

Minutes

Airport Advisory Board

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The Airport Advisory Board of the City of DeKalb, Illinois, held a regular meeting on February 25, 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.

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
- Melissa Amedeo

Absent members:

- James Rhoades
- Matt Duffy
- Scott Carlson

Also present:

- Airport Operations Manager Ben Trompeter
- Public Works Director Andy Raih
- Assistant City Manager Bob Redel
- City Council Member Mike Verbic

Additionally, guest visitor Steve Flattum, a DeKalb Taylor Municipal Airport tenant, was in attendance.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Bernard Pupino moved to approve the agenda as presented, seconded by Derek Hiland. The motion passed by a majority voice vote of those present.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Bernard Pupino moved to approve the minutes from January 28, 2025, as presented, seconded by Melissa Amedeo. The motion passed by a majority voice vote of those present.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Andy Raih shared that James Rhoades has been placed in hospice care due to his declining health. The board expressed their thoughts and support for Mr. Rhoades and his family.

Steve Flattum introduced himself to the advisory board. He recently purchased an aircraft and is a community hangar tenant. He attended the meeting to learn more about the airport and its operations.

OLD BUSINESS

DKB-5118 Perimeter Fence Phase One Update

Ben Trompeter provided an update on the tentative start date for the fencing project, scheduled for May 1, 2025.

NEW BUSINESS

Spring Initiatives/Clean-Up

Andy Raih discussed upcoming spring clean-up efforts at the airport. Maintenance crews have recently completed the removal of "weed trees" along the fence line of the lease farm fields. They will begin inspecting and performing preventive maintenance on the rented T-Hangar units. The grounds crew is also considering the application of growth inhibitors in certain grassy areas on the airfield.

Additionally, marked "T" parking spots will be painted on the ramp to improve the flow of parking.

Deice Truck Update

Ben Trompeter updated the advisory board on the status of the deice truck. The truck is now fully operational. All hydraulics have been inspected and serviced, and the rams have been replaced. The joystick used to operate the boom from the bucket has been repaired and is functioning correctly. The availability of deicing operations is crucial for winter operations, allowing jets to travel to DeKalb during inclement weather.

ADJOURNMENT

Derek Hiland moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Bernard Pupino. The motion passed by a majority voice vote of those present.