
INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

TO: TOWN OF LA POINTE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
FROM: MICHAEL DALZELL – AIRPORT MANAGER
SUBJECT: MONTHLY REPORT
DATE: 25 AUGUST 2015
CC: TOWN OF LA POINTE CLERK

Yet another new wrinkle has developed with the AWOS project. As the project involves federal participation, the BOA/DOT will proceed in accordance with Section 106 of the national Historic Preservation Act. This section assures that an agency identify, evaluate and mitigate prehistoric and historic archaeological sites, burial areas or historic buildings in the project area. They then invite fourteen different tribal entities comment on or become an interested party to the project. These tribal entities range from not just the Bad River and Red Cliff Chippewa bands and others in Wisconsin, but the Lac Vieux Desert Band of Lake Superior Chippewa in MI to the Sac and Fox Nations of Oklahoma, Kansas, Nebraska and Iowa. The draft of the Section 106 report prepared by Cooper Engineering will be more thoroughly reviewed by, at least some of, these entities on September 8th and 9th. This will probably be followed by an onsite inspection sometime the middle of September. This will push construction into, at best, November and probably into 2016. It will still happen, it will just be later. We will still move ahead with the tree clearing required.

On Tuesday August 18th, I was part of a two hour conference call with Cooper Engineering, the BOA, FAA and DOT about Airspace Clearing. That includes not just removing the dozen or so trees which interfere with our night IFR (only) operations, but longer term plans to keep all airspace around the Airport, not just instrument approach areas, clear of trees that could be potential problems. This involves a stricter reading of the FAR's than were used in the design of our two GPS Instrument Approaches. I am petitioning the BOA for separate funding for this project as it will probably grow further including acquiring avagation easement rights over land owned by the Wilderness Preserve south and west of the approach to Runway 04. The Wilderness Preserve Board has already given me a "handshake" agreement to do what is necessary to deal with the individual trees that are the immediate concern. Longer term should require something more formal.

Respectfully,