

**Joint Airport Zoning Board Minutes  
December 1, 2016  
Duluth International Airport  
Amatuzio A Conference Room**

Chair Kevin Comnick welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m.

**1. Roll Call:**

**Present:**

Kevin Comnick	Canosia	John Kelley	Duluth
Dan Golen	Canosia	John Geissler	Hermantown
David Kolquist	Hermantown	Robert Pearson	Duluth
Steve Kossett	Rice Lake;	Betty Ramsland	Duluth
Teresa Koivula	Rice Lake	Frank Jewall	St. Louis County

**Absent:** Roger Reinert, Duluth; Peter Stauber, St. Louis Co

**Visitors:** Blaine Peterson, Natalie Peterson, Mary Ann Wittkop, Kaci Nowicki, Shawn McMahon, Tom Werner and Eric Johnson.

2. **Approval of Minutes of Previous Meetings:** Motion by Betty Ramsland, seconded by John Kelly to approve the minutes of the December 1, 2016 meeting. Bob Pearson recommended under Item 5, Opportunity for Citizens to be Heard, the resolution language should be to urge the Board of Adjustments to meet, move forward and act promptly. The resolution will be adjusted. All ayes, motion carried.
3. **Agenda Items:** Chair Comnick explained Item 8a Unfinished Business, Draft MnDOT Zoning Statutes would be moved forward. Mr. Tom Werner, DAA Executive Director will update. Under Item 8b, SEH will present on the Master Plan Triggering Event. Motion by Bob Pearson to approve the agenda. Seconded by Dave Kolquist. All ayes, motion carried.
8. **Unfinished Business:**
  - a. Mr. Werner presented handouts and briefed on State zoning reform objectives, custom ordinances and where they are at in the process and timeline. He spoke on the MnDOT summary of proposed changes to Minnesota's airport safety zoning laws. Questions and discussion followed. Mr. Werner was thanked for his update.

Chair Comnick moved to Community Reports:

**4. Community Reports:**

- a. Canosia Township – Recreational area complete. Requested additional funding for evasive aquatic species study. Working with MIC on a hiking and biking trail.

- b. City of Duluth – In process of vetting comprehensive plan. Several permits have been issued, property on Rice Lake and Norton road has been rezoned to mix use.
- c. City of Hermantown – Mayor has been reelected and Mr. Geissler as City Councilor, one new Councilor, Kristi Schmidt. Increase of sales tax was approved, to go toward the Regional Wellness Center.
- d. City of Rice Lake – Have also retained their Mayor and Council members.
- e. St. Louis County – Had two open seats, to be filled by Beth Olson and Mike Jugovich. Have set levy, in final stages.

**5. Opportunity for Citizens to be Heard:**

None

**6. Reports of Committees:**

- a. No committees at this time.

**7. Communications:**

- a. City of Rice Lake Response on the Current Joint Airport Zoning Ordinance.
- b. Letter from Maki & Overom to the League of Minnesota Cities Concerning Airport Zoning.
- c. Letter from Maki & Overom to the League of Minnesota Cities with Proposed Edits.

Detailed discussion, comments and concerns followed on several of the correspondence pieces. Recommendation to have Mr. Overom attend the next meeting to clarify questions on the correspondence.

**9. Unfinished Business:**

- a. Mr. Blaine Peterson, DAA Director of Operations, explained the draft MnDOT Zoning Statutes –no changes at this time, more discussion for the next JAZB meeting.
- b. Mr. Peterson, updated on the Runway 9/27 reconstruction project, first phase has been completed, remainder scheduled for late summer and fall. Questions followed. Ms. Kaci Nowicki, SEH, presented background information and reviewed the reconstruction project and future phases. She overviewed and detailed on the Triggering Event Master Plan. Spoke on next steps and planned meetings. Comments, questions and discussion followed. Ms. Nowicki was thanked for her presentation.

Frank Jewell left the meeting at 4:25 p.m.

**9. New Business, Motions and Resolutions**

Board members requested the Master Plan be available on the DAA website.

The next scheduled meeting will be March 2<sup>nd</sup>. The dates for the 2017 JAZB meetings will be forwarded to all members.

**Adjourn:** Motion by John Geissler and seconded by Steve Kossett, to adjourn the meeting. All ayes, motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 4:49 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mary Ann Wittkop  
Recording Secretary