

**Palwaukee Municipal Airport Board Members**

Kevin Dohm, Chairman

L. James Wylie, Vice Chairman

Bob Dourlain

F. Wallace Douthwaite

David Kolssak

Ralph C. Shepstone

Matt Zimmerman

Questions and comments about airport issues can be sent to The Hangar editor at [rmark@palwaukee.org](mailto:rmark@palwaukee.org) or 847-537-2580, then press 7

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## New Governance Structure Takes Off



*Kevin Dohm  
Chairman*



*David Kolssak  
Director*



*Matt Zimmerman  
Director*



*Ralph Shepstone  
Director*



*L. James Wylie  
Vice-Chairman*



*Bob Dourlain  
Director*



*F. Wallace Douthwaite  
Director*

The governance at Palwaukee Municipal Airport has completed the transition from an Airport Commission to a Board of Directors. The change was much more than simply a new set of titles for a volunteer board however. The very structure of the group, their responsibilities, as well as the scope of their business decisions was altered from the system that has been in place at the airport for nearly 20 years.

Until recently, airport operations were orchestrated through an Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) first penned when the airport was purchased from the Priester family in 1986. Most decisions flowed from the airport manager, to the Palwaukee Municipal Airport Commission, a recommending body, to the two municipalities that own Palwaukee, the City of Prospect Heights and the Village of Wheeling. Even relatively simple issues could take months to resolve, even longer if there was a disagreement. It became clear that to remain vital, Palwaukee's operating arrangement needed updat-

ing, a process that began some 18 months ago.

Charles Priester, CEO of Priester Aviation at Palwaukee said, "The movement to a new IGA management structure is simply the next step in a developing and maturing airport. All users will see a difference when the field is run by a group of people with the authority to make faster decisions, as well as the time and insights needed to plan for the future."

With the streamlined IGA now in place, most day-to-day operational concerns will normally be quickly, but thoroughly, reviewed and acted upon by the new Palwaukee Municipal Airport Board of Directors. The board is comprised of seven members, three from Wheeling and three from Prospect Heights and an airport user as chairman. Although no elected officials sit on the board, the Prospect Heights City Administrator and the Wheeling Village Manager will participate as full members. The Mayor of Prospect Heights and President of the Village of Wheeling selected all board members.



You've probably heard that Palwaukee Municipal Airport has changed to a new system of governance now that the Intergovernmental Agreement between the City of Prospect Heights and the Village of Wheeling has been signed. The new Chairman of the Palwaukee Municipal Airport Board of Directors is Kevin Dohm.

The process of updating the IGA took nearly 18 months and included the efforts of Rodney Pace, the Mayor of Prospect Heights, Greg Klatecki, Village of Wheeling President, Airport Counsel Larry Thompson and a committee of former Airport Commissioners including Jim Wylie from Prospect Heights and Bob Strauss of Wheeling.

I truly believe the new IGA structure highlights a vastly improved business relationship between the two municipalities, one that focuses on the use of not only the airport's new primary guiding documents such as airport minimum standards, rules and regulations and rates and charges, but also accepts that the IGA's new arbitration clause can be effective in resolving differences between interested parties while the airport continues to move ahead.

While the new IGA means it's a new day at Palwaukee, one item carried over from the old IGA is operational financing. Unlike many other airports, Palwaukee is completely self-sufficient, relying solely on revenues generated from fuel flowage and hangar rental charges on the airport. No local tax money is used to run the airport.

The airport's new streamlined governance structure means Palwaukee Municipal Airport will be able to deliver an even better quality of service for our users than we already provide.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "D. Rouleau".

Dennis G. Rouleau, C.M.  
Airport Manager

*Palwaukee  
is a Fly Quiet airport*

## Community Relations Council Wants You

The Palwaukee Municipal Airport Community Engagement Council (PACE) started out three years ago with the simple belief that people from all walks of life might be willing to put their heads together to help solve some of the problems that come from having an airport in their backyard.



After just a few short months, the PACE Council developed a mission statement that was simple enough and succinct enough that anyone and everyone could decide if being involved was something worth their time. It read, "PACE ... To build knowledge, trust and cooperation between the Palwaukee Municipal Airport community and its neighbors."

The PACE Council is designed to offer local residents, businesspeople and airport tenants an opportunity to have a voice in airport issues such as noise, security and potential new business opportunities while helping to communicate the value of the airport to a wider audience.

Over the years, the group helped initiate an airport noise reduction program using a number of common sense ideas. They also stepped out into the community to survey residents about their concerns. The group designed and produced a short brochure that highlighted the economic impact of Palwaukee on the area.

There is much work yet to be accomplished to make Palwaukee the best neighbor it can possibly be. And that's where you come in.

