (WACS)
Kyle Haller, MDOT Bureau of Planning
Eric Jaroch, Roscommon Co.-Blodgett Memorial Airport
Mark Johnson, Livingston Co.-Spencer J. Hardy Airport
Phil Johnson, Prein&Newhof
Kelly Jost, C&S Engineers
Pete Kamarainen, GrandAir Aviation
Kevin Klein, Cherry Capital Airport
Marty Lasher, Sparta Airport
John Mayfield, Federal Aviation Administration
Keith Newell, Grosse Pointe



Mary Poirier, Jackson National Life Insurance/WACS
Mark Roth, Sidock Group
Nino Sapone, Bishop International Airport
Brad Sharlow, MDOT Bureau of Planning
Chris Sieklucki, Cherry Capital Airport
Steve Smigelski, Alpena County Regional Airport
John Strehl, Antrim County Airport
Pam Tobin, WACS
Tammy Tobin, WACS
Patrick VandenBoom
J. David VanderVeen
D. Waite, Sanderson Field
Stephanie Ward, Mead & Hunt

I. OPENING REMARKS AND WELCOME

The September 11, 2019 Michigan Aeronautics Commission (Commission) meeting was called to order by Acting Chair Roger Salo at 11:00 a.m.

Acting Chair Salo welcomed all those present and recognized the newest commissioners Kelly Burris, Dr. Brian Smith and Brig. Gen. Bryan Teff. He thanked the City of Port Huron and the Blue Water Convention Center for hosting the Commission meeting.

Being that it was 9/11, he asked that police officers, firefighters, veterans, and current service women and men stand to be recognized. Acting Chair Salo then asked for a moment of silence for our fallen heroes. Immediately following, the Pledge of Allegiance was cited. Roll call was taken.

II. COMMISSION BUSINESS

A. Minutes of the July 24, 2019 Meeting

Acting Chair Salo asked if there were any revisions to the minutes of the meeting held on July 24, 2019. There were none. He entertained a motion to approve the minutes. The motion was moved by Commissioner Russ Kavalhuna and seconded by Commissioner Brian Bahlau to approve the minutes as presented. **All voted in favor.**

B. Request for Approval and Transfer of Appropriated Funds

Alissa VanHoof presented the airport sponsor contracts:

1. Alpena County Regional Airport, Alpena
2. Detroit Metro Wayne County, Detroit
3. Willow Run Airport, Detroit
4. Grosse Ile Municipal Airport, Detroit/Grosse Ile
5. Delta County Airport, Escanaba
6. Delta County Airport, Escanaba
7. Delta County Airport, Escanaba
8. Delta County Airport, Escanaba



9. Gogebic-Iron County Airport, Ironwood
10. Gogebic-Iron County Airport, Ironwood
11. Jackson County – Reynolds Field, Jackson
12. Sawyer International, Marquette
13. Pellston Regional Airport of Emmet County, Pellston
14. Chippewa County International Airport, Sault Ste. Marie
15. Chippewa County International Airport, Sault Ste. Marie
16. Chippewa County International Airport, Sault Ste. Marie
17. Statewide-Local PCI Surveys
18. Cherry Capital Airport, Traverse City
19. Cherry Capital Airport, Traverse City
20. Cherry Capital Airport, Traverse City
21. Cherry Capital Airport, Traverse City

Acting Chair Salo asked if there were any further comments or questions. Hearing none, he entertained a motion to approve item Nos. 1 – 21 of the airport sponsor contracts. The motion was moved by Commissioner Kavalhuna and seconded by Commissioner Rick Fiddler to approve the contracts as presented. **All voted in favor.**

Supplemental Transfer

There was one supplemental transfer: Jackson County – Reynolds Field, Jackson. **No Commission Action was required.**

Air Service Program

There was one project description revision: Chippewa County International Airport, Sault Ste. Marie. **No Commission Action was required.**

A complete list of contract descriptions can be viewed on the Commission web page at www.michigan.gov/aero.

III. PRESENTATION

Bradley Sharlow, MDOT Project Manager, introduced Kyle Haller from MDOT Bureau of Planning who is working with him on the 2045 State Long-Range Transportation Plan (SLRTP).

