

Minutes

Airport Advisory Board

The Airport Advisory board of the City of DeKalb, Illinois, held a regular meeting on January 28, 2025, at the DeKalb Taylor Municipal Airport, 3232 Pleasant Street, DeKalb, Illinois, in the FBO West Community Hangar.

Chairman Robert Owens called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

A. ROLL CALL

Chairman Robert Owens called the roll, and the following members of the Airport Advisory Board were present; Bernard Pupino/Vice-Chair, Derek Hiland, Matt Duffy, and Scott Carlson. James Rhoades was absent. Also present, Airport Operations Manager Ben Trompeter, Public Works Director Andy Raih, City Manager Bill Nicklas, Assistant City Manager Bob Redel, and Melissa Amedeo, Executive Director, DeKalb County Economic Development Corporation.

B. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Bernard Pupino moved to approve the agenda as presented; seconded by Matt Duffy. Motion passes by a majority voice vote of those present.

C. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Derek Hiland moved to approve October 22, 2024; minutes as presented; seconded by Scott Carlson. Motion passed by a majority voice vote of those present.

D. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

1. Robert Owens reported an overview of the IPAA Conference he attended.
 - a. Mead and Hunt Consultant Engineers has been contracted by IDOT to assist with TIPs projects
 - b. Aviation Fuel Tax Reimbursement – Division of Aeronautics is working on streamlining the process
 - c. The FBI spoke about airport aviation crime.
 - d. Advance Air Mobility System Plan – specifically drones and electric aircraft transportation

E. OLD BUSINESS

1. DKB-5118 Perimeter Fence Phase 1 Update
 - a. Ben Trompeter gave an update on the fencing project. The project is active, and the City of DeKalb has paid the local share of \$63,318.50. The project should begin sometime on the spring of 2025.
2. Solar Farm Update
 - a. Andy Raih updated the board on the solar farm project.
 1. A fair market value appraisal was performed and determined the land being used for the solar farm is worth \$1900 per acre. Previously

the land was assessed to be \$1,800 per acre. A lease amendment was drafted to account for the change, city council approved the amendment to the lease.

2. The airport is now waiting for approval of the condensed NEPA report, land use change, and an airspace analysis for the temporary construction.
3. Construction is scheduled to begin in March 2025.

F. NEW BUSINESS

1. 2024 TIPs

- a. Ben Trompeter addressed the board on the airport improvement projects planned for 2026. The airport proposed to have both Taxiway B and Taxiway A resurfaced. The airport is waiting for the Division of Aeronautics approval of the two proposed projects.
- b. The airport had \$159,000 in BIL funding from FY22. This money will be used for the engineering phase of the project.
 1. FAA funding = 95%
 2. State and local = 2.5%

2. Runway Broom/Snow Removal Equipment

- a. Andy Raih updated on acquiring a Runway Broom for snow removal.
- b. Bid documents were submitted in October of 2024. The city had two companies submit for a broom truck. The company that came in under the bid price ended up backing out.
- c. Andy Raih and Ben Trompeter decided to rebid the project and bid for a Front Loader with a broom attachment.
- d. The bid documents should be ready by mid to end of February.

O. ADJOURNMENT

Bernard Pupino moved to adjourn, the motion was seconded by Scott Carlson, the motion passed by a majority voice vote of those present.