

Macon County Airport Authority
Minutes of the Regular Meeting Held on May 29th, 2012

The Macon County Airport Authority holds its regularly scheduled meeting in its office at 1241 Airport Road, Franklin, North Carolina. All members are present. Also present are: Joe Collins, Legal Counsel; Eric Rysdon, Project Engineer; Steve Ledford, Macon County Maintenance; Neil Hoppe and Peggy Milton, airport FBO; and Teresa McDowell, Clerk. Chair Gregory welcomes all present and calls the meeting to order at 4:07 p.m.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FOR THE MEETING HELD ON APRIL 24TH, 2012: After a discussion, Member Corbin makes a motion to approve the minutes as forwarded. Member Schmitt seconds the motion and it passes by unanimous consent.

PUBLIC COMMENT SESSION: None

ENGINEERING REPORT: REVIEW OF APRON REHABILITATION PROJECT: Mr. Rysdon reports that the apron rehabilitation project has been put out for bids. He states that there was a good turnout at the pre-bid meeting, with 24-25 contractors on site for the meeting. He states that the bid opening will be held next Wednesday at 1:00 p.m. Mr. Rysdon reports that 8 contractors purchased plans for the project, and that he has requested bids for utilizing concrete or asphalt for the project. He also states that the concrete alternative is about 5% higher than the asphalt alternative. Mr. Rysdon states that the project will be phased so that the airport will remain open and functioning during the construction phase of the project. Mr. Rysdon also explains that concrete will normally outlast asphalt, with a typical life of 40 years with normal rehabilitation. He states that asphalt normally has a 20 year typical life. The pavement rehabilitation project includes re-surfacing the areas behind the maintenance hangar, the T-hangar, and the heli-pad. Mr. Rysdon reports that the approximate start date for the project is early July, and that the project should be completed in 120 days.

MOWING OF AIRPORT GROUNDS, RUNWAY LIGHT REPORT: Mr. Steve Ledford, Department Head for Macon County Maintenance is present, and issues a report on the runway lights issue. He states that the current regulator for the lighting is simply not big enough, and that if the lights remain on low or medium, the lights will function, but if turned to high the lights will short out. Incoming pilots are able to key the lights to high when approaching the airport. He states that his research indicates that a regulator will cost approximately \$11,000.00. Mr. Ledford also states that the wiring for the runway and taxiway lights is old and in disrepair. Mr. Ledford reports that an immediate fix for the problem is to lock the lights into the medium setting by by-passing the control board. Mr. Rysdon states that he will talk to the MCAA's project manager, Dion Viventi, about possibly tying repairs to the lighting into the runway extension project. Mr. Ledford states that if repairs/replacement of the lighting system is to be done, that the MCAA should consider replacing the existing lights with LED type lights. He states that

this type lighting will reduce energy costs, and might be functional with the existing regulators. Chair Gregory states that the lighting repairs should be made a priority, in that he has concerns regarding the safety issues involved, especially in the case of landing at night. Mr. Rysdon states that there should not be a problem with landings being done with the lights remaining on medium, and Mr. Ledford will address the issue of locking the lights onto the medium setting. Member Corbin states that this issue should be corrected immediately, and makes a motion to authorize Mr. Ledford and Mr. Rysdon to work together to repair the lights as inexpensively as possible, with the understanding that this issue is to be addressed ASAP. Member Schmitt seconds the motion and it passes by unanimous consent. Mr. Ledford also reports that the Macon County maintenance department will continue to mow the airport grounds.

OBSTRUCTION REMOVAL REPORT: Member Haithcock states that he is waiting on the surveyor to stake the tree removal line. He states that the tree removal project involves a trapezoid shaped area 400 feet in size located on either end of the runway. This area involves a 20-1 slope and widens from 1000 to 1500 feet and runs parallel to the runway. He states that the surveyor will identify and number the trees to be removed and he was under the impression that he had been at the airport this morning. Member Haithcock also states that this project should be a priority because any grants awarded could be in jeopardy without the certification required by the obstruction removal.

OTHER BUSINESS:

After a discussion, Member Corbin makes a motion to re-appoint Member Schmitt, whose term expires on June 30th, to the MCAA for an additional 6 year term. Member Jenkins seconds the motion and it passes by unanimous consent.

Member Haithcock states that there appears to be \$3000.00 in unused funds in the budget. However, he thinks that these funds are needed to pay for the quarterly invoice for the audit. He will check on these funds.

Chair Gregory states that the county maintenance department has agreed to keep the airport grounds mowed, and the potential project of purchasing mowing equipment for use at the airport will remain on the TIP plan until funding becomes available.

There being no further business, Member Corbin makes a motion to adjourn the meeting at 5:06 p.m. Member Schmitt seconds the motion and it passes by unanimous consent.

Respectfully submitted:

Pete Haithcock, Secretary

