

2009 AIRPORT MANAGER OF THE YEAR

When our airport manager of the year started at the airport five years ago, less than half of the hangars were occupied, and days could pass without a single landing. But the area the airport serves began to grow and diversify. Existing industries were joined by those leading the quest for alternative energies. As a second generation pilot and a graduate of Texas A&M University, our airport manager of the year was well equipped to be an advocate for the airport's place in this economic boom. Under her management revenues at the airport have increased 400% largely due her presence at the airport and 24 hour service. With the support and backing of her city management and local community, she was able to provide a high level of service and accommodate opportunities for growth when new industry considered moving to the area.

The exponential growth of agricultural and energy industries in the area have resulted in increased aviation activities that have outpaced the facilities at the airport. Our airport manager of the year has coordinated the efforts of her city management and TxDOT Aviation Division to move forward with a large capital improvement project to purchase land and provide new facilities. Always the professional, she can hold her own – a typical day may see her in technical meetings in the morning, and in the afternoon she can be found fueling

aircraft, mowing grass, killing ants, repairing lights, doing the “dirty” work of running an airport.

A quote from the feedback section of one of the aviation information websites (AirNAV) says it all about our airport manager of the year:

“ I was very impressed with the airport operation - the manager was great, she had three jets and our King Air descend on her in short order. She got everyone their cars and fueled the planes herself. When we returned on Sunday she was there on her day off making sure everyone had their catering. Top notch airport, I wish more airports were as well run.”

I am happy to announce that our 2009 Airport Manager of the Year is Teresa Lyons – Hereford Municipal Airport

We have a resolution from Representative John Smithee office to present. The presenter will be Representative John Smithee.

We also have a resolution from Senator Kel Seliger’s Office to present.