

Gerald R. Ford International Airport

AIRPORT BOARD

ROGER MORGAN, Chairman RICHARD A. VANDER MOLEN, Vice Chairman **BIRGIT KLOHS** TERRI LYNN LAND DAVID SLIKKERS THEODORE J. VONK FLOYD WILSON, JR.

BRIAN D. RYKS, A.A.E PHILLIP E. JOHNSON, A.A.E. ROBERT W. BENSTEIN, A.A.E. BRIAN PICARDAT, A.A.E.

THOMAS R. ECKLUND, P.E.

Executive Director Deputy Executive Director Public Safety & Ops Director Finance & Admin. Director **Facilities Director**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT: Brian Ryks, A.A.E. **Executive Director Gerald R. Ford International Airport** (616) 233-6049 / bryks@grr.org

To schedule interviews please contact: **Tim Wondergem / Wondergem Consulting** (616) 235-7467 / (616) 299-1205 (cell) tim@wondergem.com

FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION DISMISSES COMPLAINT AGAINST AIRPORT FOR ITS 2012 PERMITTING OF A NEW FIXED-BASE OPERATOR

GRAND RAPIDS, MICH. (April 4, 2013) – The Gerald R. Ford International Airport today announced that the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) issued a determination dismissing a complaint against the airport for its decision to approve Rothbury Executive Air as a new fixedbased operator (FBO).

In November 2011, a formal complaint was filed in accordance with the FAA Rules of Practice: Title 14 Code of Federal Regulations, Part 16, alleging that the Gerald R. Ford International Airport Board violated Federal Law, Airports Sponsor Assurances and FAA Guidance when it granted variance from its master plan to Rothbury Executive Air for a 28,000-square-foot hangar in an area previously reserved for private corporate hangars.

"We are very happy with the determination. The airport acted responsibly and our actions were consistent with FAA policies," said Gerald R. Ford International Airport Board Chair Roger Morgan. "This is a very positive outcome for not only the airport, but for the entire West Michigan business community."

Rothbury Executive Air plans to open in the fall of 2013.

#