Airport Panel Picks Manager For Airport

Roger E. Morgan, the retiring control tower chief at Smith Reynolds Airport, will take over March 1 as the temporary airport manager.

Morgan, 51, will replace William B. Rankin II, who leaves Friday to manage the municipal airport in Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

"The difference is that now I'm working for the federal government rather than with the federal government," Morgan said today.

After 26 years in the tower at Smith Reynolds, Morgan will retire from the Federal Aviation Administration on March 1. However, he said that he is too young to retire completely and he wants to become permanent manager.

The Forsyth County Airport Commission, which named Morgan as manager yesterday, will fill the permanent position in six months, Morgan said.

Marc Terkaly, who has worked for seven years as an FAA supervisor, will take over as tower chief.

Morgan said that he will spend the next several months learning the manager's duties and continuing Rankin's policies and negotiations with commercial jet carriers.

Also yesterday, the airport commission voted to eliminate the airport's $2.75 parking fee after March 1. The action was needed to stimulate business for Sunbird Airlines, the airport's commuter carrier, Rankin said.

The commission also awarded a $76,000 contract to Woodcraft Builders of Winston-Salem to design and build a canopy for the front of the airport terminal.