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# ALTOONA BLAIR COUNTY AIRPORT AUTHORITY

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## Manager's Report October 12, 2015

#### <u>General</u>

Sun Air's completion rate improved to 97% for August, while passenger numbers increased substantially. Passenger reservations are climbing for future months for both inbound and outbound traffic and AOO is now the #2 performing airport in the PIT Connector system. The report of completed flights, enplanements, and total passengers is included with this report. Also, Sun Air has hired a new Station Manager, Richard Gray, for their Altoona operation. His is a licensed commercial pilot, a member of the Civil Air Patrol and the Local Chapter of the Experimental Aircraft Association.

We will be holding our triennial emergency exercise to test our Airport Emergency Plan (AEP). The exercise will include Airport ARFF equipment and personnel, as well as local fire and police companies. County Emergency Management Personnel are assisting in the planning an execution of the event and will provide a report and recommendations for changes to the AEP based on the results of the exercise.

#### **Property**

Semcoa is proposing construction of a new hangar on land that they currently lease at the south end of the apron, adjacent to the PSP Hangar. Based on the terms of the Semcoa land lease, this new construction requires board approval. Randall Kring, of Keller Engineers, has prepared plans for the board's consideration. There is a motion on tonight's agenda to consider the plans.

There is a motion on tonight's agenda to consider the termination of the lease of Sandra Weyandt.

The county is open to a transfer of responsibility for the "county garage" to the airport if the airport is willing to replace the deteriorated roof and accept responsibility for ongoing maintenance of the building. At this point, ownership of the building is not certain. Our solicitor will be working with the county solicitor to clarify ownership and determine the best method of transfer. There is a motion on tonight's agenda to consider moving forward with this project.

We have received a quote to alter one of the airport's snow plows to make it more practical for use on the airport. This alteration is much cheaper than buying a new snowplow or altering the hitch for our other existing plow to fit our truck. It will give us another truck to use for snow removal land greatly speed the process.

Wells Fargo Bank has provided an amended version of the Collateral Access Agreement that the board approved last month. You may recall that we approved an agreement last month that Dave Pertile had approved. Dave's version eliminated the requirement for the airport to notify Wells Fargo in the event of a default by the Hertz franchisee. Wells Fargo countered with an agreement that still requires us to notify them, but specifically releases us from any liability for not notifying them. There is a motion on tonight' agenda to consider the amended agreement.

The County Prison Inmates are currently working on projects cutting brush and weeds on outlying areas of the Airport Operations Area. They also moved the Penn State Extension Service to its new offices in the AFSS Building.

We have completed the fee simple purchase of the property designated in this round of our RPZ land acquisition area. We are waiting for subordination agreements from the mortgage-holders of the two property owners from which were are seeking avigation and non-development easements.

USDA-RD requested additional information relating to our pre-application to acquire funds for the local share of the cost to construct new General Aviation T-Hangars. This information has been submitted and pending approval of the pre-application, the next step in the funding process is for a USDA Representative to do a site visit to begin the process of evaluating the feasibility of the project.

The bonding company has provided a response to our request for repairs to the Fuel Farms.

The leases for the AFSS Building for both the FAA and Blair County on behalf of the Penn State Extension Service have been fully executed and are in place. The FAA has vacated all areas of the building that they are no longer leasing and Penn State Extension has moved into their offices. The office furniture that was remaining in the building has been donated to the airport by the FAA.

### **Marketing/Promotion**

Sun Air Express is currently running radio advertising and promotions as well as newspaper and TV advertising to promote the PIT Connector service. Some of the Fall advertising includes promotions for free tickets and flights to a Steelers game.

Sun Air Express has extended its Friends and Family Fare through December 31, 2015. This fare offers substantial discounts for family members traveling together and will be an excellent promotion for the Holiday travel season.

## **Finance**

In addition to the usual financial documents, there is a draft/working budget included with tonight's information. This document will be used as the starting point as we prepare a budget for 2016. A preliminary budget will be presented for approval at the November meeting, and a final budget for approval at the December meeting.

Financial reports for the month are included in meeting information. Total General Fund Expenditures are \$28,957.53.

Tracy A. Plessinger, Manager