

## **Minutes**

### **Airport Advisory Board**

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

#### **ROLL CALL**

Chairman Robert Owens called the roll, and the following members of the Airport Advisory Board were present:

- Robert Owens
- Melissa Amedeo
- Matt Duffy
- Scott Carlson

Absent members:

- Derek Hiland

Also present:

- Airport Operations Manager Ben Trompeter
- Public Works Director Andy Raih
- City Manager Bill Nicklas
- Assistant City Manager Bob Redel

Guests

- Mary Soderstrum, Avcon Inc. (Aviation Consulting Firm)

#### **APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

Scott Carlson moved to approve the agenda as presented, seconded by Matt Duffy. The motion passed by a majority voice vote of those present.

#### **APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

Matt Duffy moved to approve the minutes from April 22, 2025, as presented, seconded by Melissa Amedeo. The motion passed by a majority voice vote of those present.

#### **DKB-4906 Acquire Snow Removal Equipment**

Ben Trompeter reported that the bid solicitation for project DKB-4906 closed on May 9, 2025. Two complete bids were received:

1. West Side Tractor Sales Co.
2. Alta Construction Equipment Illinois LLC

West Side Tractor Sales Co. was the lowest bidder. The bid package will be submitted to City Council for purchase approval. Once approved, the equipment will be ordered, with delivery expected by late summer or early fall.

Base Bid							
Bid #	Bidder	Wheel Loader w/ Bucket	Wheel Loader Broom Attachemtn	Skid Steer Loader	Skid Steer Loader Broom Attachment	Skid Steer Loader Box Plow Attachment	Total
1	Alta Construction Equipment Illinois LLC	\$369,649.00	\$92,172.00	\$88,680.00	\$12,116.00	\$15,000.00	\$577,617.00
2	West Side Tractor Sales Co.	\$378,548.37	\$71,290.00	\$94,529.95	\$10,969.22	\$10,272.21	\$565,609.75
Additive Alternate #1							
Bid #	Bidder	84 inch Snow Blower for Skid Steer					
1	Alta Construction Equipment Illinois LLC	\$ 22,466.00					
2	West Side Tractor Sales Co.	\$ 16,547.39					
Total w/ Alternate #1							
Bid #	Bidder	Total					
1	Alta Construction Equipment Illinois LLC	\$600,083.00					
2	West Side Tractor Sales Co.	\$582,157.14					
Reimbursement							
1	Engineering Services	\$ 20,000.00					
2	Advertising	\$ 97.34					
Total Cost with Reimbursement							
1	Alta Construction Equipment Illinois LLC	\$620,180.34					
2	West Side Tractor Sales Co.	\$602,254.48					

### Peace Rd. and Pleasant St. Corner Lot

City Manager Bill Nicklas presented a preliminary concept for a café/commercial space on the corner lot. Key highlights included:

- A two-story design featuring an observation deck overlooking airport operations.
- The café would be on airport property but outside the secure fenced area.
- Aircraft could taxi to a designated parking area next to the restaurant.
- The location is visible from major roads, encouraging both aviators and the local community to visit.

### Board Suggestions:

1. Expand the second floor for additional dining and viewing space.
2. Consider an alternative to the proposed stone exterior façade.
3. Bill Nicklas noted additional revisions will be presented at the June meeting.

### **Community Engagement Ideas**

Chairman Robert Owens encouraged the board to explore ideas to better engage the public and raise awareness of the airport. Suggestions included:

- Hosting events in the Community Hangar
- Partnering with EAA for a hangar dance
- Fly-in events with organizations such as the 99s or other flying clubs
- A 5K/10K race on airport property or a runway
- Hosting an airshow
- Organizing an airport open house with participation from:
  - Kishwaukee Education Consortium (KEC)
  - Local aviation businesses
  - Flight schools
  - STEM-based activities

### **Board Member Openings**

Matt Duffy raised the topic of the two current vacancies on the Airport Advisory Board. Discussion included:

- No current nominees from the Mayor, but open to suggestions.
- Preference for candidates with marketing/public engagement experience and a younger demographic.
- **Katherine McLaughlin** was suggested as a potential member.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Scott Carlson moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Matt Duffy. The motion passed by a majority voice vote of those present.