

**MACON COUNTY AIRPORT AUTHORITY**  
**Minutes of the Meeting Held April 26<sup>th</sup>, 2022**

The Macon County Airport Authority holds its regularly scheduled meeting on Tuesday, April 26<sup>th</sup>, 2022 at the Macon County Airport. All members with the exception of Member Rhodes are present. Member Horton accesses the meeting via phone. Also present are: Sabrina Crone and Josh Dulles, Macon County Airport employees; Jimmy Luther, Project Engineer; Joe Collins, Legal Counsel; Ronnie Beale, County Commissioner; and Teresa McDowell, Clerk. Chair Schmitt welcomes all those present and calls the meeting to order at 4:02 p.m.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR MEETING HELD MARCH 29<sup>TH</sup>, 2022:** 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:**

**UPDATE ON DRAKE LEASE REVISION:** Legal Counsel Joe Collins reports that the revised lease between Drake Enterprises and the Macon County Airport Authority has been approved through the FAA and the DOA. Mr. Collins' recommendation is to enter into the lease as presented. Member Haithcock makes a motion to sign the lease, and Member Horton seconds the motion. It passes by unanimous consent. Chair Schmitt signs the leases (two originals). Mr. Collins takes the leases with him in order to obtain Mr. Drake's signature. Mr. Collins states that he will bring an original to the meeting in May to be kept in the records of the Macon County Airport Authority in their office located at the Macon County Airport.

**ENGINEERS REPORT:** Mr. Luther reports that the notice to proceed date for the fuel farm construction project is September 1, 2022. Mr. Luther also reminds the authority that is required to advertise for another engineering firm, which is done every five (5) years. He states that any advertisement should be forwarded to Lisa Edwards of the NCAA, and she will publish it in aeronautical circles. Clerk McDowell will address this process. Mr. Luther also reports that Caleb Whitby, the former DOA Project Manager for the authority has been promoted and that a new representative for the western part of the state will be appointed. He states that Mr. Whitby will still be connected to Western North Carolina.

**UPDATE OF MCAA CODE OF ETHICS:** Member Horton presents a Code of Ethics for the Macon County Airport Authority to consider. He states that it is important to have one to avoid any conflicts of interest. Commissioner Beale also states that it is proper to adopt a code. Mr. Horton also asks that all members of the authority sign a resolution according to the contents of the code, which is based on a similar ethics document forwarded by Lisa Edwards of the N.C. Airports Association. After further discussion, Member Horton makes a motion to approve the agreement and resolution and forward it to the Commissioners at their next available meeting. Member Haithcock seconds this motion and it passes by unanimous consent. The tentative date to have the ethics code available for review by the Commissioners is May 10<sup>th</sup>, 2022.

**APPROVAL OF FY 2022-2023 BUDGET:** After a discussion, Member Haithcock makes a motion to approve the 2022-2023 budget as presented. Member Shuler seconds the motion, which passes by unanimous consent. The budget amount is set at \$38,500.00 which is subject to Commissioners approval.

**DISCUSSION OF SCHEDULING MEETING WITH CHIEF SNEED AND RUSS TOWNSEND, EASTERN BAND OF THE CHEROKEE INDIANS:** Commissioner Beale states that he is in the process of scheduling a meeting with Chief Sneed and Russ Townsend of the EBCI. He states that he will try to schedule them for the next meeting date of May 31<sup>st</sup>, 2022 prior to the regularly scheduled MCAA meeting.

**REPORT ON ROAD RELOCATION BY N.C. DOT:** A discussion takes place regarding inviting a DOT representative to the next scheduled authority meeting. Commissioner Beale suggests a letter be formatted from the authority regarding this matter and the need for the relocation, and the addressing of the safety issues involved.

**FINANCIALS 6 MONTHS REPORT:** This report is not available for this meeting.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**REPORT ON RUNWAY, APRON CLEANING, STRIPPING AND SEALING:** Project Engineer Jimmy Luther states that the crack seal, marking and cleaning is close to being complete at the airport. The runway and apron were done, but it was not necessary for the taxiway because it passed safety tests.

**POTENTIAL RENOVATION OF OLD TERMINAL BUILDING:** It is discussed that there may be some federal funds available for renovation of the old terminal building. The outside has been repaired and painted and looks good, but the inside needs work. Repairs would free up usable space that can be utilized by the airport.

**REPORT ON NCAA MEETING:** Member Haithcock updated the authority on some of the highlights of the NCAA meeting that he and Member Horton attended this month. Member Haithcock talks about the virtual tower, unmanned aircraft, airports being sustainable, and drug trafficking issues. He states that it was a very good conference.

There being no further business to discuss, Member Haithcock makes a motion to adjourn the meeting. Member Shuler seconds the message, and it passes by unanimous consent. The meeting is adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

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Pete Haithcock, Secretary Treasurer