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Waterloo Council OKs hiring new airport director

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Brandon Pollock

Waterloo mayor Buck Clark. (BRANDON POLLOCK / Courier Staff Photographer)

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4 hours ago • By TIM JAMISON, tim.jamison@wfcourier.com

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WATERLOO, Iowa --- The city will seek to hire a new full-time director at the Waterloo Regional Airport.

While Mayor Buck Clark and council members have looked for ways to combine administrative

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positions when department heads leave, City Council members agreed Monday the airport needed a dedicated director.

Former director Brad Hagen resigned effective June 7 to take a position as supervisor of airport projects and operations at the Mesa, Ariz., Falcon Field Airport. He had been at the Waterloo airport for 11 years.

The council, meeting as the human resources committee, had a brief discussion before voting unanimously to begin the hiring process for a full-time replacement.

"This is a position where you need somebody who knows what they're doing in the airport business," said Hugh Field, a member of the Airport Board. "I don't think it's something where you could just move somebody in from another area of the city (government)."

Field noted the airport continues to face serious issues in maintaining its commercial air service, which he described as "tenuous." A new director would work with the airport board to continue working with airlines to maintain the number of flights at the facility.

Hagen had been earning about \$91,000 annually. The salary range for a new director had not been worked out yet.

In other business, council members approved:

- A \$592,527 contract with Cedar Valley Corp., of Waterloo, to rehabilitate taxiway "B" at the airport. The Federal Aviation Administration is expected to provide 90 percent of the project funding. The balance would come from passenger facility charges paid by airport users.
- Buying a \$39,495 indoor golf simulator from Trackman Inc., of Stamford, Conn., for the Cedar Valley SportsPlex. Funding for the simulator comes from the estate of Carlton and Thelma Winter, who left money for the city to build a community recreation center.

Tags Waterloo, Iowa, Waterloo Regional Airport, Buck Clark, Mayor, Brad Hagen, City Council, Politics

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