



**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
WARREN COUNTY, OHIO**

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***TOM GROSSMANN
PAT ARNOLD SOUTH
DAVID G. YOUNG***

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
WARREN COUNTY, OHIO**

MINUTES: Special Session – November 17, 2016

The Board met in special session pursuant to adjournment of the November 15, 2016, meeting.

David G. Young – present

Pat Arnold South – present

Tom Grossmann – present

Tina Osborne, Clerk – present

Doug Koenig and Nick Sargent, Warren County Airport Authority Board, were present along with Al Wolfson, Treasurer of the Airport Authority, for a work session to discuss the airport runway widening project.

Mr. Koenig explained that the Airport Authority has received numerous letters from airport tenants and users requesting the expansion of the runway widening project from 75 feet to 100 feet. He stated that the Board has been in constant contract with the FAA relative to the financing associated with the proposed additional 25 feet and up until Tuesday, they were being told that the FAA would pay for 95% of the widening to 75 feet the Board would be responsible for the additional 25 feet.

Mr. Wolfson stated that on Tuesday November 15, 2016, they received a telephone call from the FAA stating that if they choose to widen the runway to 100 feet, the FAA will remove them from the 2017 funding list and they will not receive any grant funds. He then stated that the FAA is requiring an answer on how Warren County wants to proceed by Monday, November 21, 2016.

Mr. Koenig stated that if they choose to be removed from the funding list for 2017, they may not get and funding down the road.

There was discussion relative to how airports are sized from Class A – E with Warren County being a Class B airport.

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There was then discussion relative to the possibility of the FAA forcing Warren County to lengthen the runway in order to accommodate the widening.

Mr. Wolfson stated that Warren County's Master Plan shows the runway being widened to 75 feet and the FAA not permitting the deviation from the design specification. He then stated that the FAA may require a new Master Plan showing 100 feet wide runway and require us to lengthen the runway which would require the acquisition of numerous properties, including houses.

Commissioner Young stated that the Board has never discussed the lengthening of the runway and to lengthen the runway is not the desire of this Board. He then stated that, in his opinion, there is not much of a choice with the FAA playing hardball than to do anything other than widening the runway to 75 feet.

There was discussion relative to the additional 25 feet needed due to safety concerns relative to the crosswinds.

Mr. Koenig suggested the possibility of contacting our Congressman for political support but also stated he wasn't sure that would help the situation.

Commissioner South questioned how much we would be foregoing if we declined the grant funds.

Mr. Wolfson stated that the grant would be 95% of the proposed \$1.5 million project.

Commissioner Young stated his desire to remain at the proposed 75 feet and work with Congress after the first of the year after when the politics are changed in Washington.

Commissioner Grossmann questioned whose regulations they are utilizing when determining the airport requirements.

Bruce McGary, Assistant Prosecutor, stated that the airport is governed by Federal regulations.

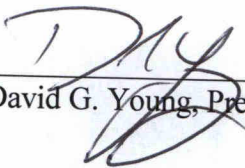
Mr. Koenig stated that the regulations are subject to interpretation by whomever is in charge over the region. He then discussed the current paving situation at the Middletown Airport when the FAA is paying for 95% of the paving up to 75 feet wide and 5000 feet long but requiring Middletown to pay the difference of their 100 feet wide and 6000 feet long runway.

Commissioner South questioned what the additional cost would be to widen the runway from 75 feet to 100 feet.

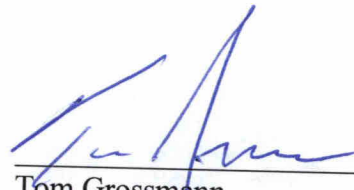
Mr. Wolfson stated his estimate would be an additional \$400,000.

Upon further discussion, the Board determined to move forward with the 75 feet wide runway project in order to remain on the funding list with the FAA and at the same time utilize our political contacts for future widening.

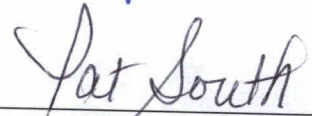
Upon motion the meeting was adjourned.



David G. Young, President

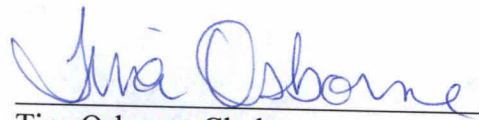


Tom Grossmann



Pat Arnold South

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the minutes of the meeting of the Board of County Commissioners held on November 17, 2016, in compliance with Section 121.22 O.R.C.



Tina Osborne, Clerk
Board of County Commissioners
Warren County, Ohio