Kirksville Regional Airport

N408DM Accident/Crash Report 11/05/2013

All Times are Approximate

6:55- per Weather Tap Information : Temp: 57F, Wind Speed: 17.3 MPH/Gust to 23, Wind Direction: 170 degrees, Press: 29.92, Clouds: Solid overcast @ 800ft

N408DM: Per Flight Aware-Arrival Time, 7:10 PM from "KAPA" Denver, Co. Piper Saratoga, RFG-LLC Waukesha, WI.

While putting the Cape Air aircraft in the hanger, I heard N408DM call 7 miles out for landing runway 18. His radio did not sound clear. (Bob Mills, Airport Operator)

Approximately 7:15 PM: While on my way back to the FBO the pilot stated that he was "5 miles out for runway 18". I then entered the FBO and communicated to the aircraft the advisory altimeter and winds. There was no response from the aircraft but the pilot did key the radio several times to activate the airport lights. (Bob Mills, Airport Operator)

I then went outside with the hand held radio to wait for the aircraft and guide them into parking. A short time later I, along with Jason Glass, UPS/Air Exec pilot, never heard or seen the aircraft. (Bob Mills, Airport Operator)

I then returned to the FBO and attempted to contact the aircraft two more times on the Unicom radio. (Bob Mills, Airport Operator)

At this time, I received a call from Kansas City Center, Mr. Chuck Berry, ______, and requesting information on the aircraft. I told Mr. Berry that no plane had landed and that the aircraft did not respond to my radio calls. (Bob Mills, Airport Operator)

7:41 PM- I attempted to contact Glenn Balliew, Airport Director, and left a message. (Bob Mills, Airport Operator)

7:45 PM- I contacted Eddy Turner, Airport Operator, an informed him of the situation. (Bob Mills, Airport Operator)

Central Dispatch called to report that the Sherriff Department was coming to the Airport (FBO) and I heard Engine Co 504 responding on the radio to look for the aircraft. (Bob Mills, Airport Operator)

8:10 PM- I contacted Glenn Balliew, Airport Director, at home and he responded to the airport (Eddy Turner, Airport Operator)

Adair County Deputy Sherriff, Frank K. arrived at the airport for any additional information. (Bob Mills, Airport Operator)

8:30 PM- Eddy Turner and Bob Mills, airport operators, took the Airport ARFF and Airport pickup and completed another airport grounds check. (Glenn Balliew, Airport Director)

0850 PM- Spoke with Kansas City Center to assure that they were coordinating with the FSDO and NTSB. Last Radar Contact was noted at 3NM north of the airport at 1800 MSL. Center confirmed that they were making all coordination's with the FSDO, FAA and NTSB. (Glenn Balliew, Airport Director)

0856 PM – State Patrol SGT Rhoan and Kirksville PD SGT Kellingson arrived at the airport. (Glenn Balliew, Airport Director)

0905 PM- Mr. John Palding, called the airport and reported a plane flying at an unusually low level over his house located on Squirrel Road. We then took a county map and drew a line from Squirrel Road, considered the arc of the approach and were in the process of relocating the search. (Glenn Balliew, Airport Director)

0915 PM-I contacted Kansas City Center and requested the last radar contact location. I was given N400846.35/W0923218.31 converted 40.14624/92.538419. At this point the Sherriff had arrived at the airport and was in the process of bringing the team in to relocate the search. Soon after that call a Sheriff's Deputy announced that he had found the crash site and aircraft on Quail Lane. (Glenn Balliew, Airport Director)

Kansas City Center was immediately notified that the aircraft had been located. It was a confirmed crash by the deputy and that, based on the report, that there were two fatalities. I conformed again that Kansas City Center was coordinating with the FSDO, FAA and NTSB and was told that they were. (Glenn Balliew, Airport Director)

I and Eddy Turner went to the crash site to coordinate with Sherriff Hardwick to discuss future events, press releases, coordination with outside agencies and all issues related to the crash. We left the site to retrieve road barriers and cones from the airport to block off the roads to the crash site. Contacted the Regional Operations Center, Lori, provide coordination and contact numbers for Kirksville Regional Airport. (Glenn Balliew, Airport Director)

We stayed at the airport the rest of the night to assure someone was here to coordinate efforts.

0610-Tim Groh, son of one of the aircraft crash victims, arrived at the airport seeking information. I explained that Sherriff Hardwick was heading the investigation at this point. The crash site was secure and we were waiting on the FAA/NTSB to take over the investigation.

0915- Bob Porter, QBE Insurance, informed the Airport Director that QBE was the insurance holder of aircraft N408DM. He would be coordinating for recovery of the aircraft and inform us once that was arranged. Contact Number is