

MACON COUNTY AIRPORT AUTHORITY
Minutes of the Regular Meeting Held on July 25th, 2023

The Macon County Airport Authority holds its regularly scheduled meeting on Tuesday, July 25th, 2023 at 4:00 p.m. at the Macon County Airport. All members with the exception of Chair Schmitt are present. Vice-Chair Horton excuses the absence of Chair Schmitt, who is out of town. Also present are: Jimmy Luther, Project Engineer; Sabrina Crone, Airport Manager; Stuart Sloan, Legal Counsel; and Teresa McDowell, Clerk. Vice-Chair Horton welcomes all of those present and calls the meeting to order at 4:07 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR MEETING HELD JULY 27TH, 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: Engineer Jimmy Luther speaks about the airport TIP list and addressing items on that list. He repeats that projects are being delayed because of the necessity of providing a signed MOA with the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians, or have the FAA determine whether it remains necessary. Vice-Chair Horton suggests setting up a lunch meeting with the Division of Aviation staff to follow up on this matter. He suggests September 12th or 14th as potential dates. Ms. McDowell will schedule. Mr. Luther states again that advancing projects on the TIP list is being stymied by the lack of a definitive decision on the MOA. Mr. Luther states that Martha Hodge is the New Environmental Specialist Director with the DOA.

NEW BUSINESS:

DISCUSSION OF PLANS FOR REBURIAL OF REMAINS (ECBI): The re-burial of the remains is discussed. There are very few details available. Ms. McDowell will contact Paul Webb to obtain more information.

DISCUSSION OF ELECTION OF OFFICERS: Vice-Chair Horton suggests that the authority table this matter until the next meeting date when Chair Schmitt will be available.

FLY-IN REPORT: Airport Manager Sabrina Crone reports that the date for the Fly-In has been tentatively set for October 7th, 2023, with a potential rain date of October 28th, 2023. Ms. Crone states that she wants to be sure that a donation jar is available in order to support the aviation program offered through the high school. This program currently has forty-eight (48) members signed up. She has contacted potential vendors to include: State Farm, Discover Flights and Black Rifle. Member Shuler volunteers to help with the Fly-In. There will be several activities as well as food offered during this event. Ms. Crone will provide more details as they become available.

DISCUSSION OF FINANCIAL REPORTS: Ms. Crone reports that she will have various financial reports available by the next meeting date. Vice-Chair Horton reminds Ms. Crone that the six (6) month report is now due.

OTHER BUSINESS:

1. Vice-Chair Horton reports that he has contacted Inspector Jack Morgan to do a walk-through and review of the hangar building to determine inspection requirements needed to bring the building up to date. He states that he will report back to the authority on this matter.
2. Vice-Chair Horton reports that Eddie Madden is the recently elected President of the NC Airport Association.
3. Vice-Chair Horton suggests that the authority members visit Jackson County in order to review the VIRT counting program that has been installed there. Macon County is interested in this system as well. Member Haithcock will get in touch with Jim at Jackson County Airport in order to arrange this software review.
4. Ms. Crone states that the mid-field windsock tower is rusted out and needs replacement. She asks which agency is responsible for replacement. She also states that the painting of the beacon towers is needed. Ms. McDowell will research to see who may provide funding and to see if these projects are grant eligible.

There being no further business to discuss, Member Rhodes makes a motion to adjourn the meeting. Member Haithcock seconds the motion and it passes by unanimous consent. The meeting is adjourned at 5:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Pete Haithcock, Secretary