



# 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

August 16, 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, Fox, Chalmers, Kruse (virtually), Couchman, Hoit, Airport Attorney Tribbett, John Feister from BF&S, Brandon Graber from Sweet Aviation, Council Member Rick Collins and community members Orval Wallace and Cameron Moore. Myers opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Approve Agenda:** Myers presented the agenda for the August 16, 2024 Board Meeting for approval. Chalmers made a motion to approve the agenda, Fox seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

**Minutes:** Myers presented the August 2nd, 2024 meeting minutes for approval. Chalmers made a motion to approve the meeting minutes, with a second from Fox. The motion passed unanimously.

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

**FBO Brief:** Graber stated for the month of July they have sold 20,544 gallons of Jet-A and 4,66.43 gallons of AvGas. There were 6 aircraft rentals, 37 training sessions, 11 simulator sessions, 4 discovery flights and 2 flight review. The third session of ground school for the year starts in August. There are two new flight school aircraft based on the Airport. N467CA, a Cirrus SR-20 and N233ND, A Diamond DA-20. There were 7 maintenance jobs last month. Lunch on the Fly drew in 96 attendees with 21 aircraft flying in, 15 were Oshkosh bound, there were 17 aircraft on the ramp at one time. Oshkosh promotions in general were a big success. It is estimated that there were 38 aircraft with roughly 65 people that stopped in on their way to

Oshkosh and at least 6 repeat customers returning because of lunch and the nice facilities and staff.

**Manager Brief:** Couchman stated that he would like to transfer \$5,378.00 into Rainy Day Other Services and Charges line item 1381 from Rainy Infrastructure line item 1490, and transfer \$161,348.98 into Rainy Contractual Services line item 1395 also from Rainy Infrastructure line item 1490. Fox made a motion to approve the transfers as stated, with a second from Chalmers. On a rollcall vote, Myers – aye, Chalmers – aye, Kruse – aye, Fox – aye. The motion passed unanimously.

**Consultant/Engineer Report:** Feister asked for Board Action to approve AIP 36 Pay Request 9 for FAA reimbursement in the amount of \$543,922.21 total, 90% Fed \$489,530, 5% State and Local \$27,196. Chalmers made a motion to approve AIP 36 Pay Request 9 for FAA reimbursement with a second from Fox. On a rollcall vote, Myers – aye, Chalmers – aye, Kruse – aye, Fox – aye. The motion passed unanimously.

He asked for Board Action to accept FAA Grant AIP-3-18-004-38 in the amount of \$3,812,505 contingent upon offering. Chalmers made a motion to accept AIP 38 contingent upon FAA offering with a second from Fox. On a rollcall vote, Myers – aye, Chalmers – aye, Kruse – aye, Fox – aye. The motion passed unanimously.

He asked for Board Action to approve the Construction Contract with E&B Paving for the Taxiway A Extension project for \$3,242,685.39 contingent upon the receipt of the FAA grant, Contractor's Bonds, and Certificate of Insurance in accordance with the Contract Documents. Fox made a motion to approve the Construction Contract with E&B Paving as stated above, with a second from Chalmers. On a rollcall vote, Myers – aye, Chalmers – aye, Kruse – aye, Fox – aye. The motion passed unanimously.

He asked for Board Action to approve FAA Grant AIP 3-18-00040-37 in the amount of \$324,290 contingent upon offering. Chalmers made a motion to approve accepting AIP 37 contingent upon FAA offering, with a second from Fox. On a rollcall vote, Myers – aye, Chalmers – aye, Kruse – aye, Fox – aye. The motion passed unanimously.

He asked for Board Action to approve the Construction Contract with Michiana in the amount of \$279,840 for the AWOS/Beacon project contingent upon the receipt of the FAA grant, Contractor's Bonds, and Certificate of Insurance in accordance with the Contract Documents. Chalmers made a motion to approve the Construction Contract with Michiana as stated above, with a second from Kruse. On a rollcall vote, Myers – aye, Chalmers – aye, Kruse – aye, Fox – aye. The motion passed unanimously.

And he asked the Board for Board action to approve Work Order 26 – Three 6- Unit T-hangars 30% Design and BOT Procurement Services. After some discussion it was decided that this work order would be tabled until the next meeting when others could join the conversation.

**Attorney Brief:** None.

**Board Member Briefs:**

Chalmers briefed the Board that the Airport Renaming Committee landed on a name after significant work, which is Auburn-DeKalb Executive Airport. What the committee would like to suggest is that we push a press release out not long after this meeting and then give the public another 30-days or so to comment, if they choose to do so ahead of our next meeting in September. In September we can look at any comments received, and if there are significant numbers that wanted a change, we can address those at the time. If not, we can adopt the name permanently via Board action. Mr. Kruse stated that the initial purpose of this project was to highlight the expanded capabilities of the airport with 7,100’ of runway and to ensure the future economic impact of the airport on the region by telling people and business users who we are and not limiting our client base by our name. The Board agreed with the path the committee suggested and all liked the new name.

**Upcoming Events:** None.

**Public Comments:** Orval Wallace and Cameran Moore stated that they were surprised by the sign that the Airport placed on the property along CR 427 south of the Airport. The sign has an artist’s rendition or an example of how the property could possibly be developed along with the statement, “Commercial Development Opportunity – 260-927-8876.” Myers stated that he doesn’t expect any development to occur anytime soon, but it will most likely be some kind of industry or retail development. Fox stated that it must be airport compatible per the FAA. He said it can’t be tall structures or anything that attracts wildlife. Mr. Moore asked if the airport would retain the property and Couchman stated that yes, the intent is to retain the property for long-term revenue. Myers stated that we will keep the residents informed of any future changes and we will make every effort to be good neighbors.

**Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 2:25 p.m.

**Next meeting September 20, 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