

Macon County Airport Authority
Minutes for the Meeting Held September 24th, 2019

The Macon County Airport Authority holds its regularly scheduled meeting on September 24th, 2019 at the Macon County Airport. All members with the exception of Member Haithcock, are present. Also present are: Karl Gillespie, County Commissioner; Jimmy Luther, Project Engineer; Joe Collins, Legal Counsel; Lori Hall, Finance Director; Pepper Moffitt, Drake Enterprises; Susanna McQuitty, Drake Marketing; David Phillips, airport manager; Jake Allen, pilot; and Teresa McDowell, Clerk.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR MEETING HELD AUGUST 27TH, 2019: After a brief discussion, Member Rhodes makes a motion to approve the minutes as forwarded. Member Schmitt seconds the motion and it passes by unanimous consent.

ENGINEERING REPORT:

FUEL FARM UPDATE: Project Engineer Jimmy Luther presents a report regarding projects at the airport. He states that the potential replacement of the fuel farm is limited to the current location because other areas of the airport that he has researched are not appropriate for a rebuilding of the fuel farm. Chair Gregory and David Phillips agree that it is best to expand the existing fuel farm. Mr. Luther continues by stating that he will bring a work authorization to the next scheduled MCAA meeting, and that three NPE grants are potentially available for this project in the amount of \$450,000.00 total. Mr. Luther states that this will be a good start on expenses involved with this project. He continues by stating that these grants will require a 10% match per grant from the Macon County Commissioners, which would result in a total match amount of \$50,031.00. The fuel tanks will not be usable while this project is on-going, but the airport currently has access to fuel trucks. The discussion continues with Member Schmitt making a motion to proceed in principal on continuing with the project of replacing the fuel farm on the existing site. Member Rhodes seconds the motion and it passes by unanimous consent.

STATUS OF STORMWATER PROCESSING: Mr. Luther continues his report by stating that the storm water training is scheduled for October 3rd, 2019 and Mr. Phillips reports that currently the issues involving the record keeping as required by DENR have been resolved, and that the airport is 100% fully compliant. He continues by stating that there will be another inspection in 12 months.

STATUS OF MOA: In connection to the status of the MOA with the Eastern Band as required by the FAA, Mr. Luther states that there is not an update on this process with the exception of the TRC staff attempting to “spend down the grant money.” Chair Gregory continues this discussion by stating that he is attempting to schedule a meeting with Phillip Braden, of the FAA; Steve Clagett of SHPO; Russ Townsend of the Eastern Band; and some authority members in order to “break the ice” on the MOA requirements. Chair Gregory suggests to Mr. Phillip that Phil Drake be asked to speak with and invite the chief of the Eastern Band in Cherokee to attend. Chair Gregory continues by stating that he is working on scheduling this meeting (potentially) for the week before Thanksgiving.

MAINTENANCE ISSUES UPDATE: Member Haithcock is not present at today’s meeting, so his report is tabled until the next scheduled MCAA meeting. Mr. Phillips states that he is in the process of obtaining bids to replace the hangar doors.

FINALIZE OPEN HOUSE PLANS: The Open House is scheduled for October 12th, 2019 from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. with a scheduled rain date of October 26th, 2019. Currently plans include: potentially obtaining aircraft through the National Guard; RC Modelers Group providing model plane flying; music

to be played by Curtis Blackwell and his band; food including hotdogs and chips to be served free of charge to the visitors; Member Schmitt to make airplanes available; and brochures being provided through Premier Marketing. After further discussion, Member Rhodes makes a motion to prepare a budget amendment to appropriate \$5,000.00 from the fund balance to pay for food to be served at the event. Member Schmitt seconds the motion and it passes by unanimous consent. It is anticipated that Macon County Commissioners will vote to reimburse the MCAA for this funding.

UPDATE ON LEASE CORRECTION: Mr. Collins reports that when the lease between MaconAir LLC and the Macon County Airport Authority was recorded, two pages were missed in the ROD's office scan. He continues by stating that the recording has now been corrected, and that no re-recording is necessary.

STATUS OF ROAD RELOCATION PROJECT: Chair Gregory states that Senator Davis has informed him that the funding for the relocation is still in the state budget, but that the budget has yet to be finalized. Chair Gregory states Senator Davis will "keep his eye on this" while the budget continues through the system.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Member Rhodes states that the PAPI lights need to be fixed. Mr. Luther states that the terrain will not support the PAPI system, but that he will reach out to the FAA to see if anything has changed in order to be able to include them in the next extension project if possible.

Mr. Phillips asks for an update regarding obtaining a flight simulator for the airport in association with Southwestern Community College.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: At this time, Member Horton makes a motion to move into executive session, under G.S. §143-318(11)(5) in order to discuss a potential land acquisition. The authority moves into executive session at 5:00 p.m.

After a discussion, Member Rhodes makes a motion to return to regular session. Member Schmitt seconds the motion and it passes by unanimous consent. The authority returns to regular session at 5:10 p.m. No action was taken.

ADJOURN: There being no further business to discuss, Member Rhodes makes a motion to adjourn the meeting. Member Schmitt seconds the motion and it passes by unanimous consent. The meeting is adjourned at 5:11 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Pete Haithcock, Secretary