



Effingham County Board  
101 N. 4<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 301, Effingham, IL  
217.342.4990

June 4, 2025 9:00 A.M.  
**Effingham County Airport Commission Meeting**

**MINUTES**

Commission Members Present: (Roll Call Taken) Tony Siemer, Phil Toops, Josh Douthit, Tim Ellis, Ken Wohltman

Absent:

Others Present: Jerry Tate; Greg Koester (City), J. Olsen (Hanson)

**Minutes**

- K. Wohltman moved to approve May 7, 2025 minutes/P. Toops seconded. Unanimous, ***Motion carried.***

**Review and Approve Bills**

- P. Toops moved to approve May bills in the amount of \$263,619.46/T. Ellis seconded. Unanimous, ***Motion carried.***

**Correspondence**

**Old Business**

- Updates on Relocated Township Road – T. Siemer shared update from G. Koester that county highway department will remove old road at no cost to Airport Commission

**New Business**

- Golf Cart Maintenance – J. Tate stated airport golf cart is in need of new batteries. J. Tate stated he would like lithium batteries because of battery life expectancy, however due to cost doesn't recommend. J. Tate shared cost is around \$1200.00 for lead acid batteries. K. Wohltman agreed to go with lead acid rather than lithium batteries due to cost. K. Wohltman motioned to approve purchase of lead acid batteries for golf cart. P. Toops seconded. Unanimous. ***Motion carried.***
- Tree Penetrations – J. Olsen stated FAA has been provided a design model of the extension and has identified future tree penetrations with runway extension causing a need for tree removal before pavement is poured. K. Wohltman inquired on funding for tree clearing project. J. Olsen shared it would be best to use a local let project. J. Olsen doesn't recommend entitlement moneys due to affecting future projects and believes the best bet is a local project. T. Siemer stated G. Koester to follow up upon return.
- Project Updates
  - Runway Extension – J. Olsen shared there is an outstanding Notice to Proceed items from McCarthy to State, however has been seeing positive movement on other items. J. Olsen reported demolition work of old runway and other civil work should begin in August. J. Olsen stated this project will affect traffic control for runway. J. Olsen shared expectations with runway extension broken down into stages.
    - Stage 1 – Work begins on current runway length with patching on east end and will involve closing that runway in July. No replacement of panels at this time.
    - Stages 2-4 related to runway.
    - Stage 5 - Taxiway to be done concurrently with runway extension starting in September. J. Olsen estimated project to be completed by Thanksgiving.
  - Hangar – J. Olsen reported estimated start date of July 7<sup>th</sup> with mobilization and foundation prepping work and civil site work will commence in August while observing lead times for delivery of building in late summer/fall building. J. Olsen reported all has been approved except shop drawings from Full Fab.

**General Information**

- Hangar and Fuel Flow Report – J. Tate previously provided report of hangar rent showing \$4350.00 for May. Currently only 10 hangars rented. Fuel flow report showed Jet-A and Avgas fuel flow of 9810.1 gallons and 1254.7 gallons, respectively.

- Experimental Aircraft Assoc. Local Chapter representative shared upcoming pancake breakfast scheduled Saturday, June 21, 2025 sharing organizational mission is to promote general aviation in community. Representative stated they are having difficulty getting local chapter off the ground and inquired if the Airport Commission had any interest in assisting J. Douthit suggested attending board meeting if working to plan an overnight event which would qualify for hotel/motel funding that may assist in financial support. K. Wolhtlman shared concerns with events such as a car show hosted at airport due to traffic. Discussion on ideas for support of program.
- G. Koester (City) reported City Comprehensive Plan is work in progress and he hopes to have draft of plan to provide to Commission in July.
- Solar – T. Siemer stated airport layout plan would need updated for any solar projects on airport property. J. Olson confirmed. J. Olson shared 7-20 acre tract is non-aeronotic and there would be an 18 month timeline from an airport layout plan update to any permissions to add solar. G. Koester (City) stated solar would require a special use permit through City with decommissioning plan and required annual bonds.

**Adjourn/Next Meeting**

- J. Douthit motioned/P. Toops seconded to adjourn the meeting. Unanimous. *Motion carried.*

Minutes submitted by Angie Thompson, Administrative Aide to Airport Commission