



Mason City Municipal Airport
 Mason City Economic Development Corporation
 Mason City Chamber of Commerce

Partnering for a better North Iowa

May 2005

MASON CITY MUNICIPAL AIRPORT QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

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Mason City Municipal Airport
 Highway 122 West
 Mason City, Iowa 50401

Phone: 641-421-3680
 Fax: 641-421-3695
 Email: posgood@netconx.net

MCW
N 43-09-28; W 93-19-53
Elevation 1213'
Mason City Municipal

AIRPORT COMMISSIONERS

- Joni E. Dunn,
Chair
- Tom L. Hovland,
Chair Pro-Tem
- Margo L. Underwood,
Secretary
- Dennis L. Lewerke
- Gary C. Wattnem

MANAGER'S THOUGHTS....

**Pamela Osgood,
 Airport Manager
 Mason City Municipal Airport**

2004 was a great year for the Mason City Municipal Airport. The airport recorded 15,685 enplaned passengers for the year, which reflects a +8.44% increase versus CY2003. It was a record year since 1998 when two carriers served the airport and the enplaned total was 15,559. These statistics demonstrate the traveling public of North Iowa is utilizing their local airport for their travel needs and we appreciate their support. The airport is served by the SAAB 33-34 seat jet prop aircraft operated by Mesaba Airlines and offers a flight attendant as well as a lavatory.

The airport has multi-services available to the public including the



Mason City Municipal Airport

Airport Café, Hertz Car Rental, Enterprise Off-Airport Car Rental, Jefferson Bus lines, North Iowa Air Service and the Transportation Security Administration (Homeland Securities).

A public hearing was

held on April 29, 2005 for receipt of bids for the Runway 17/35 rehabilitation project. The Airport Commission approved the bid submitted by Heartland Asphalt in the amount of \$4.2 million dollars which

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PARTNERS DEVELOP NEW MARKETING TOOL ANGELA DETERMAN, MCEDC

Annually the North Central Iowa Growth Partnership, a joint effort between Mason City Economic Development Corporation and Clear Lake Economic Development Corporation, performs a call pro-

gram of existing businesses to assess the health of the Cerro Gordo County. This tool is an ideal opportunity to listen to the needs of the North Iowa business segment. One of the outcomes that

comes from such a program is working with individuals to make our business community stronger, healthier and obviously more successful.

(Continued on page 3)

AIR SERVICE PARAMOUNT TO ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

The Mason City Economic Development Corporation (MCEDC) is pleased to be partnering with the Mason City Airport Commission to bring you the first edition of *Y-MCW* which will focus on the Mason City Municipal Airport (MCW). While nearly any facet of community can be tied to economic development, accessibility to a quality airport is paramount to successful economic development.

This is why the MCEDC

approached the airport commission earlier this year and asked to put this publication together. Our purpose is quite simple. Raise awareness on the tremendous asset we have in MCW and keep the North Iowa business community thinking about utilization of the facility. As budgets at all levels are trimmed, we need



to be mindful that a stagnant airport will be an unfunded airport.

This first edition proves timely as the Federal Aviation Administra-

(Continued on page 3)

FROM YOUR FIXED BASED OPERATOR (FBO)

North Iowa Air Service of Mason City will be holding their 3rd Annual Open House at the Mason City Municipal Airport May 21-22, 2005, from 9 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. each day.

In honor of the 60th anniversary of the end of WWII, on Saturday, May 21st, there will be a special presentation of a WWII B-25, affectionately known as Miss Mitchell. Rides in the B-25 will be available for \$350 per person, all proceeds going to the Commemorative Air Force for the historical preservation of WWII aircraft. Smaller aircraft airplane rides will be available for \$15 per person (weather permitting)

Also on Saturday, North Iowa Air Service will

be holding a pancake breakfast from 8 a.m. to 12:00 noon. Tickets are \$5 per person for all you can eat. The pancake breakfast is being sponsored by the Mason City chapter of the Experimental Aircraft Association.

On Sunday, May 22nd, North Iowa Air Service will again be offering airplane rides for \$15 per person (weather permitting), and will have hot dogs and beverages available to all attendees.

Several newer general aviation aircraft will be on display both days of the open house, and flight instructors will be on hand to answer any questions you may have on learning how to fly.

For more information, please contact North Iowa Air Service at the number below.