PACE is looking for a few volunteers who have the interest and the time to offer suggestions ... and yes, a little volunteer work ... to help take the airport into the 21st century.

Are you one of the people who have what it takes to help build an airport community your neighbors can be proud of?

No aviation experience is necessary. The only absolute requirement is the ability to listen to a variety of viewpoints and help develop answers to current and emerging issues. One PACE volunteer joined the committee with no previous aviation experience. He learned and evolved into a current airport board member.

If you're ready for a challenge, or for more information, call Robert Mark, the PACE Coordinator, at 847-537-2580, ext. 159. His e-mail is [rmark@palwaukee.org](mailto:rmark@palwaukee.org)

PACE meets on the first Thursday of each month at the airport manager's office on the northeast corner of the airfield. Meetings normally run about an hour and a half. And watch the airport website and your e-mail Inbox for notices about the airport's monthly User Group meetings too.

Make that call today and become a part of the solution.

# Strategic Airport Initiative Takes Off

One of the discussions initiated by Chairman Kevin Dohm during the October Airport Board of Directors meeting was the long-term vision for the airport to compliment the current airport business and marketing plans.

Chairman Dohm is asking airport users and interested parties to e-mail Airport Manager Dennis Rouleau with their ideas, as well as their areas of concern about what could or should be happening at Palwaukee during the next 12 months, as well as over the next three to five years.

Dohm also asked that all replies include not simply a prioritized list of ideas, but a simple analysis of why users believe their ideas are critical to the success of the airport.

Please e-mail your ideas by December 8, 2005. The Airport Board is organizing a strategic planning meeting for Saturday December 17 to discuss all the ideas they've received, as well as those generated by board members. The 9 am meeting is open to the public.



## AND THE ANSWER IS...

**Q** How many of my tax dollars contribute to the operation of Palwaukee Municipal Airport?

**A** Actually, no local tax dollars have ever been used to run the airport. All funds are derived from either fees or rents charged to those who use the airport, or from federal or state grants. The federal grant money is derived from a trust fund currently funded by an aviation fuel tax and an airline ticket tax.

## Evolution of the Airport

In case you might be one of the many people around the community who think airport employees might have been forgetting to turn off the lights when they leave each night, rest assured that's not been the case.

Each evening of the work week, crews have been hard at work rebuilding runway 12/30, the runway that runs from Wolf Road on the northwest corner of the airport to the southeast corner right near the new Palatine Road bridge construction project.



Crews have been working through the night in an attempt to minimize interference with regular airport traffic. The work has also been coordinated with the Illinois Department of Transportation's Highway Division rebuild of the Palatine Road Bridge to allow road equipment to have more access to local airspace.

The airport last week released a Request for Proposal to begin the search for builders ready to share their development ideas for just over eight acres of property at the southeast quadrant of the airport near the corner of Milwaukee and Palatine Road. The area represents a significant piece of the future for the airport.



# Stormy fall at Palwaukee



Gulf Coast residents have spent the better part of 2005 trying to stay one step ahead of a record-breaking hurricane season. All too often though, Midwesterners forget that we too can see some pretty intense weather around town. On September 23rd, an early fall storm hit the airport at 5:45 PM dropping 3/4 inch hail and generating winds in excess of 55 miles per hour.

Although the storm disappeared almost as quickly as it erupted, it left a trail of damage in its wake. Inbound and outbound traffic was halted during the squall and returned to normal just after the dinner hour.



**Tired of only wishing you and your airplane could be closer?**

Now there's an airport with a great location at a price you can afford.

Tie-downs at Palwaukee Municipal Airport are now just \$97 for a single and \$111 for a light twin.

Think of that ... just three bucks a day to keep your airplane at Chicago's premier reliever airport.

Call us today at 847-537-2580, extension 118 for more information.

[www.palwaukee.org](http://www.palwaukee.org)



**Palwaukee Municipal Airport Noise Hotline**  
 847-537-2580, then press 7  
 Help reduce airport noise  
 24 hours a day / 7 days a week

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### Palwaukee Municipal Airport Board of Directors Meeting Dates for 2005

November 16, 2005 - 6:30 pm

Strategic visioning & Board meeting  
 December 17, 2005 - *Special Morning Meeting*

### Palwaukee Municipal Airport Community Engagement Council (PACE) Meeting Dates for 2005, 7:00 pm

November 3, 2005    December 17, 2005

User Meetings Monthly, times TBA

All meetings are held in the Manager's Office.

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Also available online at [www.palwaukee.org](http://www.palwaukee.org) and at the Village of Wheeling and City of Prospect Heights Village Halls, and both municipal libraries.