

DeKalb County Airport

Indiana's Airport of the Year

DeKalb County Board of Aviation

Hangar Expansion Update



As you may know the Airport is expanding the maintenance hangar with a 100' X 115' extension to the East of the existing maintenance hangar. It will be a heated facility with a 25' X 80' bi-fold door opening to the East. There will be a ramp to service this expansion and a connecting taxiway out to the parallel taxiway. At this point there are no plans for additional office space in this expansion but we will have the capability to add office space in the future should the need arise.

This expansion will allow additional aircraft to be based at DeKalb County however at this time it is unclear who will actually manage the hangar. The Airport does have the capability to manage this space should the need arise but it is hoped that either the FBO or another entity will want the space. This project was initiated during a time when an Ohio company was thinking of moving to the Airport to operate an engine shop. That opportunity never materialized, partially because we just couldn't move quickly enough in building the expansion. We are very pleased that we will now have additional space to meet future demand.

You will soon begin to see earth moving equipment and shortly thereafter concrete and steel so please pardon our mess and have patience as we progress through this project.

Pavement Maintenance Project

In addition to the hangar expansion we will also soon begin to perform pavement maintenance on the runway, various ramps and parking lots. We have multiple longitudinal cracks, some running the entire length of the runway. We will hopefully be patching these cracks by routing out, adding a filler strip and then sealing. Our goal is to patch the cracks without degrading the grooving with "over-banding". However, we have only received one quote thus far and our fear is that we may need to scale back or forego the preferred routing method of airport crack sealing just to minimize further damage in the coming winter season. Either way, we will do our best to work around your operations and should we need to close the runway we will attempt to issue NOTAM's several days in advance and limit closures to off-peak hours. If during the maintenance you absolutely need to fly in or out during a closure please call me on my cell phone and I will work diligently to accommodate.

A-Hangar Rehabilitation

The Board has successfully negotiated a lease with the Greater Fort Wayne Vintage Aircraft Association Chapter 37 (VAA 37) to occupy the A-hangar. This facility is 5000 sqr feet and will house several club members aircraft and a clubhouse. Messer Commercial Construction will soon begin replacing the roof, skin and insulation on the building to match the Terminal color. The VAA 37 will hold multiple events throughout the year thereby promoting the Airport within the local community. They will hold Young Eagles events and vintage aircraft displays/fly-ins and occasional rides or tours on such aircraft as the Ford Tri-motor, B-17 and DC-3. Please keep an eye out for such events and support the VAA 37 in any way you can. Our Airport will benefit greatly by the positive community relations these events will foster. We wish the VAA 37 all the best in their new endeavor and welcome them to the Airport.

PropWash

In The News...

Eclipse Aviation Projects Eclipse 500 Certification in the Coming Weeks

June 25, 2006 — Eclipse Aviation, creator of the world's first very light jet (VLJ), today announced that it expects to achieve Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) certification of the Eclipse 500 jet in the next few weeks. While the company was anticipating FAA certification in late June, continued supplier delays have pushed the schedule back. Also today, Eclipse released final performance numbers for the breakthrough jet. The Eclipse 500 will offer exceptional performance, and will have a maximum cruise speed of 370 knots, a stall speed of 69 knots, a useful load of 2,400 pounds, a two engine climb rate of 3,314 feet per minute and a range of 1,125 nautical miles (with four occupants, NBAA IFR, 100 nm alternate).



New Airport Compact Tractor/Mower

We have added one last piece of equipment to the Airport's toolset. The tractor to the right is a John Deere 3320 with 72" mower. This has been a very successful year in adding capability that we have never had before. This new tractor will be used for mowing, rolling, seeding, spraying and anything else that might arise including as an aircraft tug if need be. Please keep an eye out for Airport staff as we move about the Airport on all of our new equipment. All equipment will display a rotating amber beacon for visibility and safety and all equipment operating close to active surfaces will be monitoring UNICOM.



The DeKalb County Board of Aviation Commissioners (BOAC) would like to hear your comments, good or bad, regarding the performance of the Airport in general, as well as how well you feel Airport Management and the FBO are performing and thereby meeting your expectations and needs. The BOAC is dedicated to improving the Airport however and wherever possible. Please feel free to e-mail Airport Manager Russ Couchman at rcouchman@co.dekalb.in.us or BOAC Treasurer Brad Stump at BStump@ci.auburn.in.us or you can fax your comments to our FAX number of 260-927-8876. There is also a comment box that is always available in the lobby of the Airport Terminal and you are always welcome at our monthly public meetings as noted below.

Very truly,
The DeKalb County BOAC

Special points of interest: The BOAC meets every third Friday at 12:30 PM. The next meeting however will be August 18,

2006. To obtain a copy of the last BOAC meeting minutes email your request to: rcouchman@co-dekalb-in.us or visit

<http://www.dekalbcountyairport.com/>

Please send us your ideas of things you would like to see in the newsletter. Any newsletter suggestions or comments can be sent via email to:

rcouchman@co-dekalb-in.us or faxed to 260-927-8876. If you are a DeKalb County Airport Tenant, you may also send your ideas for articles in

with your next payment. We thank you in advance for your articles and ideas.