

## STAFF REPORT

**BOARD MEETING DATE:** January 9, 2024

**CATEGORY:** Consent Calendar 12

**SUBJECT:** Approve a retroactive Memorandum of Agreement with the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), at no cost, for installation and operation of FAA navigation equipment at the Fall River Mills Airport.

**DEPARTMENT:** Public Works

**SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICT #:** District 3

**DEPARTMENT CONTACT:** Troy Bartolomei, Interim Director of Public Works, (530) 225-5661

**STAFF REPORT APPROVED BY:** Troy Bartolomei, Interim Director of Public Works

<b><u>Vote Required?</u></b>	<b><u>General Fund Impact?</u></b>
Simple Majority Vote	No General Fund Impact

### **RECOMMENDATION**

Approve a retroactive On-Airport Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), at no cost, for installation and operation of FAA navigation equipment at the Fall River Mills Airport for the period October 1, 2023, through September 30, 2043.

### **DISCUSSION**

Fall River Mills Airport is an unmanned facility. Pilots approach and depart the field on “Visual Flight Rules.” The FAA currently provides an Automated Weather Observing System (AWOS) that provides radio notices to pilots and permits them to turn on the airport’s landing lights while in flight. The FAA plans to install additional navigation equipment under this MOA, a Distance Measuring Equipment (DME) system, which provides pilots a distance to the airport. The FAA antenna and electrical room take up about 200 square feet of interior and exterior space at the east end of the County hangar. No compensation is proposed. Drafting a contract with the FAA took longer than anticipated. The agreement was not completed prior to the expiration of the preceding agreement.

### **ALTERNATIVES**

The Board may decline an MOA with the FAA on the proposed terms. They may cease to provide services. FAA services accommodate pilots using the unmanned airport. Without the equipment, nighttime landings would not be permissible. There are not sufficient revenues to provide for this equipment.

### **OTHER AGENCY INVOLVEMENT**

County Counsel has approved the MOA as to form. Risk Management has approved the MOA. The recommendation has been reviewed by the County Administrative Office.

### **FISCAL IMPACT**

Adequate funds to negotiate the MOA and prepare this staff report are included in the Adopted Fiscal Year 2023-24 Fall River Mills Airport Administration Budget. The airport receives grant revenue to cover administrative expenditures.

### **ATTACHMENTS:**

1: Proposed MOA