North Iowa Air Service
Mason City Municipal Airport
9184 265th St., Ste. 10
Phone: (641) 424-9366
Phone: (641) 357-2773
Fax: (641) 357-0542
www.nias@netconx.net

"Federal funding is focus of Washington D.C. trip

Airport gets another \$2.3m

Chamber, EDC Partner with Airport Commission



**Robin Anderson ,
Executive Director
Mason City Chamber of Commerce**

Commercial air service is essential to North Iowa business. The Chamber and EDC have pledged assistance to the Mason City Municipal Airport Commission to ensure the region has the best service available.

Both organizations are actively assisting the commission to secure a two-year agreement with the federal Department of Transportation to provide Essential Air Service through Northwest/Mesaba Airlines. In addition, Chamber and EDC staff members work with federal legislators on a routine basis to promote airport issues such as runway improvements and EAS funding. According to Chamber President John Michel, providing this assistance is simply common sense. "I can't imagine a time when air transporta-

tion wouldn't be a Chamber priority," he said. "Even in a time when video-conferencing and electronic communication is routine, it is still vitally important for businesses to meet face-to-face with our customers. Commercial air service makes that possible."

The EDC and Chamber will assist with airport marketing by communicating flight information to member businesses, expanding the region's partnership with Northwest Airlines, and working with local airline marketing personnel to secure marketing assistance.

(Partners Continued—from page 1)

A vital airport is an integral part of our communities economic success.

The Mason City Airport has partnered with the Mason City Economic Development Corporation and the Mason City Chamber to market the airport and facilities through this newly

created electronic newsletter. Our goal is to reach as many people to make you aware of "Y-MCW" ([why Mason City Municipal Airport](#)). If you know of anyone you feel should receive this newsletter, please contact either the airport or adeterman@masoncityedc.com

so we can add them to the list. If you no longer wish to be a part of this electronic newsletter, you may contact us to have your name removed.

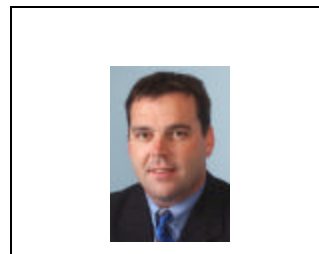
We welcome your comments and suggestions.

AIR SERVICE PARAMONT...

(Continued from page 2)

tion will soon be awarding an Essential Air Service (EAS) contract to a carrier for MCW. Look for details in this publication on how you can help MCW get the carrier that will provide the best service to the North Iowa business community.

I encourage you to pass this publication on to other North Iowa business people. We all have an interest in enhancing the economic vitality of North Iowa and building upon the asset we have in MCW is a great way to move towards that objective.



**Dan Culhane, CEcD
Executive Director
Mason City EDC**

According to Mason City Chamber President John Michel, providing this assistance is simply common sense. "I can't imagine a time when air transportation wouldn't be a Chamber priority."

Mason City Municipal Airport
 Mason City Economic Development
 Corporation
 Mason City Chamber of Commerce

Access our website at www.masoncity.net
 click on Public Works/Airport

MASON CITY— NORTH IOWA’S COMMERCIAL AIR SERVICE NEEDS YOUR HELP

The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) is currently evaluating two proposals for commercial air service to Mason City. The proposals are for Essential Air Service (EAS) funding, a federal program where the FAA provides financial incentives to airlines that service airports such as Mason City and Fort Dodge. There are two airlines making proposals: Northwest/Mesaba and Mesa/Air Midwest have expressed interest in serving the North Iowa market.

The Mason City Airport Commission, along with the Mason City Chamber and EDC strongly favor the Northwest/Mesaba proposal as it retains the level of service we have today. The Mesa/Air Midwest proposal would result in fewer weekly flights, smaller planes with 19 seats per flight, no online direct connections, and service to Omaha, which would result in a person wanting to fly internationally having to take two flights from Mason City to get on an international flight. Currently, you can step on at Mason City and catch a connecting international flight at Twin Cities International.

The Northwest/Mesaba proposal seeks \$2.4 million from the FAA's EAS program. The Mesa/Air Midwest proposal is seeking \$1.9 million for the same two-year period. Below is an illustration of the two proposals.

