

Hastings City / Barry County Airport Commission
Meeting Minutes
January 22, 2020

1. **Call to Order.** The meeting was called to order by Chairman Holley at 4:30 p.m.
2. **Pledge of Allegiance.** Holley led those present in the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance.
3. **Roll Call.** Roll was taken. Present: Conner, Smelker, Holley, Bowers and Tossava. Absent: None.
4. **Approval of Agenda.** Holley asked for any additions or amendments to the agenda. Noteboom requested the addition of

- Report on Complaint investigated by Michigan State Police (9.B.)
- Report on complaint filed with MDOT (9.C.)
- Information on investors interested in acquiring airport (9.D.)

Motion by Conner, second by Smelker to approve the agenda for today's meeting including the additions as requested.

In favor: Conner, Smelker, Holley, Bowers and Tossava.
Opposed: None.
Absent: None.

Motion carried.

5. **Limited Public Comment.** Holley asked for limited comment from the public. No comment was forwarded. Mark Anderson requested that the Airport Commission consider changing the meetings from 4:30pm back to 10:00am. Commission will bring back at next meeting.
6. **Approval of Minutes.** Holley asked for comments regarding the draft minutes of the November 26, 2019 regular meeting of the Airport Commission.

Motion by Tossava, second by Smelker to approve the minutes of the November 26, 2019 regular meeting of the Airport Commission.

In favor: Conner, Smelker, Holley, Bowers and Tossava.
Opposed: None.
Absent: None.

Motion carried.

7. **Financial Reports.** Holley introduced discussion regarding the November and December 2019 Airport Fund financial reports. Brown was not present, so Commission suggested tabling financials until next meeting.

Motion by Smelker, second by Conner to table financial report until February meeting.

In favor: Conner, Smelker, Holley, Bowers and Tossava.

Opposed: None.

Absent: None.

Motion carried.

8. **Old Business.** Noteboom stated that the Rules and Regulations and 30-Day Lease have been updated by attorney. There was very little input by Airport staff, written by the attorney. Holley stated that he had reviewed the updated documents. It was stated that everyone will get a new copy once documents are approved. Tossava had compared the old and new documents, was happy with the update and that the Airport Manager was not the one that wrote the documents. Conner asked what type of input did staff provide. Noteboom stated that it was clarification on the old rules.

Motion by Bowers, second by Tossava to approve the updated Rules and Regulations and updated 30-Day Lease Agreement.

In favor: Conner, Smelker, Holley, Bowers and Tossava.

Opposed: None.

Absent: None.

Motion carried.

9. **New Business.** Holley introduced new business.

a. Holley has been receiving calls from pilots about the deer on and around the airport runway. Noteboom stated that he had some ideas that included using manure, airport has 40 permits (10 per year for 4 years to reduce deer population). It is becoming a safety issue, saw 70 deer two weeks ago. If the issue continues can look into getting a fence, will need MDOT approval. Staff has been taking a quad through the woods to scare off deer. Conner asked about coyote urine. Noteboom stated that there is already coyotes around. Staff is making best efforts to address.

b. Noteboom reported to Commission that on June 13 – Tony Cordova filed an embezzlement complaint with the Michigan State Police against Noteboom. Investigation closed out last week. Information given to the board. Nothing was found and it was concluded that there was no basis for the charge.

c. Noteboom reported that on December 2nd, Cordova filed a complaint with MDOT. This was the same complaint filed by VanLeer last year. This board addressed and found no issues. Complaint is being investigated by MDOT. Private business on site, deer hunting, using hangers for storage, etc. are the

complaints. This investigation is still active. Conner asked if Airport Staff is cooperating. Noteboom stated they are.

- d. Noteboom stated that a group of investors want to acquire the airport. They think more can be done if it is privately owned. This would get everything out from under the City and County. More investments could be made into the airport. It was asked to take idea to City and County to measure interest. It would then go through the FAA. Conner asked if the public would still be allowed to use the airport. Noteboom stated that it would. Noteboom noted that it would be at least a year, but the idea needs to be brought to the respective boards. Conner asked if the airport would still be able to apply for grants. Noteboom stated yes. Discussion will be brought back next month.

10. **Airport Manager's Report.** Holley introduced discussion regarding the Airport Manger's Report for December 2019 and January 2020. Noteboom presented and explained the Airport Manager's report.

11. **Board Comments.** Holley asked for additional comments from the Airport Commission. Holley stated that he will be gone the next meeting and that his youngest son had just received his pilot's license.

12. **Limited Public Comment.** Holley asked for limited comment from the public. Mr. Shaw asked how an individual could start a flight school at the airport. Noteboom stated that would have to file paperwork with the State and create a business plan. Suggested that he stop in and the staff would assist.

13. **Adjournment.** Motion by Smelker, second by Tossava to adjourn at 5:01 p.m.

Motion carried.

Submitted by: Jerry Czarnecki, Administrative Secretary