

Menomonie Airport Commission
Special Meeting Minutes
September 26, 2023

The Menomonie Airport Commission was called to order by Chairman Dr. Dan Johnson at 4:00 pm on Tuesday, September 26, 2023 in the Council Chambers at City Hall. Other Commission members present included: Steven Lee, Randy Sommerfeld, and Earl Wildenberg.

Others in attendance included: Kris Korpela (Dunn County), Tyler Leslie (WisBOA), Erik Guenard (UW-Stout), Caleb Rosenberg, Casey Delong, Melissa Underwood (SEH), Randy Knaack, Eric Atkinson, David Schofield (City of Menomonie), Aaron Simmons, Tim Tyre (Gibson Aviation), Chris Brett, Bob Willow.

Johnson asked for public comments. No public comments were received.

Johnson moved item 5a presentation to follow the public comments section of the agenda.

Underwood asked attendees to share their vision for the Airport:

1. Ensure maintenance continues to occur, condition of the airport does not disintegrate
 - a. Get AWOS back
 - b. Hangar construction project
 - c. Fuel system replacement
 - d. Add instrument approaches to Runway 18/36
 - e. Explore adding approach lighting to Runway 9 but may be complicated by land and cost.
2. Keep airport looking fresh
3. Finish career at airport, maintain level of services while continuing to improve the airport.
4. Airport newcomer, wants to listen and learn, continue to be a good neighbor to the community.
5. Keep the lights on, support airport commission
6. Support the airport commission
7. Continue to improve the airport, safety and maintenance is excellent
8. Likes what the airport is currently, attracts business development.
9. Still developing 5 year vision, hope to learn and add insights over time.
10. See the university be a good partner with the airport and seize opportunities to partner with the airport
11. Agree with maintenance. Add more T-hangars or small hangar spaces to grow the pilot community.
12. Support commission's vision for the airport and help move projects along
13. Continue to find ways to enhance economic development through the airport.
14. Expand aviation education, open dedicated space for pilot preparation at the Airport.

Underwood led the discussion regarding the Master Plan. She described the purpose of the master plan, presented the slides that were included in the packet and explained there are federal guidelines. Korpela asked how often Master Plans are generally updated. Underwood indicated 10-15 years. Johnson noted that updated master plan is required for funding. Tyre asked if forecasts would include increased training and business flights. Underwood indicated that they would. Tyre asked if a precision approach could be established. Willow indicated that the Airport Commission studied an ILS approach many years ago but abandoned it due to conflicts with Stokke Parkway and CTH B. Knaack asked if the Master Plan would include cost estimates for the recommended improvements. Underwood indicated that it would.

Johnson indicated the next Master Plan Meeting will be held on Tuesday, December 12th at 4:00 pm at City Hall. Invites will be sent and the meeting will be posted as a special airport commission meeting.

The August 16, 2023 minutes were accepted by consensus.

Schofield and Leslie provided updates on the AWOS replacement. WisBOA is still scoping a project for several airports around the State.

Schofield provided an update on the Transient Hangar project. Underwood explained that a survey was sent to determine the hangar needs for pilots. Knaack described the need for the Commission to adequately explain the benefits of city investments to the airport.

Schofield provided an update on the Crackfilling project. Currently scheduled for October 9-18.

Schofield presented the Airport Manager's Report.

A motion was made by Wildenberg, seconded by Sommerfeld to adjourn. Motion passed.

Submitted by:
David Schofield

Recording Secretary