

MINUTES

LAURENS COUNTY AIRPORT COMMISSION

April 3, 2017

Commissioners Present- Chairman George S. Wham and Commissioners Dickie Patterson, Rick Snipes, and Bob Harrington

Staff Present- Bud Boyter, Airport Manager

Approval of Agenda and Minutes

Chairman Wham called the April 3, 2017 meeting of the Laurens County Airport Commission to order at 7 p.m. in the Conference Room of the Airport Terminal. The Commission agreed by consensus to approve the Agenda for the meeting. On a motion by Mr. Harrington and a second by Mr. Snipes, the Commission agreed unanimously to approve the Minutes of the February 6, 2017 meeting of the Commission.

Budgets

Chairman Wham presented a FY17 budget statement through the end of March. He noted that some current project expenses for this year would be discussed later. He reported that Andy Howard was working with County Council on the FY18 budget and that we were hoping for similar funding as in FY17. There were no questions or comments.

Airport Projects

Pavement Rehab Project Phase 2-Taxiway- Chairman Wham reported that the project was well underway having begun on March 1st and was progressing nicely although it has be affected by the weather.

Terminal Pavement Rehab Project - He then reported on the activities to move ahead this related follow-up project for the terminal parking lot and the area between the parking lot and the ramp. He reviewed discussions with Andy Busbee of our engineering firm that addressed the possibility of our not receiving successful bids from contractors while spending approximately \$25K in bidding expenses. This was the case with the much larger Taxiway Project that resulted in our incurring additional expenses to modify the specs and rebid the project. They agreed to approach the contractor, McCarthy Improvement, and ask them to review their original bid of \$281K for asphalt and determine if they could do the work in concrete for \$196K while on site. The original engineer estimate for construction was \$176K. McCarthy responded that they could do the work for \$195K and wanted to get started as soon as possible. This renegotiated bid allowed us to stay within the original \$263K total budget estimate for the project.

Concurrent with the discussions with the contractor, Chairman Wham and Mr. Busbee had discussions with the FAA on grant funding options. They discussed with John Marshall the options of amending the current FY16 grant or requesting an FY17 grant. Either option would still require the FY18 CIP grant funding to cover the project cost with only about \$12K difference. Mr. Marshall recommended that we amend the FY16 grant for the maximum 15% and request the additional \$12K in FY18 grant. This would mean that the County would have to front \$100K instead of the previously approved \$88K until reimbursed in FY18. Andy Howard took this matter before County Council on March 28th and received the approval to proceed with this project. Mr. Caime has issued a letter to the FAA requesting an amendment to the FY16 grant. Funds for this additional work should be available by the end of June. The contractor will proceed with the project.

SCAC Annual Inspection

Tree Removal - Chairman Wham reported that he and Andy Howard have met with the state contractor to discuss removal of approximately 10 acres of trees along the side of the runway, 4 acres of trees on the Holsonback's property, and cut three large trees near the railroad on the 08 end. They would also spray around the lights / signs with bare ground and for fire ants and spray the ditches. The contractor has responded with a quote of \$52K of which the SCAC will cover 75%. Our cost would be \$13K. Jamie Kempson will present this quote at his budget meeting later this week and feels confident that it will be approved given our priority. Chairman Wham advised the Commission that we would need to use some of our previously committed project funds for a portion of our cost after utilizing all County budgeted funds. We will move forward as soon as the funds are approved.

Airport Operations

Airport Manager Boyter reported the following items:

- Battery booster pack purchased for \$563.75.
- FFA / 4-H project date moved from April 15 – May 20.
- Hangar tenants advised of the May 1st rent increase with negative feedback from only one.
- Box hangar doors were repaired with funds from insurance claim.
- He is working with Pepsi distributor for repair of drink machine.
- Rental home tenants are moving. Several others are interested. Some repairs are needed which are estimated to cost \$2K to \$2.5K.

Rental rates:

- Box Hangar - Commissioner Patterson moved to set a rental rate of \$200 per month for the Box hangar. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Snipes. After discussion, motion was approved by vote of 4-0.
- Rental Home – Commissioner Harrington move to increase the rental rate from \$475 to \$500 per month. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Snipes. After discussion, motion was approved by vote of 4-0.

Administrative Update

Financial Update – Commissioner Harrington reported a balance of \$46,160 in the checking account and \$189,668 in the money market account.

John Deere Gator Purchase – Chairman Wham reported that the gator had been purchased for \$6,768.05 with Commission funds. The purchase was made utilizing state contract pricing. The Airport Commission donated it to Laurens County for use at the Laurens County Airport.

ACC Golf Tournament Shuttle Service – Chairman Wham reported that he had received permission to use the County Public Works van to provide shuttle service from the airport to Musgrove Mill Golf Course during the upcoming ACC Golf Tournament. This shuttle service is intended to be an extension of our courtesy car service for our airport guests and to complement community support for the event.

New Business

Update Airport Sign – Chairman Wham introduced the topic of updating the sign on electrical vault given recent renovations. After some discussion, Commissioner Snipes was asked to investigate possibilities.

Maintenance Hangar Lights – Mr. Boyter introduced the topic of replacing the light units in the maintenance hangar with newer technology that are more responsive and energy efficient. He stated that the current units require a “warm up” period that is not very effective in the buildings current usage. Replacement parts for the units are expensive. Mr. Boyter and Commissioner were asked to investigate unit replacement options.

Press - There were no representatives of the Press in attendance.

The Commission’s next meeting will be on Monday, June 5, 2017. The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

George S. Wham

Chairman