

**Macon County Airport Authority**  
**Minutes of the Regular Meeting-May 25<sup>th</sup>, 2021**

The Macon County Airport Authority holds its regularly scheduled meeting at the Macon County Airport, 1241 Airport Road, Franklin, NC. All members with the exception of Member Horton, who is out of town, are present. Also present are Lori Carpenter, Macon County Finance Director; Phil Drake, owner of Drake Enterprises; Jake Tallent, Airport/Drake employee; and Teresa McDowell, Clerk. Chair Schmitt welcomes all that are present and calls the meeting to order at 4:08 p.m.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR MEETING HELD APRIL 27<sup>TH</sup>, 2021:** After a brief discussion, Member Rhodes makes a motion to approve the minutes as forwarded. Member Shuler seconds the motion and it passes by unanimous consent.

**PUBLIC COMMENT SESSION:** NONE

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**PUBLIC HEARING FOR FY 2021-2022 BUDGET:** Chair Schmitt opens the public hearing for the consideration of the FY 2021-2022 budget at 4:08 p.m. There is no one present to speak, and Member Haithcock makes a motion to close the public hearing. Member Rhodes seconds the motion and it passes by unanimous consent. The hearing is closed at 4:09 P.M.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**UPDATE ON DRAKE LEASE REVISION:** Mr. Phil Drake, Owner of Drake Enterprises and the Lessee, MaconAir is available to discuss this matter with the authority. He states that his attorney is currently working on the lease and that there should soon be an FAA approved lease in place for MaconAir and the authority.

**MOA STATUS AND/OR APPROVAL:** Chair Schmitt states that there is a meeting scheduled for Thursday between several parties to include the FAA, the authority, and the SHPO office to discuss the Section 106, for the environmental mitigation at the airport. This meeting should provide answers in connection with the continuation of the MOA with the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians, and hopefully will provide closure regarding this matter.

**UPDATE ON UPSTAIRS OFFICE SPACE LEASE:** Mr. Drake provides more information for the potential upstairs sublet. He is willing to sublet the office space for renovation and occupation. Ms. Carpenter asks if any potential remodel of the upstairs would take place before the lease is in place. Mr. Drake states that there will not be anything done until the wording is correct in the contract, and the contract is signed by the necessary parties. Chair Schmitt states that it is important to make sure the FAA is on board with any sublease in order to keep the status of future grants viable. Mr. Drake then continues this discussion with an update of the hangar doors matter, and states that there is not a good solution for this issue as

of yet. Mr. Drake states that he is looking at all possibilities, including potential construction of a new hangar. It is also reported that new hangars would be rented very quickly after construction, in that there is currently a waiting list.

**UPDATE ON RETREAT SCHEDULED FOR SEPTEMBER, 2021:** The authority states that they will provide dates to Member Horton to assist in setting a date for the retreat.

**OTHER BUSINESS:**

Member Rhodes states that if a WAAS approach installed, that FED EX and UPS would probably start using the airport for deliveries.

Mr. Tallent states that MaconAir paid the \$100.00 invoice for the storm water study annual fee. Ms. Carpenter states that upon being provided a receipt, MaconAir can be reimbursed through a MCAA grant. Member Haithcock asks if all the obstruction lights are still working, and Mr. Tallent states that they are.

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

Respectfully submitted:

---

Pete Haithcock, Secretary