



**Wednesday, February 5, 2025**  
**Airport Board minutes**

**City Hall Council chambers**

**"The Airport Board's mission is to advise the Council in developing the future of Independence aviation."**

**Call to Order** at 4:58 pm by Chairman Dan Callahan.

**Roll Call:** Present- Callahan, Rottinghaus, Merritt, Payne, and Pilcher

**Approve the Agenda:** Motion- Merritt                      Second- Rottinghaus                      Ayes- All

**Approve the Minutes:** Motion- Pilcher                      Second- Rottinghaus                      Ayes- All

**Public comment:** none

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Election of Officers for 2025: President:** Callahan **Vice President:** Pilcher  
**Secretary:** Merritt.

Callahan asked if anyone did NOT want to be retained at their position on the board. Motion- by Pilcher and Second by Payne to retain Callahan as President and Pilcher as Vice President. All Ayes. Payne stated she felt it was time for someone else to be secretary. Jones volunteered to be secretary. Callahan motioned, and Pilcher Second was all Ayes.

**Presentation:** Mike Jones attended through Teams and presented ways to grow the airport. Merritt participated in a presentation in 2024, and we invited him to expound on what Merritt reported. We are doing well in some areas, and he gave us a lot to think about in the future. Most of this comes down to money we don't currently have, but he suggested areas to try and get funding or grants, such as Black Hawk County gaming, T-Mobile Community grants, and farm organizations. Jeff suggested Farm Bureau, Soybean Association, and Corn Growers Association. Mr. Jones offered to do what he could to help. There was a lot of good discussion about our website and the promotion of the attractions nearby. There was a lot of back and forth and good information.

**Engineer Update:** Carl was unavailable to attend. We are still waiting on the flight check. Due to the weather, they are dragging their feet.

**Chairman/City Manager Update:** Matt did not have much to report. Things will be tight in the budget across the City as a whole. He talked a little about the website and will check if things can be redirected to our airport portion of the website.

**Airport Manager Update:** Brett submitted his report, which was accepted. Brett added that he compared our hangar rents with those of other airports, and we are comparable. This will be discussed more at our March meeting. Information was also presented on the fuel summary for 2024.

**FBO Update:** They submitted their report, which was accepted. Things are still down a little but should be on an upswing with warmer weather. It was also suggested that Cole be involved with the marketing of the airport.

**Revenues and Expenses to Date comments:** There were no questions about the past month. We looked at balances. Things will be tighter next fiscal year – attention was brought to insurance raising 65% this coming year as one of the biggest increases.

**ADJOURNMENT:** The meeting was adjourned at 6:25 pm  
Motion- Pilcher                      Second- Rottinghaus                      Ayes- All

Respectfully submitted,  
Janet Payne.