Mr. Sharlow presented an update and stated that a SLRTP is:

- Multi-modal policy-based planning document that establishes the following Michigan’s transportation system:
 - Vision
 - Goals
 - Objectives
 - Key Strategies
- Federally required
- 20+ year planning horizon
- Michigan Mobility 2045 (MM2045) is in early stages of development



He stated that suggested updates to the current Michigan Aviation System Plan (MASP) will be presented to the Commission if it is identified during the MM2045 process that new or modified goals would better serve the citizens of Michigan. The MM2045 and MASP are being developed and maintained to compliment each other. There will be cross coordination between MDOT Aeronautics and MDOT Bureau of Planning.

Mr. Sharlow's presentation can be viewed on the Commission web page at www.michigan.gov/aero.

IV. MAC DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Director Mike Trout welcomed everyone and thanked Mr. Sharlow for his presentation. He stated we are all transportation ambassadors. It is not just about aviation – it is about the integration of modes of transportation. He encouraged everyone to view the SLRTP at www.michiganmobility.org/ and provide feedback.

He continued and reported on the following:

Statistics

➤ Fuel Tax Revenue (Thru July)

▪ Excise (3¢)

FY 2019 = \$4,406,939 (\$669,814 YTD Decrease)

FY 2018 = \$5,076,753

▪ Sales (2%)

FY 2019 YTD Total = \$10,876,098

FY 2018 Total = \$7,157,622

SAF 2019 YTD = \$3,806,634 (\$1,301,468 YTD Increase)

SAF 2018 YTD = \$2,505,166

➤ Contract Closeouts (FYTD)

- 20 Primary Airport Grants (31 Active)
- 51 State Block Sub Grants
- 7 State Block Grant (10 Active)
- 15 State/Local Grants

➤ Tall Structure Permits

- 2019 = 4,639 (508 wind turbines) FYTD
- 2018 = 4,939 (621 wind turbines) Total

➤ State Aircraft Flight Hours (FY Thru July)

- 2019 = 520
- 2018 = 735



Year in Review

Director Trout highlighted some of the accomplishments under the leadership of past Chair Pete Kamarainen:

- Package of UAS bills signed into law based on recommendations of the UAS Task Force
- Pilot Shortage Task Force Recommendations
 - Establishment of Ground School Assistance Program
 - Upcoming Talent Summit
- PFAS Response Project/ARFF Vehicle Foam System
- General Aviation Advisory Committee
- Gerald R. Ford International Airport Off-Site Meeting
- Chippewa County International Airport Off-Site Meeting

Staff News

- Elyse Lower, Planning and Development Section – 10 Years of State Service
- Alysen Fedewa, Programming Section – New Student Assistant
- Bryan Budds, Office of Aeronautics, New Deputy Administrator
- Alissa VanHoof, Programming Section – New Manager
- Brigitte Pricco, Office of Aeronautics – Accepted Position at Michigan State Police

Coming Soon

- FAA Michigan Congressional Briefing – Sept. 11, Port Huron, MI
- Michigan Aviation Talent Summit – Oct. 15, Lansing, MI
- MAC Meeting – Nov. 6, Lansing, MI
- MiCareerQuest Southeast – Nov. 8, Novi, MI
- Michigan Airport Conference – Feb. 19-20, East Lansing, MI

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.

V. MAC AWARDS OF EXCELLENCE

Acting Chair Salo provided the background of the awards. This year, there was one organization award and one individual award announced. The organization award went to Women in Aviation – Great Lakes Chapter/Helen Hagg, Mary Poirier and Pam Tobin. The individual award went to John Mayfield, FAA Detroit Airports District Office Manager.

Women in Aviation – Great Lakes Chapter/Helen Hagg, Mary Poirier and Pam Tobin

Acting Chair Salo presented the award to Ms. Hagg, Ms. Poirier and Ms. Tobin. The following inscription was read:

This award is being presented in recognition of your outstanding contributions to aviation education through your leadership with the Women in Aviation – Great Lakes Chapter in carrying out its mission to connect, engage and inspire women to explore the field of aviation. The Michigan Aeronautics Commission acknowledges your dedication most recently in establishing and hosting the Women's Aviation Career Symposium, a successful event for women to network and pursue the many



exciting careers in aviation. Thank you for your commitment to promote these opportunities throughout Michigan.

Acting Chair Salo stated that on behalf of the Commission, he is pleased and honored to present the award to the Women in Aviation – Great Lakes Chapter. The women expressed their gratitude and thanked the Commission for the honor.

