

MACON COUNTY AIRPORT AUTHORITY
Minutes of the Meeting Held January 25th, 2022

The Macon County Airport Authority meets for its regularly scheduled meeting on January 25th, 2022 at 4:00 p.m. at the Macon County Airport. All members are present. Also present are: Jimmy Luther, Project Engineer; Josh Dulla, Macon County Airport employee; David Phillips, Macon County Airport FBO; Ronnie Beale, Macon County Commissioner; Joe Collins, Legal Counsel; and Teresa McDowell, Clerk. Chair Schmitt welcomes all present and calls the meeting to order at 4:09 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR THE MEETING HELD NOVEMBER 30, 2021: After a brief discussion Member Horton makes a motion to approve the minutes as forwarded. Member Shuler seconds the motion and it passes by unanimous consent.

PUBLIC COMMENT SESSION: None

OLD BUSINESS:

1. **Update on the MOU with the Eastern Band:** Member Horton and Commissioner Beale report that they have met with Chief Richard Sneed of the Eastern Band. Member Horton states that the chief is in agreement with the MOU with the airport, but that the agreement of the tribal council is required before it can be accepted and signed. Commissioner Beale reports that he would like to meet with Chief Sneed prior to the scheduled February MCAA meeting, would like to discuss details of the MOU, and would like to have Chief Sneed attend the next MCAA meeting. There is also a short discussion of the history of the MOU previously developed and Commissioner Beale states that the chief would need to be given specific details of the requirements of the MCAA in order to meet the MOU requirements. Chair Schmitt asks Clerk Teresa McDowell to develop a letter to be mailed to Aaron Braswell of the FAA stating the difficulties being encountered with grant issues and the need to address the MOU issues with all parties as soon as possible.
2. **Update on the Drake Lease Revision:** Legal Counsel Collins reports that conversations with the necessary parties continue regarding the lease between Drake Enterprises and the Macon County Airport Authority.
3. **Engineers Report:** Project Engineer Jimmy Luther reports that there is a pre-construction conference regarding construction of the fuel farm scheduled for February 3rd, 2022 at 11:00 a.m. Mr. Luther has signed the contracts. Mr. Luther is also asked about the height of the steps to the upstairs offices that will be leased by Mr. Miller. Mr. Luther states that there should not be a problem if the steps are not taller than the terminal building. Mr. Luther also states that there is a form due to the Division of Aviation asking the MCAA to either accept or defer the NPE grant funds. He continues by stating that the MCAA does need to respond to this request and accept the funds. There is also a discussion regarding the Bi-Partisan Infrastructure Bill, and the funding that has been awarded to the Macon County Airport. The funds are \$159,000.00 per year for five (5) years, with a ten percent (10%) match required. There is a discussion regarding the construction of hangars with Mr. Luther telling the authority that NPE dollars can be used for hangar construction as long as there are no safety issues that need to be addressed. The infrastructure funds can be used for different projects. More research needs to be done regarding exact projects for which these funds can be used. Member Rhodes states that he will ask Dan Rogers to submit

a letter regarding his immediate need for hangar space. Mr. Luther also states that the FAA needs an updated list of aircraft based at the airport to be submitted to them. FBO Phillips states that he will take care of this request.

NEW BUSINESS:

DISCUSSION OF INFRASTRUCTURE PACKAGE FUNDS TO MACON COUNTY AIRPORT: See Engineers Report

DISCUSSION OF POTENTIAL HANGAR CONSTRUCTION FUNDING: See Engineers Report

PRESENTATION OF FINANCIAL REPORTS: FBO Phillips presents an MCAA Monthly Financial Summary Report and a Deferred Maintenance Detail Report, but states the monthly reports are still not available. However, the financial summary includes year to date information. He states that it is difficult to access the June, July and August, 2021 reports at this time because there is only one accountant available for Drake Enterprises.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Member Rhodes reports that the high speed fiber is “hot” and is working at the airport. Commissioner Beale reports that the upstairs offices are completed. Member Horton states that a sub-lease with the authority and Drake Enterprises needs to be entered into, with the issue of the income producing lease and how it affects the authority being one of the issues to be addressed. Commissioner Beale states that there have been changes in the DOT, with one of the issues being a lack of funds. This issue may address the moving of the adjacent state road. Mr. Beale continues by stating that he will make sure the airport’s intended project will be addressed.

There being no further business to discuss, 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 5:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Pete Haithcock, Secretary