

**Macon County Airport Authority
Minutes for the Meeting Held April 30th, 2019**

The Macon County Airport Authority holds its regularly scheduled meeting on April 30th, 2019 at the Macon County Airport. All Members are present. Also present are: Karl Gillespie, County Commissioner; Joe Collins, Legal Counsel; Teresa McDowell, Clerk; and Lee Buchanan, The Franklin Press.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR MEETING HELD MARCH 26TH, 2019: After a brief discussion, Member Haithcock makes a motion to approve the minutes as forwarded. Member Rhodes seconds the motion and it passes by unanimous consent.

PUBLIC COMMENT SESSION: NONE

ENGINEERING REPORT: This item is tabled until the next meeting. Project Engineer, Jimmy Luther, is sick and is not present for the meeting.

UPDATE ON ROAD RELOCATION PROJECT: Chair Gregory reports that he has been contacted by a DOT representative, Andy Russell. Mr. Russell reports that he is working on the road relocation project, and it is suggested that local support be sought regarding this project. Chair Gregory continues by stating that Mr. Russell thinks that this project can be completed for less than 5 million dollars and that it will help a tremendous amount in straightening the public road. It is suggested that the Town of Highlands and the Town of Franklin boards, as well as the County Commissioners, be contacted for potential support.

MAINTENANCE ISSUES: Member Haithcock states that the storm water review must be done next month. He continues by stating that he gave the airport manager the necessary check-off procedures manual, and that he has agreed to do it, and to get some of his staff members trained as well. Member Haithcock continues by stating that a \$10,000.00 fine can be levied if this is not done.

Airport Manager, David Phillips, had previously provided a list of maintenance issues to the authority. Two items on this list are: repair of the terminal floor and the repair of leaking windows. An estimate for the floor repair for \$13,291.98 is presented. The authority determines that the floor should be repaired.

At this time it is unclear as to whether all the obstruction lighting is in working order. Member Rhodes states that several of the lights were working the last time he flew into the airport.

UPDATE ON FUEL FARM REPAIR: The repair of the fuel farm is very expensive and is not grant eligible. However, a total re-construction of the farm is grant eligible. In connection to the fuel farm repairs, Member Rhodes suggests that use should be continued as is, until a grant becomes available for the reconstruction of the fuel farm.

OPEN HOUSE DISCUSSION: Chair Gregory states that the open house held in 2018 was very successful. Member Schmitt and Member Rhodes agree that a great deal of the success is because the EAA was available for assistance. Member Schmitt suggests that this event be scheduled at a later time because the EAA is not available for assistance this year, and that many volunteers were provided through the EAA. This event requires the use of volunteers. Chair Gregory asks that Member Rhodes and Member

Schmitt talk to FBO Phil Drake and Airport Manager David Phillips about potential volunteers. Also, Member Schmitt will check with the EAA regarding their status.

APPROVAL OF FY 2019-2020 BUDGET: The FY 2019-2020 budget was discussed, with the authority accepting the document. The public hearing for the budget will be scheduled for May 28th, 2019.

OTHER BUSINESS:

In connection to the Junior Pilot Training Program, Commissioner Gillespie reports that SCC has initiated a program and has completed the requirements to offer a curriculum. This program will be offered out of the Jackson County campus. He continues by stating that SCC is very excited about the possibility of a simulator being offered at the Macon County Airport. Member Rhodes states that this type program will be great for Macon County. He continues by stating that there is not an available simulator between Franklin and Atlanta, so the airport would be a great location. The airport manager and one of the staff are both certified instructors. Chair Gregory will talk with Jimmy Luther regarding potential grants for this type of equipment.

Chair Gregory reports that he has spoken with Parks Preston of the FAA, and that Mr. Preston has had Phillip Bradley of the FAA contact Chair Gregory. He has requested all the information regarding the MOA with the Eastern Band and Mr. Luther has forwarded it to the FAA. Chair Gregory states that the MOA project is now moving forward.

There being no further business to discuss, Member Schmitt makes a motion to adjourn. Member Rhodes seconds the motion and the meeting is adjourned at 5:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Pete Haithcock, MCAA Secretary