

**LAURENS COUNTY AIRPORT COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY, APRIL 8, 2019
6 P.M. – AIRPORT TERMINAL CONFERENCE ROOM**

Members Present: George S. Wham, Chairman; Bob Harrington, Treasurer; and Commission Members Dickie Patterson, Rick Snipes and Ernie Segars

Staff Present: Bud Boyter, Airport Manager; and Andy Howard of the County staff

Chairman George S. Wham called the April 8, 2019 meeting of the Laurens County Airport Commission to order at 6 p.m.

Approval of Agenda: On a motion by Mr. Harrington and a second by Mr. Snipes, the Commission agreed on a vote of 5-0 to approve the agenda of the April 8, 2019 meeting of the Commission.

Approval of the Minutes of the December 10, 2018 meeting of the Commission:- On a motion by Mr. Patterson and a second by Mr. Snipes, the Commission agreed on a 5-0 vote to approve the referenced Minutes.

Financial Reports

LCAC Financial Report - Chairman Wham provided to the Commission a copy of the monthly financial report as prepared by CPA Ed Young. The chairman said that, according to the report, the Commission has a current bank balance of \$292,589. That total will be reduced slightly through a recent purchase of fuel for the airport. A copy of the CPA's report is included as part of these Minutes.

Laurens County Airport Budget - County staff representative Andy Howard reported that "everything looks good" in the county budget for the current fiscal year. Mr. Howard said that he has submitted the budget for the Laurens County Airport as part of the FY 2019-20 county budgets, which will be taken up soon by Laurens County Council. He said that he has requested additional funding and for engineering/projects for next fiscal year.

Old Business

FAA Program Manager - Chairman Wham and Mr. Howard reported that the FAA program manager formerly assigned to the Laurens County Airport has been rerassigned to other duties within FAA. As of this date, FAA has not assigned a new program manager for Laurens County. Mr. Howard and the Commission's consulting engineers will continue to monitor this situation.

FAA ACIP Projects - Chairman Wham referred briefly to the Commission's FY 2020-24 Airport Capital Improvement Plan. The major project for 2019 is the development of a plan and

bidding for Airfield Lighting and Rehabilitation. The Commission has also submitted a tentative proposal/request to FAA for an update of the Airport Layout Plan. The prospect for funding such a project with FAA assistance may improve with the appointment of a new FAA program manager.

County staff representative Andy Howard said that he will meet with Laurens County Council on April 9, 2019 to discuss progress and projects at the Laurens County Airport. Mr. Howard said that a major part of that discussion will be the need for additional T-hangars at the county airport. He said that at least three members of County Council support a capital project at the airport for hangars. He said that no precise location for the additional hangars has been selected and that any decision on construction location should await an updated Airport Layout Plan.

Mr. Howard said there are a number of construction options available to the Commission, including a public/private partnership, participation with the FAA, or a stand-alone project funded by Laurens County and the Airport Commission.

In follow-up discussion, Commission members generally agreed that the Commission should participate with the county in funding a very viable capital project for the construction of T-hangars. Future planning and discussions with County Council will be crucial in this effort.

Airport Operations

Airport Manager Bud Boyter said that all of the T-hangars are currently rented and he has a waiting list of airplane owners who may want to rent a hangar should one become available. A private company has rented the maintenance hangar for the operation of a business. The company is in the process of establishing the business but he is paying the monthly rent.

The installation of a maintenance building for the storage of airport equipment has been completed, with only a few measures left for the completion of the project. Mr. Boyter also referenced a persistent septic tank problem at the rental mobile home owned by the Commission. He will take steps to relieve some of the surface drainage resulting from recent heavy rains.

Mr. Boyter also reported that the airport's fuel supplier has agreed to provide "split loads" delivery of fuel that the Laurens County facility can share with other airports, recently the Chester County facility. Mr. Boyter will; monitor the deliveries to make sure that costs are shared equitably.

SCAA 2019 Annual Conference

Several members of the Commission and Mr. Howard attended the Annual Conference in Hilton Head. All agreed that the conference was beneficial to attendees. Mr. Harrington said there was information provided on the construction of additional hangars.

New Business

Annual Hangar Rent Rate Review - The Commission discussed the rental rates charged for the various types of hangars available at the Laurens County Airport. On a motion by Mr. Segars and a second by Mr. Harrington, the Commission agreed on a vote of 5-0 to increase the rental rates by five dollars per month for rental of the hangars. Effective June 1, 2019, the rents for the following types of hangars is as follows:

- 1.) Box Hangar- \$205
- 2.) T-hangar closed, new- \$185
- 3.) T-hangar open- \$80
- 4.) T-hangar Closed old- \$125

Election of Officers - In final business, the Commission engaged in an extended discussion of a process for the election of officers for the Laurens County Airport Commission. Those discussions will be continued at the next meeting of the Commission.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Ernie Segars
Commission Member