

Macon County Airport Authority
Minutes for the Meeting Held August 28th, 2018

The Macon County Airport holds its regularly scheduled meeting on August 28th, 2018 at the Macon County Airport. All members are present. Also present are Jimmy Luther, W.K. Dickson; Joe Collins, Legal Counsel; Karl Gillespie, County Manager; Lori Hall, Finance Director; Neil Hoppe and Peggy Milton, airport FBO; Ryan Hanchett, The Franklin Press; Dick Gerber; John Duncan; David Hartsfield; Mitchell Smith; Bob Beaty; Jim Rogers; and Mark Bryson. Chair Gregory welcomes all of those present and calls the meeting to order at 3:59 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR MEETING HELD JUNE 26TH, AND JULY 31ST, 2018: After a brief discussion, Member Schmitt makes a motion to approve both referenced sets of minutes. Member Rhodes seconds the motion and it passes by unanimous consent.

ENGINEERING REPORT: Jimmy Luther reports that the vault building is near completion, and that this project should be completed by the end of September. Mr. Luther also states that he will prepare a grant extension since the contracted completion time is now over. Mr. Luther continues by stating that he will keep the FBO informed of any power losses before they happen, since the electricity will be turned off and on during the process.

DISCUSSION OF LEASE: Mr. Collins reports that he has been working with a committee consisting of Member Jenkins, and Member Rhodes, with the input of Commissioner Gillespie, in order to develop a lease with a subsidiary of Drake Enterprises for the airport premises. The current FBO's lease will terminate on September 30th, and a new ground lease has been developed with the new lessee, which lease will be good for a five (5) year period. Mr. Collins continues by stating that all repairs, maintenance and upkeep for any area located within the fenced in tract will be the responsibility of the lessee. Mr. Collins also states that this lease requires a fuller use of the building and although the authority will no longer have any office space available in the terminal building, a designated area will be available for the authority records. This lease will be taking the authority out of the day to day operations of the airport. Mr. Collins continues by stating that the maintenance issues including the upkeep of the beacon lighting will be addressed, and that this lease is advantageous for the airport authority. There is a discussion regarding the necessary language which should be included as required by the FAA and the DOA. Mr. Collins will research this matter. Chair Gregory expresses concern regarding the loss of the office space, with the ability to store the records there. After further discussion Member Jenkins makes a motion to authorize Chairman Gregory to sign the lease, with any changes being added that reflect appropriate language as necessary to bring the lease in compliance with the FAA and the DOA or that are technical in nature. Member Rhodes seconds the motion and it passes by unanimous consent. At this point it is decided that the Chairman may call a special meeting if any changes warrant the consent of the authority. Chair Gregory thanks the committee, Mr. Collins and Commissioner Gillespie for their attention to the lease matter, and says that he is hopeful this will be a smooth transition.

MAINTENANCE REPORT: Member Haithcock reports that there is an issue with the hangar door being inoperable. Security issues are a concern. He also asks how the change from Smoky Mountain Systems to Frontier needs to be handled. He states that the propane delivery be stopped until needed.

BUDGET UPDATE: Member Haithcock states that the budget is “good to go” as voted on by the County Commissioners.

REPORT FROM AIRPORT FBO: FBO Neil Hoppe and Peggy Milton are recognized for their contribution as overseers of the Macon County Airport over the last twenty (20) years. Mr. Hoppe states that it has been “a good ride”, but that they are ready to retire.

OTHER BUSINESS: NONE

There being no further business to discuss, Member Jenkins makes a motion to adjourn. Member Schmitt seconds the motion and it passes by unanimous consent. The meeting is adjourned at 4:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Pete Haithcock, MCAA Secretary