

## MINUTES

**Chippewa Valley Regional Airport  
Public Hearing  
Tuesday, November 17, 2020, 7:00 pm  
Virtual Meeting via Webex Events**

1. **Call to Order:** Chair Bill Hilgedick called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.
2. **Confirmation of Meeting Notice:** The Public Hearing was noticed.
3. **Roll Call:** Commissioners Rick Bowe, Scott Francis, Bill Hilgedick, Peter Hoeft and Barry Wells were present via Webex Events virtual meeting.
4. **Public Hearing in the Matter of State and Federal Aid for Improvements at the Chippewa Valley Regional Airport**
  - a. **Presentation of Airport Projects in Support of Aid Petition**

The projects that are listed on the petition include the following: Construct Hangars, Replace or Install New Taxiway Lighting, Replace or Install New Runway Lighting and Rehabilitate Runway, Taxiway and Ramp Pavement. The Airport Director reviewed airport historical and operational data as well as background information regarding the projects listed on the petition.
  - b. **Public Comment**
    - Heather Deluka, 3103 Hope Avenue: In favor of corporate hangars on the north side of the airport and would like the Airport Commission to consider using the CARES money to build hangars on the north side of the airport. Hangars on the south side of the airport have the greatest impact on residential areas and uses up prime real estate that could be used for other things. She is also concerned that more hangars and the south side of the airport will increase the aircraft using the short runway.
    - David Frederikson, W805 Cedar Road: In favor of continued airport growth and development and encourages the construction of additional hangars that will, in turn, increase operations, fuel sales and operational income and ultimately decrease the need for taxpayer support.
    - Robert Lee, 2319 Hallie Lane: In opposition to accepting the CARES funding because it increases the national debt and he does not feel that it was intended to subsidize or support rebuilding or maintaining an airport apart from operational expenses, wages, etc. and to help the economy due to COVID. He believes it is a gross injustice to the people of the United States who have to pay down that debt that we would use it to “increase the airport”. That was not what it was intended for.

- Patty Duerkop, 3241 Mars Avenue: Agrees with Mr. Lee's concerns with the CARES funding use. She is not in opposition to improvements to the airport, but feels that 23 new hangars on the south side and the small aircraft that have been increasing operations already in that area are producing a lot more noise and fuel emissions. The fuel pollutes the air, the lawns, etc. She would propose that bigger aircraft be only on the North side and use the CARES money to clean up areas on the North side to make room for more hangars and then only build on the South side only if absolutely needed. She fears that expansion will result in the airport taking peoples homes away and paying them pennies on the dollar for them and continue to build just so people can have their little private planes over there and it's a disservice to the neighborhood that has been here for a very long time and has been in support of the airport. She's very worried about that.
- Guy Wood (submitted via email and as partially read aloud by Charity Zich, Airport Director), 204 Skyline Drive: "Construct Hangers: Paving of taxiway access and some ramp areas would seem appropriate for FAA funding. I would be surprised if FAA funds are available to construct hangers as they are for private use. Taxiway Lighting: A lighted Wind Sock and Wind Tee within a Segmented Circle should be considered with this request. The airport had this centrally located between Taxiway A and Runway 4/22 opposite the GA ramp of the terminal building. I believe this was removed when the new Taxiway A was added outside the terminal's ramp area. The Control Tower might eliminate this as requirement, but it is still a valued Pilot safety reference and very necessary when Tower is not operating. One could be located mid-field on the north-west side of Runway 4/22. See FAA's AIM, Section 3. Airport Operations, Chapter 4-3-4. Airport Fencing: New Fencing is not mentioned as a Hearing Aid Petition but was part of funding plans by the Airport Manager at our EAA Chapter meeting on Nov 12. A 10-foot-high fence with wire on top is being considered to include all airport property. This would greatly expand fenced areas if it were to follow the red lines shown on the airport map attached to this notice. Increased fencing areas for the airport should consider: 1. Areas inside the perimeter fence should be cleared of all trees and regularly mowed (clear space necessary for policing security and to identify any wildlife on field). 2. Clearing of trees to the south and west of airport would reduce noise protection to those neighborhoods, resulting in increased noise complaints. 3) Numerous homes would have this tall fence at the back of their property and in many cases inside the area they mow. 4) The red property line (proposed fence?) crosses roads presenting public access/security questions. Fencing the property line may be necessary to establish ownership with the increased housing and social activities adjacent to airport property. A low pole fence with wire, like seen along right-away of interstates, would be acceptable and most appropriate. Additional Items of comment: Is future airport activity/growth expected? If so, are there plans for airport promotion and can FAA funding be used to plan/encourage growth activities? ATIS/ASOS is a necessary service for pilots. Tower updates this Information only once an hour. Neighboring airports of Menomonie, Chetek, Rice Lake have surface weather continually updated. Pilots wanting current

conditions contact these airports for an idea on what to expect at KEAU. Funding Security cameras for gates, hanger areas and operational areas not easily seen by the tower or airport maintenance personnel should be considered. Cameras would assist monitoring maintenance and snow conditions where hanger tenants are/will be trying to clear and move aircraft. Guy Wood (Airport Manager 1976 – 1983; re-construction runway 4/22 & extension of 14/32; terminal building, maintenance building & vehicles, hangers C & D, ownership change from city, 4 airshows)”

- Jason Dekan, 9606 Aspen Lane: In support of additional hangars at the airport and he thinks the airport benefits the community much more than some people realize. There is a need for hangars. It opens up opportunities for people who would like to use the airport, but maybe cannot because there are not facilities available for them. He is concerned that taxpayer funds are being used responsibly and not on items that were replaced or upgraded recently, as well.
- Jody Graffunder, 1002 Ervin Road: In support of additional GA and corporate hangars but emphasizes that the North side should be utilized as much as possible.

**8. Adjournment:** The Public Hearing adjourned at 7:33 pm.