



# DeKalb County Airport Authority

2710 County Road 60 STE 200 | Auburn, IN 46706-9568

**Jess Myers, President**  
**Jerry Korchyk, Vice President**

**John Chalmers, Member**  
**Don Tribbett, Attorney**

**John Kruse, Member**  
**Randy Fox, Secretary**

## MINUTES

January 19, 2024

**DeKalb County Airport Authority Scheduled Meeting:** The DeKalb County Airport Authority met for the regular monthly meeting which began at 1:00 pm. In attendance at the meeting were; Myers, Korchyk, Chalmers, Fox, Kruse, Couchman, Hoit, Airport Attorney Tribbett, John Feister and Kurt Noble from BF&S, community members Tony and Lara Gaerte and Jim Hatfield, Scotty Hepler from Sweet Aviation, and Rick Collins the DCAA Council Liaison. Myers opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Executive Meeting Minutes:** The DeKalb County Airport Authority Board met in Executive Session. No matters were discussed other than those for which notice was given, and no decisions were made at this meeting.

**Officer Elections:** Tribbett opened the floor to officer elections. John Chalmers made a motion to retain the same Officers for 2024 as were in office for 2023. That would make Jess Myers, President, Jerry Korchyk, Vice President, Randy Fox, Secretary, and Russ Couchman Treasurer. Kruse seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

**Approve Agenda:** Myers presented the agenda for the January 19, 2024 Board Meeting for approval. Korchyk made a motion to approve the agenda, Fox seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

**Minutes:** Myers presented the December 15, 2023 meeting minutes for approval. Korchyk made a motion to approve the meeting minutes, with a second from Chalmers. The motion passed unanimously.

**Claims:** Myers presented the January 2024 claims docket for approval. Fox made a motion to approve the claims with a second from Kruse. The motion passed unanimously.

**FBO Brief:** Hepler stated for the month of November they have sold 13,370 gallons of JetA and 1,955.53 of AvGas. For the year they sold 118,845 gallons of Jet-A and 23,664.08 of AvGas. There were

3 aircraft rentals, 17 training sessions, 3 discovery flights and 13 simulator sessions. The first 2024 Ground School has begun on Jan 10<sup>th</sup>. There are now 12 hangar tenants, 3 jets, and 9 piston. Three were 4 maintenance jobs last month. The new 100LL 1,000 gallon refueler was delivered on Dec 19<sup>th</sup> and is in service. The new Jet-A 5,000 gallon refueler was delivered on Jan 16<sup>th</sup> and will be put in service this coming week.

**Manager Brief:** Couchman introduced Justin from Crown Jewel who made a presentation to the Board that was previously just given to a smaller group. It was well received.

Couchman presented the existing Mission, Vision and Value statements that were drafted several years ago along with a suggested started point “draft” should the Board want to consider making changes. After some discussion the Board decided to table any changes pending the outcome of marketing efforts.

Couchman then presented the Gateway Annual Report for approval and signature by the Board President. Chalmers made a motion to approve the Gateway Annual Report and direct the President to sign with a second from Korchyk. The motion passed unanimously.

Couchman handed the home purchase discussion over to Tribbett. Tribbett stated that he has the appraisal and the review appraisal for the home located at 2436 County Road 60 in hand. The appraisal came in at \$266,000.00. He asked the board if they would like him to make an offer at the appraisal prices. Fox made a motion to direct Tribbett to make an offer on the home located at 2436 County Road 60 for the 266,000.00-appraisal price, with a second from Korchyk. The motion passed unanimously.

Couchman stated that there are two tenant issues to discuss. The first is Mr. Larry Gering who on the 7<sup>th</sup> of January at 6:20 pm drove his car while intoxicated at a high rate of speed heading west on the taxiway. It is estimated that he was traveling at triple digit speeds. He departed the paved surface on the west end and the car was totaled. Police and EMS were on scene. After significant discussion, the Board felt that this was an egregious violation of our Rules and Regulations and an extreme safety hazard to Mr. Gering and others on the airport. They felt that they had no other choice but to comply with section 33 of the Rules and Regulations of the Airport which states that “Any Infraction by any Person Shall result in termination of the contract or agreement under which such Person is operating.” Kruse made a motion to immediately terminate access to the airport and to cancel Mr. Gering’s lease to hangar I-2, with a second from Chalmers. The motion passed unanimously.

The second tenant issue has to do with Mr. Bennett Rieke reaching the end of a 90-day grace period to replace the aircraft he sold. We were made aware that he sold the aircraft sometime late in 2022. Upon signing a new lease, he was given a 90-day grace period to find a new aircraft. He has now reached that 90-days and has not been in contact with us. After some discussion, Fox made a motion to have Tribbett draft a letter to Mr. Rieke stating that since he did not meet the 90-day deadline, he will now forfeit his hangar and was seconded by Korchyk. The motion passed unanimously.

**Consultant/Engineer Report:** Feister asked the Board to approve the revised annual Federal Financial Report SF425. He explained that our program manager wanted to see some minor changes. Chalmers made a motion to approve the revised SF425 with a second from Krochyk. The motion passed unanimously.

He asked for Board action to approve the NPE Intent letter for FY 2024. Chalmers made a motion to approve the NPE Intent Letter for FY 2024 with a second from Fox. The motion pass passed.

He asked for Board action to approve Change Order 4-Final with Fleming Excavation in the deduction amount of \$2,865.88. Korchyk made a motion to approve Change Order 4-Final with Fleming Excavation in the amount of \$2,865.88 with a second from Chalmers. The motion passed unanimously.

He asked for Board action to approve Extend RW 9-27 – Paving and Lighting Fleming Excavation Progress Estimate 11 in the amount of \$140,608.90. Fox made a motion to approve Extend RW 9-27 – Paving and Lighting Fleming Excavation Progress Estimate 11 in the amount of \$140,608.90 with a second from Chalmers. The motion passed unanimously.

He asked for Board Action to approve AIP 34 and AIP 35 Extend RW 9-27 Paving & Lighting Report of Final Findings. Chalmers made a motion to approve AIP 34 and AIP 35 Extend RW 9-27 Paving & Lighting Report of Final Findings with a second from Korchyk. The motion passed unanimously.

He asked for Board Action to submit AIP 36 PR2 for FAA reimbursement in the amount of \$207,822.51 Total, 90% Fed \$187,040.00, %5 State and Local \$10,391.00. Korchyk made a motion to submit AIP 36 PR2 for FAA reimbursement in the amount of \$207,822.51 Total, 90% Fed \$187,040.00, %5 State and Local \$10,391.00 with a second from Fox. The motion passed unanimously.

**Attorney Brief:** Tribbett stated that the two tenants that were not providing insurance previously have now been resolved. One left and the other provided insurance.

**Board Member Briefs:** Fox stated he did not give a report to the Council in January but will in February.

**Upcoming Events:** None.

**Public Comments:** None.

**Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 2:23 p.m.

**Next meeting February 16, 2023  
Public Meeting at 1:00 PM  
DeKalb County Airport  
Glenn Rieke Terminal Building**

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Jesse Myers – President

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Jerry Korchyk – Vice President

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John Chalmers – Member

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John Kruse– Member

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Randy Fox –Secretary