



City of Findlay

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FINDLAY AIRPORT
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Findlay City Airport Annual Report – 2012

Findlay Airport, a general aviation airport located in Findlay, Ohio, is owned and operated by the City of Findlay. Major facilities at the airport include a 6,500 foot primary runway (18-36) with a full parallel taxiway and a 5,883 foot long crosswind runway (7/25). Other facilities include the City of Findlay as fixed base operator, aircraft storage, and fuel (Jet A and Avgas). Findlay Airport supports all types of corporate/executive and private use general aviation activities.

The daily responsibilities of safely operating and maintaining a first class general aviation airport included: airport lighting checks and maintenance, winter operations snow and ice control, issuing runway condition NOTAMS, airfield mowing and safety compliance maintenance, general hangar and building maintenance, bird and animal control, overseeing farming operations, the parking and refueling of all types of aircraft, hangar rental and leases, maintenance of inventory items and billing, collecting and processing of payments, and overseeing all of the maintenance and construction projects on the airport. Airport staff consisted of four full-time employees and one part-time clerk.

Beyond the daily activities and operations at the Findlay Airport, these are the highlights for 2012:

1st Quarter

2012 started off with a 2 am wakeup call on January 2nd of an inbound aircraft who had declared they needed to make an emergency landing at Findlay. The aircraft was a single engine Malibu with one pilot and one passenger en route from South Carolina to Minnesota. While flying thru our area at a fairly high altitude, they started encountering engine icing and engine missing or sputtering problems and were advised by Toledo Approach to make an emergency landing at the nearest airport. Findlay Police Department notified the Fire Department and me. When the Fire Trucks and I arrived, the plane had already landed safely. During the descent down to make their approach into Findlay they flew into warmer air and the icing and engine problem went away. While on the ground at Findlay, the pilot figured out that he had forgotten to close an outside engine air duct that was creating the problem. After filing a new flight plan and buying some fuel, they departed around 4 am.

We only had light snow in January (3-4 inches), but light freezing rain on the 26th required us to use some urea on the north south runway.

With February's weather being uneventful as far as snow fall, we tackled a drainage problem that had been flooding the area just west of our fuel farm and causing excessive wear and tear on our fuel farm sump over the years. A crew from

Water Distribution installed a 4" perforated tile around the north side of the fuel farm and tapped into an existing catch basin on the east side eliminating the water problem.

The month of March was another fair weather month with temperatures reaching the 80's providing the opportunity to complete crack sealing on runway 7-25 before our 2012 grant project of rejuva sealing and re-striping runway 7-25.

2nd Quarter

The second quarter of 2012 projects included:

- Completion of crack sealing on runway 18-36
- Repair broken tile along taxiway A
- Sanitary tile repair behind Hangar A-4
- The re-striping of Taxiway centerline
- The sealing and re-striping of parking lots

At the end of June, we took a lighting strike near 18-36 and A-5 turnoff knocking out taxiway A lights until we could pull new wire and replace the bad section. On June 29th Indiana and northwest Ohio was hit with a Derecho wind storm. Winds were steady at 60 mph with gusts to 90 mph creating widespread damage to the area. The airport, in my opinion, survived the storm with minimal damage. The bottom steel beam of the cloth doors of Hangar A-4 broke into five pieces. B-9 steel T hangar door blew clear off the building. There was a lot of debris scattered all over the airport and we were without power for five days but remained open and operational.

3rd Quarter

The third quarter was spent dealing with cleanup, getting estimates, and completing repairs caused by the wind storm. These repairs were completed by the end of September.

Despite numerous phone calls from the Air Force of possible political visits, only one developed. On September 4th Ann Romney flew in by private charter and was escorted by an entourage of secret service agents.

4th Quarter

On September 10th, we received word from the FAA that our 2012 grant was awarded for this year's planned project -- rejuva sealing and re-striping runway 7-25 and the installation of a taxiway guidance sign.

With the bids in hand and notification of the grant in place, a pre-construction meeting was held October 1st and it was determined runway 7-25 would be closed for 30 days. Contractor started sealing work October 11th and finished October 13th with a 20 day cure time before runway painting could begin. Paint crew moved in November 6th and finished November 9th with 7-25 being opened the same day. The electrical contractor started the sign installation November 27th and finished their work November 28th.

Also in October, we received approval to allow the city to place 8 geese away lights on the water of the quarry to our east. This will attempt to mitigate the problem of the large number of geese gathering on the open water using the quarry as a safe haven during the coldest times of the winter and creating hazards to aircraft by flying over the airport to feeding areas.

December started out to be a quiet month as far as snowfall, until December 26th when blizzard warnings were issued for most of the day. We ended up with 6 to 7 inches that we cleaned off early on the 27th with more minor plowing being done thru the end of the year. We finished the year on a positive note with an increase in fuel sales over 2011, full hangars with a waiting list, and working towards building a new ten unit T hangar in the near future.

City of Findlay Airport - 2012 Fuel Sales/Landing Fees

MONTH	JET A GALLONS	100 OCTANE GALLONS	LANDING FEES
January	10,610.00	1,602.70	12
February	12,824.00	1,440.00	19
March	10,917.00	1,688.50	11
April	13,645.00	2,061.30	9
May	23,136.00	3,080.50	17
June	8,316.00	3,245.40	17
July	13,304.00	2,963.80	20
August	9,970.00	2,799.50	19
September	13,582.00	1,828.50	23
October	16,904.00	1,951.10	15
November	9,557.00	3,209.70	10
December	11,674.00	1,267.70	11
TOTAL	154,439.00	27,138.70	183

Respectfully submitted,



Bob Johnston
Airport Manager