John Mayfield

Acting Chair Salo presented the award to Mr. Mayfield. The following inscription was read:

For recognition of your outstanding contribution to Michigan as manager of the FAA Detroit Airports District Office and the valuable leadership you have provided to ensure the safety, strength and stability of Michigan's airport system. Your professionalism in the administration of the FAA Airport Improvement Program over the past ten years, including the vital State Block Grant Program, has contributed to over a billion dollars invested in airport development across the state and has had a significant economic impact on local communities. You have been a strong partner within the aviation community and your firm and fair approach has positively benefitted the aviation industry in Michigan as a whole. On behalf of the Michigan Aeronautics Commission and the MDOT Office of Aeronautics, it is a privilege and honor to present you with this fitting tribute.

Acting Chair Salo stated that on behalf of the Commission, he is pleased and honored to present the award to John Mayfield. Mr. Mayfield expressed his gratitude and thanked the Commission for the honor.

VI. ELECTIONS

Acting Chair Salo announced that his short term as acting chair has come to an end. He thanked committee chairpersons, fellow commissioners, Director Trout, Bryan Budds, Judy Baker, and the staff of MDOT Office of Aeronautics for their support. He then asked Commissioner Kavalhuna to proceed with the elections.

Commissioner Kavalhuna spoke of the nominating procedure. He stated that in accordance with the Michigan Aeronautics Commission Bylaws, he along with Commissioner Kelly Burris nominated the offices of chair and vice chair of the Michigan Aeronautics Commission for a one-year term beginning immediately upon election.

For the Office of Chair: Roger Salo

For the Office of Vice Chair: Rick Fiddler

Chairman Kavalhuna asked if there were any comments or questions. Hearing none, he asked the Commission to entertain a motion to approve the nominations as presented. The motion was moved by Commissioner Burris and seconded by Commissioner Kevin Jacobs to elect Roger Salo as chairperson and Rick Fiddler as vice chairperson. **All voted in favor with Commissioners Salo and Fiddler abstaining.**



Director Trout called on and recognized Past Chair Pete Kamarainen, whose commission term expired May of 2019. He thanked Mr. Kamarainen for his dedication to the Michigan Aeronautics Commission. He was presented with an honorary plaque and gavel congratulating him on a successful year. Mr. Kamarainen thanked Director Trout, the Commission, and everyone for a great year.

VII. COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

The new Chairperson Salo thanked Mr. Kamarainen and commended him for his service and leadership during the past years. He stated that he is honored to be elected as the Commission chair. He looks forward to continuing working with everyone in the very near future.

In accordance with the Bylaws, Article VI, Standing Committees, Chair Salo announced the appointments of the *Executive Committee*, composed of three commissioners, at least two of whom shall be appointive. The chair of the Commission will ordinarily serve and act as presiding officer. The *Executive Committee* is responsible for making recommendations to the Commission for special studies, agenda items, and other issues.

- Appointments of the *Executive Committee* to serve with Chair Salo are:
 - Vice Chair Rick Fiddler
 - Commissioner Brian Bahlau

Chair Salo stated that while it has been past practice to establish various “special committees,” this year a slightly different approach will be taken. The *Executive Committee* will evaluate issues that may arise and address those by drawing on the expertise of the commissioners as necessary through the establishment of task forces or groups. This will allow for the Commission to be more targeted and efficient with the desired outcome being the effective use of everyone’s talents and time.

From the standpoint of priorities, it is important that the following be focused on:

- Ensure that we are maximizing the ability of the state to attract federal dollars for airport improvements.
- Enhance the collaboration with our partners and stakeholders including the FAA and airports.
- Continue to do outreach and education related to the value of aviation to local communities.
- Find ways to attract and retain talent in the field of aviation not only to address the pilot and mechanic shortage, but also the professional management and operation of airports.
- Continue to pursue passage of the Aeronautics Code update and modernization.
- Look at ways to reach out to communities, airport management, flight departments, etc., regarding airport safety and security.

VIII. TRIBUTES

Chair Salo and Director Trout presented special tributes signed by Governor Whitmer to honor Dave VanderVeen and Pete Kamarainen whose commission terms expired May of 2019. Both Mr. VanderVeen and Mr. Kamarainen expressed their appreciation and thanked the Commission and staff of MDOT Office of Aeronautics for their dedication and hard work over the past several years.



IX. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

Chair Salo asked if any of the commissioners would like to make a comment. There were no additional comments.

X. 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 Wednesday, November 6, 2019, 10:00 a.m., Aeronautics Building, 2700 Port Lansing Road, Lansing, Michigan.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:10 p.m.

(approved/signed, original on file)
Roger Salo, Chairman

(approved/signed, original on file)
Michael G. Trout, Director

Dated: November 6, 2019

