

LAURENS COUNTY AIRPORT COMMISSON
3985 Torrington Road
Laurens, South Carolina 29360

REGULAR MEETING – August 1, 2016

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT

Sam Wham, Chairman
Bob Harrington
Tim Hill
Dickie Patterson
Rick Snipes

OTHERS ATTENDING

Bud Boyter
John Mitchell
Jim Spencer

The regular bi-monthly meeting of the Laurens County Airport Commission was held on August 1, 2016 at 7:00 PM at the airport terminal.

1. APPROVAL OF AGENDA and MINUTES

Chairman Wham called the meeting to order. The agenda for the meeting was presented and approved by consensus. The minutes of the April 4, 2016 meeting were presented for approval. Bob Harrington moved to approve the minutes as presented. Motion was seconded by Rick Snipes. Motion passed unanimously. The Commission did not meet in June.

2. OLD BUSINESS

• **Budgets**

2016 BUDGET : The 2016 budget was reviewed. Sammy explained that overage in the budget for the year was the result of invoices that were paid related to the Pavement Rehab Project for which grant reimbursements had not been received. When those reimbursements are received and posted, we will be under budget for the year. There were no questions related to the 2016 budget.

2017 BUDGET : The approved 2017 budget was reviewed in which Sammy explained the reason for the increase in the salary line items. In the addition to the \$.50 / hour raise all county employees received in the new budget, the County is now paying the additional salary that Bud received in 2016 due to his additional responsibilities as Airport Manager. The Commission reimbursed the County in 2016 since the budget had already been approved when the move was made. In addition to the salary increase, the budget included an increase for a cell phone line item for Bud and for vehicle fuel. Beyond that the approved budget was basically the same as FY 2016. There were no questions.

• **AIRPORT PROJECTS**

2017-2021 ACIP / Pavement Rehab Phase 2 and Other Pavement Project Funding: Sammy reviewed the background of the project and the decision to pursue it in 2016 based on the grant support from the FAA and SCAC in FY16. He discussed in detail the project bidding process and how the specifications had to be amended to include concrete options to encourage additional contractors to participate. With the amended specifications, we received only bids for the concrete option which exceeded the available FAA grant funds in FY16. The FAA advised us to push the project back to FY17. He then described the grant application process for FY16 with the FAA and SCAC to, as a minimum, get reimbursed for expenses to date or position us should additional FY16 funds come available. He also reviewed the Commission's commitment to the project and the funding options. He concluded by reiterating that we were positioning ourselves to take advantage of all opportunities that might be available to us. He also stated that we had received emails from Anna Lynch (FAA) and Paul Werts (SCAC) that support our approach to the FY16 grant applications. The discussion was concluded with a motion from Rick Snipes to pursue any of the options presented for the project based on grants funds

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available. The motion was seconded by Dickie Patterson and passed unanimously. The Commission is still committed to contribute up to \$120K to the project.

Fuel Tank Maintenance Project: Bud Boyter gave an update on the project to clean the interior of the Av-gas fuel tank. Bud developed a plan to minimize the downtime to clean the tank when all of the available fuel was pumped out, perform the cleaning task, and refill the tank. There was approximately 145 gallons of fuel that had to be removed and disposed of after we lost suction on our pump. The system was down for two days for the cleaning and refilling. The project included replacing and relocating the old sumping system with stain steel pipe, but this work was not done with the cleaning. The projected cost of the project was approximately \$5,000. Bob made a motion to approve this expenditure. It was seconded by Tim and passed unamously. Bud has received an invoice for a portion of the work, but will not pay it until the work is completed..

- **Airport Operations Report**

Airport: Bud reported fuel sales to continue about the same level as recent history. Bud also discussed that he had gotten a trustee from the detention center for several days a week to help with airport maintenance. That arrangement is working out well. We are responsible for providing lunch.

T-Hangars & Rental Home: Bud gave an update on hangar rentals in which he described how he had rented one of the storage areas and that the two tenants in the maintenance hangar have now rented the entire hangar. We currently have 20 based aircraft and one ultra-light aircraft on the airfield. Bud also reported on some re-flooring work and AC work on the rental home. He estimated that the re-flooring work cost approximately \$2,000 for materials and labor. He hired someone to help him on the repairs.

- **Administrative Update:**

Special Order: John Mitchell was recognized for his long service of approximately 15 years to the Laurens County Airport Commission.

New County Administrator: Sammy discussed a meeting that he had set up with the new Laurens County Administrator, Jon Caime, and Paul Werts and staff from SCAC. Additional attendees included Andy Howard, Chuck Bobo (LC Building Codes), Ms. Kim Weeks (LC Planning Commission), Bob Harrington, & Bud Boyter. Discussion items included SC Title 55 and LC Ordinance #418 land use topics.

3. New BUSINESS

- **Cutting Trees Along Runway:** SCAC wants us to look at cutting back some trees on the south side of the runway adjacent to it in the 7:1 area. We need to clear this area of some the trees that are obstructions. They want us to clear back several hundred feet from the runway centerline. Andy Howard has begun the process of looking in to cutting some of the trees. To date, indications are that there is little to no value in the trees in the affected areas.
- **Hangar Rents:** Having not reviewed hangar rents in several years, Sammy asked Bob Harrington and Dickie Patterson to conduct a market review of the current rent schedule and present a recommendation.
- **SC Breakfast Club:** It was noted that we would host the SC Breakfast Club on September 18th. A planning session would be held immediately after this meeting.

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- **Airport Commissioners:** Sammy noted that we had two seats on the Commission open and requested recommendations for nominations.
- **Hangar Doors Storm Damage:** Sammy noted the damage to the hangar doors of the hangar behind the terminal building and that the County was pursuing insurance reimbursements to cover the cost of the repair of the damage.

4. QUESTIONS -- PRESS

None present.

5. **ADJOURN:** Meeting adjourned at approximately 8:30 pm on a motion by Tim Hill seconded by Dickie Patterson that passed unanimously. The meeting isscheduled on October 3, 2016.

Respectfully Submitted,

George S. Wham, Chairman