

**Macon County Airport Authority
Minutes for the Meeting Held January 28th, 2020**

The Macon County Airport Authority holds its regularly scheduled meeting on January 28th, 2020. All members are present. Also present are: Lori Carpenter, Finance Director; Jimmy Luther, Project Engineer; Joe Collins, Legal Counsel; Jake Tallent, Pilot; David Phillips, FBO; and Teresa McDowell, Clerk. Vice-Chairman Schmitt welcomes all present and calls the meeting to order at 4:06 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR THE MEETING HELD NOVEMBER 26TH, 2020: After a brief discussion, Member Rhodes makes a motion to approve the minutes as forwarded. Member Horton seconds the motion and it passes by unanimous consent.

PUBLIC COMMENT SESSION: None

ENGINEERING REPORT: Mr. Luther reports that he has recently been informed that the project of renovation of the fuel farm is not grant eligible. Only total construction replacement is eligible. He continues by stating that the design component of the fuel farm is also not eligible at this time because construction cannot take place within two (2) years. Mr. Luther continues by stating that the FY 2016 NPE funds will expire in May of 2020, and there are no projects available at this time, so the MCAA is unable to utilize those funds. Therefore, the funds will have to be returned to the DOA, or assigned to another airport. Ms. Carpenter states that the funds will have to be relinquished by February 28th, 2020. She continues by stating that the next MCAA meeting is scheduled for February 25th, 2020, so this matter can be discussed further at that time. Mr. Luther also states that there is no update regarding the MOA with the Eastern Band. Until the MOA is signed, projects will be unable to move forward. In connection with the completion of the previous MOA, a TRC final invoice with billing in advance, will hopefully be submitted by February 28th, 2020. Mr. Luther states that he has been in touch with Phillip Braden of the FAA with offices located in Memphis, TN but has been unable to get any response in connection to "speeding this along." Mr. Luther continues by stating that there is a TIP done every year, which highlights future projects the authority would like to see accomplished. The projects included on the TIP are grant eligible, but without the completion of the MOA, projects are stalled. Mr. Luther states that the DOA continues to be supportive of projects being done at the Macon County Airport. He also reports that he will continue to follow-up with the FAA and the DOA regarding development of the needed MOA.

APPOINTMENT OF AUTHORITY MEMBER FOR SEAT VACATED BY CHAIR GREGORY: Three names were submitted to the MCAA members in the recent past for consideration as future members of the MCAA. These names are Stacey Guffey, Janet Shuler and Frank Montgomery. Member Horton states that he would like to talk to someone who may be interested in joining the authority. He will speak to that person to see if he shows interest in being appointed and report back to the authority. Once this information is gathered, a decision can be made via a phone poll with ratification at the next meeting or this issue can be totally addressed and decided at the next scheduled meeting. The appointment will be for a two (2) year term. After further discussion, Member Horton makes a motion to carry through with questioning the interest of the potential member, with notification to the other members of the status of the potential applicant. He continues by stating that a consensus of the chosen names may then be forwarded to the County Commissioners for consideration. Member Haithcock seconds this motion and it passes by unanimous consent.

OPERATIONS REPORT FROM THE FBO AND UPDATE ON COST AND COMPLETION OF DEFERRED MAINTENANCE ITEMS: Member Horton states that he would like to see a monthly report from the FBO added to the agenda. He states that it would be very informative to note items such as hangar rentals, fuel sales etc., as well as having a general check on how things are progressing. He continues by stating that this report could be provided by the FBO or his designee. FBO Phillips reports that it is very slow at this time because it is the winter season. He continues by asking if there are funds available for fencing, since coyotes have been seen in the area and on the airport grounds. He also states that staff has been disrupting geese with the tug. Mr. Phillips continues by stating that there is a hump in the runway that needs to be repaired. He states that this hump is where the old runway and the new runway meet. He continues by saying that this continues to get worse and will soon be to the point where it will be damaging to aircraft. Mr. Luther states that he will try to get information regarding funding of this needed repair from the DOA. Mr. Phillips also states that the hangar doors are in terrible shape, with one falling and almost hitting a vehicle, and also rotted wood from around the door falling and hitting an airplane. He continues by stating that the staff is trying to fix these doors "in house". He also reports that there are huge holes under the fence, where animals are getting access to the airport grounds. Mr. Luther reports that there is not grant money available for repair of fences, just total construction. Also, it is noted that the very old hangar needs major repairs or total replacement.

OTHER BUSINESS:

It is stated that someone needs to prepare a north/south grid for the runway. Mr. Phillips states that he can provide a video regarding this matter.

There is a discussion regarding continuing the coverage of the AWOS system through Wayah Insurance. Since the state of North Carolina does repairs, there is no need to continue this insurance. After this discussion, Member Horton makes a motion to authorize Member Haithcock to get in touch with Mike Wood at Wayah Insurance in order to cancel the AWOS protection policy. Vice Chair Schmitt seconds the motion and it passes by unanimous consent.

There being no further business to discuss, Member Horton makes a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion is seconded by Member Rhodes and passes by a unanimous decision. The meeting is adjourned at 5:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Pete Haithcock, Secretary