

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

Gogebic-Iron County Airport  
E5560 Airport Rd.  
Ironwood, MI 49938

October 16, 2023  
3:30 P.M.

**Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 3:30 P.M. by Mr. Hanson.

**Pledge of Allegiance**

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

**Roll Call**

**Present:** (4) Mr. Byrns, Mr. Lorensen, Mr. Siirila, Mr. Hanson

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

**Others Present:** Todd Richter, Kristi Freeman, Joe Pinardi, Jeremy Busch

**Approval of the Minutes**

1. October 5, 2023 – Special Board Meeting
2. October 9, 2023 – Regular Board Meeting

**A motion** was made by Mr. Lorensen, supported by Mr. Byrns and carried by unanimous voice vote to approve the minutes as presented.

**Approval of the Agenda**

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

**Citizens Wishing to Address the Airport Board on Agenda Items (5 Minute Limit)**

None

**Old Business**

1. FY2024 Wages

The board discussed the tables presented with the linemen table based on the road commission base plus longevity and the secretary following the county administrative secretary pay scale. **A motion** was made by Mr. Lorensen and supported by Mr. Siirila to adopt the wage table as presented, effective October 1<sup>st</sup>, for the linemen and the secretary moving to grade 2, year 6 following the county administrative secretary table along with both Mr. Richter and Ms. Freeman continuing to receive interim manager's pay. The raise is for active staff members.

**Roll Call**

**Yes:** (4) Mr. Lorensen, Mr. Byrns, Mr. Siirila, Mr. Hanson

**No:** (0) None

**Motion Carried.**

**A motion** was made by Mr. Lorensen, supported by Mr. Siirila and carried by unanimous voice vote for the difference in funds to come from the operating contingency fund. Ms. Freeman is to send an updated budget to the county administrator.

Mr. Richter updated the board regarding the plow truck with the repairs estimated at \$72,000. Hauling return of the truck and other plow options were discussed. Mr. Pinardi stated that the Iron County Highway Department has an extra plow truck that could be rented on an as-needed basis by the hour.

The seasonal staff applications were addressed. Marketing benefits, particularly with the chambers, were briefly discussed. There is a meeting with the realtor to start listing the Lake Rd. property.

### Airport Manager Discussion

- 3:35

The board brought in Mr. Busch as a finalist. He will work as a manager in training for the first year back and forth with Todd in operations and Kristi in administration. A flex schedule is a must. Salary was discussed and agreed upon at \$50,000 upon hire with \$2,500 quarterly increments up to \$60,000 while progressing and receiving necessary certifications. After the first year, the intent is to get Mr. Busch to \$65,000. County benefits will continue. Mr. Busch needs to provide a two-week notice to his current employer. The board is fine with him providing help to the courts during this transition. His first day will be November 1, 2023. **A motion** was made by Mr. Lorensen and supported by Mr. Siirila to offer Mr. Busch the position as manager in training under the specifics discussed.

### Roll Call

**Yes: (4) Mr. Byrns, Mr. Lorensen, Mr. Siirila, Mr. Hanson**

**No: (0) None**

**Motion Carried.**

Mr. Busch will notify the airport tomorrow regarding acceptance of the position. An ARFF course is offered in December that we'd schedule for him.

### Other Matters

The board discussed weather ops and the state manager's license.

### Public Comment

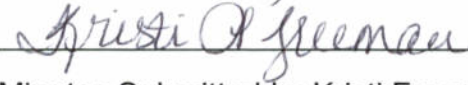
Mr. Siirila said keep up the good work!

### Adjournment

**A motion** was made by Mr. Siirila, supported by Mr. Lorensen and carried by unanimous voice vote to adjourn the meeting by the call of Chairman Hanson. The meeting adjourned at 4:15 P.M

11/13/2023  
Date Approved

  
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Brandon Snyder, Recording Secretary

  
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Minutes Submitted by Kristi Freeman  
Administrative Secretary, Gogebic-Iron County Airport