

**FINGER LAKES REGIONAL AIRPORT ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
SENECA COUNTY, NEW YORK  
MINUTES OF THE MARCH 11, 2015 MEETING**

Members Present: Gerard Mirabito, Jr. – Chairman, David Haimes – Secretary, Allen Staff – Airport Manager, Bill Bordeau – Planning & Community Development, James Dolan – McFarland Johnson Engineers, Jeff Shipley – Executive Director Seneca County Chamber of Commerce, Don Earle – Seneca Falls Town Supervisor, Dr. Hunter Mollin, August Gillon, Paul Richardson, Robert Pfeiff, Vern Sessler, Jr.  
Absent: Peter Same, Robert Skinner  
Excused: Dr. Kenneth Padgett  
Guest: Milt von Hahmann

Chairman Mirabito opened the meeting at 7PM and welcomed the members in attendance. Minutes of the September 10, 2014 meeting were accepted without revision. The December 10, 2014 meeting of the Committee was cancelled due to inclement weather.

Mr. Mirabito introduced Allen Staff to the Committee. Allen was appointed Airport Manager on January 1, 2015. He has many years experience in aircraft maintenance, refueling and is an active general aviation pilot. Mr. Mirabito and the Committee members thanked Milt von Hahmann for his many years of service as airport manager. Milt has been a driving force for positive change at the airport.

**Airport Manager's Report:** by Allen Staff

- In the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter of 2014, 3500 gallons of 100 LL aviation fuel was sold and 5300 gallons of Jet-A fuel was sold. Air Methods (Life Net) purchased \$18,000 of Jet fuel in the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter of 2014. (In the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter of 2013, 800 gallons of Jet-A fuel was sold.)
- In the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter of year 2015 fuel sales were slow due to weather. 2043 gallons of Jet fuel was sold in the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter. (\$8200 received from Air Methods for fuel.)
- Much time was spent plowing snow since January. The runway was closed only for 6 hours on one day. The remainder of the time the runway was open.
- Finger Lakes Flying Service had a slow winter.

**Engineering Report:** by James Dolan

- Please see the attached report from McFarland Johnson Engineers.
- Mr. Dolan reported a 2500-gallon fuel truck that will dispense Jet-A, manufactured by Garsite, has been obtained by the County via direct purchase (not bid). This refueler will enable single point fueling of turbine aircraft and will allow more efficient fueling of the Life Net medical helicopter.

**County Review:** by Bill Bordeau and Don Earle

- The Board of Supervisors has approved the funding for a new Jet-A refueler and for a new plow truck and snowplow. The new plow will include a wing that will allow for better snow removal.
- The work on the south end of the taxiway will continue to clear up some unfinished items from 2014.
- Zoladz Construction has started construction. They have made significant progress on the drainage work outside of the airport and will be ready to begin construction of the taxiway pavement rehabilitation, lighting and other work soon. Completion date is late May 2015, weather permitting.

**FLAPS Review:** by David Haimes

- FLAPS had a slow winter season, but did pick up several new members in the new year.
- A new flight instructor was added to the roster, Nelson Ronsvale. This makes three part-time flight instructors as members of FLAPS.
- FLAPS and the Waterloo Rotary Club are planning another Fly-In Breakfast in September 2015.

**Number of Commerce Report:** by Jeff Shipley

- New Seneca County guides have been printed and distributed. Advertisements for the airport and for FLAPS are located in the guide.

**Old Business:**

- As per the lease agreements with Seneca County, no "thru-the-fence" fuel operation will be permitted on the airport. The agricultural spray operator will need to purchase all their fuel from the County, just as the medical helicopter does.

**New Business:**

- Steve Churchill has been removed as a Committee member.
- Bill Bordeau motioned that Milt von Hahmann be appointed to the Committee by the Board of Supervisors. The motion was seconded by David Haines and was approved unanimously by the Committee members.
- Milt reported that the ramp between the hangars is in poor repair. This pavement needs to be milled out and replaced.
- James Dolan spoke about the possibility of extending RW 01-19 to 5000 feet. This is the length that most insurance companies require for many turbine operations. Jim said the FAA looks at use and need and that support from area corporate users is vital. He suggested gaining support in the form of letters from companies such as Seneca Meadows, Bonadent and Wilmorite and from institutional users such as Hobart and William Smith Colleges and the New York Chiropractic College.
- Bill Bordeau suggested that the next meeting of the Committee include an invitation to the Board of Supervisors so they can personally see the drainage improvement project that is in progress. Jeff Shipley suggested that local business leaders be invited to this meeting for the same reasons. There is potential for increased airport use as the proposed Lago Casino project develops.

Chairman Mirabito closed the meeting at 8:10PM. The second quarterly meeting of the Committee will be Wednesday, June 10, 2015 at **5:30 PM** at the airport. A tour of the facility will be given to the invited guests and will be followed by a catered dinner and the business meeting. Invitations will be sent.

Submitted by:

David Haines  
Secretary