

**Gogebic-Iron County Airport  
Special Board Meeting Minutes**

A special meeting of the Gogebic-Iron County Airport Board was held on Wednesday, April 1, 2015 at 4:30 P.M., at the Gogebic-Iron County Airport, Ironwood, Michigan.

**Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 4:30 P.M. by Chairman Oliver.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

**Roll Call**

**Present: (4) Mr. Bonovetz, Mr. Mullard, Mr. Nasi and Mr. Oliver**

**Absent: (1) Mr. Kangas**

Also Present: Mike Harma, Tom Laabs, Joe Pinardi, Richard Holm, Shane Storz, Ray Richter, Richard Jenkins and Mindy Prenderville

**Approval of the Agenda**

**A motion** was made by Mr. Mullard, supported by Mr. Bonovetz and carried by unanimous voice vote to approve the agenda as presented.

**Presentations**

1. Mr. Shane Storz, CEO – Air Choice One

Mr. Storz provided each Board Member with a document that stated in March, Air Choice One had 104 completed flights; the number of completed flights in previous months was significantly higher. Mr. Storz explained that one of the pilots was injured, one pilot was released from the company and Air Choice One recently expanded into a new city, Jackson, TN., causing an unexpected shortfall of pilots. Mr. Storz said seven crew members will complete training on April 15 and ensured the Airport Board Members that Air Choice One plans on hiring one class a pilots per month to avoid future pilot shortages.

Mr. Storz told the Airport Board Members that in addition to the shortage of pilots, some difficulties were encountered while replacing an engine of one the planes, making the plane inoperative for longer than expected. Mr. Storz explained that due to a smaller number of passengers, Air Choice One chose to cancel flights in Ironwood, rather than taking a plane from a different route. Mr. Storz went on to say that Ironwood is not the default city for flight cancellations in situations such as mechanical issues or pilot shortages. He also reassured the Airport Board Members that Air Choice One is committed to serving the Ironwood area and is not leaving the community.

At this time, Airport Board Members asked questions regarding how Air Choice One will handle situations like this in the future if they should occur and also about the future of Air Choice One, whether or not they plan on continuing to expand to other cities. Also discussed was how the passengers of cancelled flights were contacted; Mr. Storz explained that this was an issue and has already been addressed to prevent future problems.

After a lengthy discussion between Mr. Storz and the Airport Board Members, it was agreed that Air Choice One's reputation has suffered due to these cancellations but overall, Air Choice One has been providing reliable service to the Ironwood area. Mr. Storz also said he is working with local advertising representatives to restore Air Choice One's good reputation. Mr. Storz then addressed questions from the public.

**Other Matters**

No other matters were discussed.

**Public Comment**

No public comment.

**Adjournment**

A motion was made by Mr. Mullard, supported by Mr. Nasi and carried by unanimous voice vote to adjourn the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 5:15 P.M.

4/17/15  
Date Approved

  
James Oliver, Chairman