



Effingham County Board
101 N. 4th Street, Suite 301, Effingham, IL
217.342.4990

September 3, 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 (county) Barry Stoltz (Hanson), Jeffrey Olson (Hanson)

Minutes

- P. Toops moved to approve August 6, 2025 minutes/T. Ellis seconded. Unanimous, **Motion carried.**

Review and Approve Bills

- G. Koester stated Precise Construction bill is dependant on receipt of August payroll. T. Ellis moved to approve August bills in the amount of \$92,430.82. /P. Toops seconded. Unanimous, **Motion carried.**

Correspondence

Old Business -

- G. Koester stated tree removal has been completed on east end in a three acre area, providing a picture of removal to commission. G. Koester stated after the predicted rain, wheat will be sown as part of erosion control.

New Business

- Project Updates
 - Runway Extension – J. Olson stated substantial amount of earth work has been completed and is half way finished. J. Olson stated the next step is placement of rock for subgrade of which they are waiting on approval next week and once the rock has been placed, followed by rebar placement. J. Olson stated a portion of existing runway has been removed. This will allow for contractor to pave both the panel replacement and new pavement at the same time. Hopefully this will limit the closure timeline. J. Olson confirmed drainage is placed and completed.
 - Hangar – J. Olson stated hangar is currently waiting on rock work with next step being preparing foundations and anticipates pouring of form work for foundation next week. J. Olson stated building delivery predicted to occur in January per Full Fab. K. Wohltman stated confirmation from Full Fab was at best end of January. J. Olson stated he is hopeful building can go up and electrical can be installed as soon as possible to allow for continued construction through spring without any hold ups due to weather.
- Authorized Maintenance of Primary Runway – G. Koester shared observation of concrete joints opening up along primary runway. K. Wohltman motioned to authorize G. Koester to stay within budget and work on maintenance while runway is currently closed. P. Toops seconded. Unanimous. **Motion carried.**
- 2026 Budget Planning – Commision reviewed 2026 draft airport budget submitted to full county budget.
- Professional Engineering Agreement with Hanson Professional Services for T-Hangar and Taxilanes – G. Koester presented agreement for construction oversight of hangar and taxilanes through Hanson Professional Services. J. Olston stated Hanson is selected for project and Hanson's current work has been charged to a retainer, however project is now catching up with next phase of fees. J. Olson stated this agreement will allow for start of reimbursements for state funding. J. Douthit approved to approve professional engineering agreement with Hanson. K. Wohltman seconded. Unanimous. **Motion carried.**
- Update Farm Plats –G. Koester stated there is an understanding with current renters that after airport construction is completed, new plats will be prepared and Commission will advertise for 3-5 year lease bids. With current construction status, G. Koester anticipated opening up bids around this time next year.

General Information

- K. Wohltman stated maintenance of runway 1-19 is needed for some cracking and recommended maintenance to be incorporated in budget. J. Olson stated both runways are in need of maintenance and stated he has been tracking for federal projects and for various reasons have prioritized funds towards other infrastructure projects. J. Olson stated programming TIPS meetings are coming quickly, and he will request programming maintenance at that time for federal funding. J. Olson stated he had requested funding previously, however, limited funding was allowed for Effingham County Regional Airport at that time.
- Hangar and Fuel Flow Report – J. Tate provided report of hangar rent showing \$4370.00 for August with new tenant. Fuel flow report showed Jet-A and Avgas fuel flow of gallons and 2109.1 gallons, respectively. J. Tate anticipated September sales to be similar.
- Dirrheimer Spray Service presented to Commission with request for hangar rental at Effingham County Regional Airport. Mauricio Dirrheimer stated his company is a family owned crop-dusting outfit that would like to base a couple airplanes in Effingham. M. Dirrheimer stated his company will spray two months per year needing the full winter for airplane storage. M. Dirrheimer stated future plans may be to incorporate a small shop for assembling experimental plane kits to sell. M. Dirrheimer stated he would be looking for a rental beginning in May 2026 for at least one plane. J. Tate stated may possibly be able to fit one plane, however will be limited on space until T-Hangar project is completed. J. Douthit recommended the possibility of a business rate for hangar rent since M. Dirrheimer is presenting with a business unlike other renters. T. Siemer shared concerns with ensuring fuel will not be transported in and must be purchased from the Airport. Douthit suggested an increase in hangar rent for businesses if fuel cost if negotiated fuel costs. J. Douthit recommended J. Tate come back with a proposal after discussion and agreement with M. Dirrheimer. K. Wohltman agreed. No action taken.
- Precise Construction updated commission on construction including runway removal and footings for foundation to be completed this week.

Adjourn/Next Meeting

- J. Douthit motioned/K. Wohltman seconded to adjourn the meeting. Unanimous. *Motion carried.*

Minutes submitted by Angie Thompson, Administrative Aide to Airport Commission