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Local News

July 18, 2013

Terminal plans take flight

By Katie Dahlstrom
Assistant Editor

CLINTON — The city this week received a federal grant to fund part of a nearly \$1.9 million terminal and hangar construction project for the Clinton Municipal Airport.

The \$637,000 from the U.S. Department of Transportation is designated for the roughly \$900,000 terminal construction portion of the project.

"Ensuring our area airports have the tools necessary for Iowans to travel safely is a top priority," U.S. Rep. Dave Loebsack, D-Iowa, wrote in a statement announcing the grant. "I am pleased this funding will help purchase needed equipment, update old buildings and keep the airports operational and safe. It will also help ensure continued economic growth in Iowa around commercial and private air travel."

Airport Manager Mike Nass said constructing a new terminal to replace the current one built in 1947 has been on his radar since he started a decade ago.

"The problems with this building are the roof, heating and cooling, electric, plumbing, the pavement around the building, it's not ADA compliant and actually parts of this building are too close to one of the runways," Nass said. "It was also designed for airline service back in the '40's and '50's; well, we don't have airline service anymore so the layout is really not the best either."

The new terminal, which will be built to the east of the current building, will be 500 square feet smaller at 3,200 square feet. It also will be equipped with a variable refrigerant flow heating and cooling system that will make the building more energy efficient.

"For businesses flying into the airport, the terminal is the first impression they get when they get here. So we're trying to make it a nice, clean, more modern facility to give them a good impression of the city of Clinton when they land here," Nass said.

Receiving the grant is evidence of the importance of the airport to the Gateway area, Nass said.

"It shows us that the federal government sees the Clinton airport as an economic development tool for the region. Otherwise they would not spend any money on airports our size," he said. "They understand that economic development comes through airports and they understand the need to have appropriate facilities."

In conjunction with the terminal project, a new hangar will be built. The city received \$150,000 from the Iowa Department of Transportation, another \$54,000 from the Iowa DOT for design work and \$75,000 from the Clinton County Development Association that will go toward the remaining costs to construct a 10,000-square-foot hangar that will be attached to the new terminal.

The city will bond to fund the remainder of the projects.

"We have no room for any jets or any airplanes that come in and want to put their airplane in overnight; especially in the summer when you have thunderstorms, you don't want your \$10 million jet sitting outside to get hailed on. And in the winter you have sleet and snow, so we needed a building to put those airplanes in," Nass said.

The hangar already has one tenant lined up: a local company jet that has to be stored in the Quad-Cities because Clinton does not have the space. With the jets will come the hangar rent, along with other dollars that pilots and passengers could have spent in the city on things like meals and hotel rooms.

Not only will the terminal and hangar serve the businesses that are already located in Clinton, but Nass feels they could also entice more businesses to locate in the Clinton area.



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"The impact on the community is that more businesses will use the airport in their corporate aircraft since we will have the space available," Nass said. "It will also attract more businesses to Clinton since there is a place to put their airplane inside."

Clinton Engineering will start construction of the new facilities in two to three weeks. The project will take approximately six months to complete, during which the airport will remain fully functional. Once the new terminal is built, Nass said the old one will likely be demolished.

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Local News

BREAKING NEWS: Abandoned hog building on fire near Andover

A fire continues to burn at 2065 420th Ave., just outside of Clinton, consuming what was an abandoned hog building.

July 18, 2013

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July 18, 2013 1 Photo

UPDATE: Medical Associates to build new urgent care clinic

Medical Associates plans to open an urgent care and occupational medicine facility in Clinton this winter in order to meet the growing needs of the community.

July 18, 2013

Boys charged with felonies after Prophetstown fire

Two boys are facing a series of felony charges after authorities say they set a fire that destroyed a swath of historic downtown Prophetstown.

July 18, 2013

BREAKING NEWS: Dog owner charged in attack now in custody

The owner of two pit bulls involved in a July 2 attack turned himself in to authorities this morning.

July 17, 2013

Clinton County Fair begins Wednesday

The 80th annual 4-H Club Show and Clinton County Fair gets under way here this week. To celebrate the occasion there will be a carnival and free evening grandstand entertainment. Here are some of the events.

July 16, 2013

UPDATE: Juveniles arrested in connection with Prophetstown fire

Two brothers are facing charges in connection with the Monday morning fire that destroyed eight businesses in downtown Prophetstown.

July 16, 2013

Two arrested in connection with Prophetstown fire

The Illinois State Police announced the arrest of two juveniles today in connection with the fire that destroyed several buildings in downtown Prophetstown.

July 16, 2013

One dead in crash near Lyndon STERLING,

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Clinton Herald photos

III. -- A Utah man is dead after a single-vehicle crash Monday on Interstate 88 near Lyndon, Ill. The Whiteside County Sheriff's Office responded to the roll-over crash at 1:05 p.m. at milemarker 29, rural Lyndon. Upon arrival, deputies spo

July 16, 2013

Prophetstown residents share their stories in fire's aftermath



It was a firefighter in her apartment who awakened Delores Francis early Monday morning with the news that a building in the same strip as hers was on fire.

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Publisher Ron Gutierrez 563-242-7142, ext. 120
Editor Charlene Bielema 563-242-7142, ext. 155
Ad Director 563-242-7142, ext. 141
Circulation Director Steve Waldorf 563-242-7142, Ext. 111
report the news 563-242-7142, ext. 155

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