

MACON COUNTY AIRPORT AUTHORITY
Minutes of the Meeting Held on November 28, 2023

The Macon County Airport Authority meets for its regularly scheduled meeting on November 28, 2023 at 4:00 p.m. at the Macon County Airport. All members with the exception of Member Horton are present. Member Horton is attending a business meeting in Caldwell County and is excused from the meeting. Also present are Gary Shields, County Commissioner; Greg Kershaw, Project Engineer; Stuart Sloan, Legal Counsel; Teresa McDowell, Clerk; and Sabrina Sloan, Airport Manager. Chair Schmitt welcomes all present and calls the meeting to order at 4:05 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR THE MEETING HELD ON OCTOBER 26TH, 2023: 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

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Report of **AWOS Repair** (Potential Invoices): Airport Manager Crone reports that the AWOS system is operating and that the cost of repair will be covered by the authority.
2. Follow-Up-**Hangar Repair Funding**: Member Horton is not available today, but he does send a report that Jack Morgan is working on a list of repairs/upgrades that will bring the building up to code. Member Horton will ask Mr. Morgan to attend a meeting to report on these upgrades in person. Member Rhodes also speaks to replacing other hangars and states that there is funding available for building new hangars. At this point, it appears that any replacement hangar would have to be built on the same footprint as the existing hangars. Funding could possibly include \$75000.00 through a political grant; \$54,000.00 in COVID funding; and two NPE grants in the amount of \$300,000.00. Any replacement of hangars would have to be done in stages. It is suggested that twin hangars be replaced with T-hangars.
3. **Discussion-VIRTOWER Purchase/Agreement** with Division of Aviation: Clerk McDowell will contact the DOA regarding the contract for the Virtower system and will also contact Les at VirTower in order to purchase the necessary software for the virtual tower.
4. Update on the **Christmas Banquet**: Clerk McDowell reports that the plans for the banquet are proceeding and all should be ready for the banquet on December 7th, 2023.

NEW BUSINESS: None

OTHER BUSINESS: Member Rhodes reports that there have been complaints from pilots who utilize the Macon County Airport and who own jets in connection to **trees which are getting tall enough to obstruct** the airport approach. These obstructions are also noted on the 5010 report. Member Haithcock states that it is crucial that the trees be removed. He will do some research regarding obtaining potential prices and contractors to do the tree removal. He will also discuss this matter with additional property owners. After further discussion, Member Shuler makes a motion to obtain bids for the obstruction removal after any courtesy approaches with adjoining property owners are made. Member Rhodes seconds the motion and it passes by unanimous consent. Member Haithcock will report any progress made at the next scheduled meeting.

In connection to reimbursing for the **cost of fuel** that was drained from the fuel tanks during the fuel farm project, Member Rhodes states that this cost should not be considered as deferred maintainance with the

FBO, and it is determined that there was no allowance in the contraction contract for this fuel disposal. More discussion regarding this matter is needed.

There being no further business to discussed, Member Rhodes makes a motion to adjourn the meeting. Member Haithcock seconds the motion which passes unanimously. The meeting is adjourned at 4:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Pete Haithcock, Secretary