Bidder	Flights/Day Mon-Fri	Weekend Flights	Seats/ Flight	Connection City	Requested EAS Subsidy	Forecasted Subsidy/ Passenger
Northwest/Mesaba	3	5	34	Minneapolis	\$2.4 million	\$49/passenger
Mesa/Air Midwest	3	3	19	Omaha	\$1.9 million	\$125/passenger

We encourage letters of support for the Northwest/Mesaba proposal be sent to Mr. Dennis Devaney, the head of the EAS program in Washington DC, asking him to maintain the level of service we have today and to fund the Northwest/Mesaba proposal.

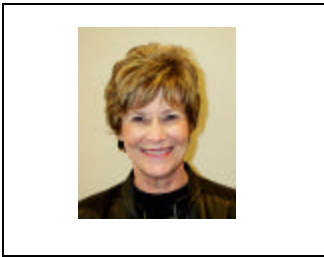
This is an important business and economic development issue for North Iowa. Please take a moment and write a letter to Mr. Devaney and copy our federal leadership in Washington, D.C., as well as airport manager Pam Osgood.

This will only take a few minutes but will have major impact on air service in North Iowa.
Please reference Docket Number: OST-2001-10682 on your letter to Mr. Devaney.

Send your letter to:
 Mr. Dennis DeVaney
 Chief, Essential Air Service Division, X-53
 Room 6401
 Office of Aviation Analysis
 Department of Transportation
 400 Seventh Street, SW
 Washington, D.C. 20590
 Dennis.Devaney@ost.dot.gov

Please copy your letter to these people
 tom.latham@mail.house.gov
 chuck_grassley@grassley.senate.gov
 tom_harkin@harkin.senate.gov
 posgood@netconx.net

AIRPORT COMMISSION COMMENTS...



**Joni Dunn , Chair
Mason City Municipal Airport
Commission**

I have served on the Airport Commission close to thirty years. There have been countless changes over those years. Ozark Airlines provided service from Mason City to Chicago in the 1970's. When I was appointed Ozark had just left, leaving us with no commercial service. It was a difficult time. After much analysis, study, and communication with airlines,

Mesaba Airlines agreed to provide service to Minneapolis for Mason City. Today Northwest Airlinl provides three flights per day to Minneapolis and the citizens of North Iowa are responding so positively that in 2004 we set a new enplanement record with Northwest Airlinl.

The Commission built several banks of hangars for area pilots to store their airplanes and also set aside a section of the airport for private pilots to lease and build their own hangars. The main terminal and the FBO (Fixed Base Operator) hangar were renovated and new fuel tanks were purchased. Other improvements recognized was signage, runways and taxiways were

resurfaced, our "runway protection zones" were enlarged. In the last year we purchased the latest Striker Aircraft Firefighting vehicle for the safety of the flying public as well as reconfiguring and enlarging the Security Checkpoint Lounge.

The Commission will continue to work to make the airport the "best that it can be." We have a twenty year master plan which systematically outlines future recommendations for the airport. Because the airport is of vital importance to the prosperity and welfare of our entire area, I have always felt this was an excellent way to give back to my community. Without a strong and viable airport our business sector would suffer.

Special points of interest:

- 15,559 enplanements in 2004
 - 2,406 enplanements in April 2005
- 8,993 enplanements YTD

MANAGER'S THOUGHTS

(Continued from Page 1)
reflects a 7.6% under the engineer's estimate with the Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) goal of 5% being fulfilled. The construction is expected to begin June 1st and last for a sixty-day period depending on weather conditions throughout the summer season.

The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) grant offers for the rehabilitation of both runways, the relocation of the localizer out of the Runway 17 Runway Safety Area and reimbursement for land in the Run-

way 30 Safety Area is anticipated to be approved by the commission in early May. The two projects will bring the runways within the current Federal Aviation Administration Standards.

On a final note the Mason City Municipal Airport has been selected to receive an Airport Safety Enhancement Award for the outstanding manner in which the airport has been in compliance with the requirements of Title 14 CFR Part 139, FAA regulations, with which the airport must comply on a daily basis. No

discrepancies to Part 139 have been noted during annual certification inspections conducted the past 3 years at Mason City Municipal Airport. The award will be presented in Kansas City on May 24, 2005 at the 22nd Annual FAA Airports Conference. This is a unique accomplishment and the airport staff is to be commended on their dedication and commitment to the City of Mason for providing a safe environment for the traveling public of north Iowa.