

Macon County Airport Authority
Minutes of the Regular Meeting Held on July 27, 2010

The Macon County Airport Authority holds its regularly scheduled meeting in its offices at 1241 Airport Road. Members absent are Gary Schmitt and Tommy Jenkins. All other members are present. Also present are Joe Collins, Legal Counsel, Eric Rysdon, Project Engineer, Bobby Koppers, County Commissioner and Teresa McDowell, Clerk. Members of the press present are Colin McCandless, The Franklin Press and Christopher Carpenter, Macon County News. FBO Neil Hoppe and Peggy Milton are also present. Chair Gregory calls the meeting to order at 4:10 p.m, welcomes guests and thanks everyone for attending.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR MEETING HELD JUNE 29, 2010: After a discussion, Member Corbin makes a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Member Haithcock seconds the motion and it passes by unanimous consent.

PUBLIC COMMENT SESSION: There is no one present to speak during the public comment session.

ENGINEERING REPORT: Mr. Rysdon reports that the draft 404 permit from the Army Corp. of Engineers has been received and accepted. Chairman Gregory executed and returned the documentation this week. The 404 permit will allow impacts on the surrounding streams. He also states that he is in the process of mitigating some wetlands with past impacts and mitigating for wildlife control. Mr. Rysdon states that upon completion of the mitigation, the east side property will be available for future projects. Mr. Rysdon also states that he feels the grants available will cover the estimated costs of engineer's fees and mitigation fees.

Mr. Rysdon states that the TVA has received the Corp's EA and that they should hear back from them on Friday.

Mr. Rysdon states that the North Carolina Ecosystem Enhancement Program will be determining an amount of payment now that the final permit has been issued.

Mr. Rysdon reports that the approach certification survey needs to be completed, and that the geotechnical area needs to be filled in, in order for the MCAA to utilize the area on the east side.

Chair Gregory takes this opportunity to express sincere appreciation to Congressman Heath Shuler, Senator Richard Burr and Senator Kay Hagan for their assistance and support. He asks that Mr. Collins prepare letters expressing the Airport Authority's gratitude to the Senators and Congressman.

Mr. Rysdon states that he hopes to start solicitation of the bids for actual runway extension construction next week and that once advertised, there will be a pre-bid meeting scheduled. He states that twenty-eight (28) days should be allowed for the bid return. He will try to coordinate the bid opening with the August MCAA meeting. Chair Gregory takes this opportunity to thank Parks Preston of the FAA for his assistance throughout the process of this project, and Mr. Corbin states that he is personally proud of the fact that nothing has ever been hidden from the public and any dealings regarding the project have been open and above board.

In connection with the hangar planning project, Mr. Preston suggests preliminary planning that includes any testing by archeologists for potential artifacts.

Chair Gregory states that he has been contacted by a potential “donor” of dirt needed for fill for the runway extension project. He states that currently there are two options for fill dirt which include: 1. Dirt located at the community college/library site; and 2. Dirt located on 441 South through the developer who contacted him. Chair Gregory states that the MCAA should look at both options. There has been no testing done at this time for the 441 South fill, where as the dirt at the community college/library site has been certified.

DISCUSSION REGARDING HANGAR PROJECT PLANNING:

After a discussion, the MCAA authorizes Mr. Rysdon to draw up plans for the hanger project in order to get an idea of the project scope, elevations and mitigation requirements.

After further discussion, Member Corbin makes a motion to accept and execute Revision #15, the Supplemental Agreement to W.K. Dickson’s contract. Member Haithcock seconds the motion and it passes by unanimous consent. Member Corbin also makes a motion to accept and execute Revision #16, the Supplemental Agreement to W.K. Dickson’s contract. Member Haithcock seconds the motion and it passes by unanimous consent. These Supplemental Agreements are for reduction or removal of wildlife attractants on or near the airport, site preparation and approach certification.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Obstruction Lighting: Chair Gregory reports that he has spoken with the electrician regarding the obstruction lighting. Mr. Blanton of King Electric reports that he thinks the problem with the lights involves a power surge. He wants to install backup lights in conjunction with the obstruction lights, in order to have the lighting at a constant level. After further discussion, Member Haithcock makes a motion to have King Electric move ahead with the installation of secondary lighting. Member Corbin seconds the motion and it passes by unanimous consent.

Appreciation Letters: After a discussion, Member Corbin makes a motion to have Legal Counsel, Joe Collins, compose letters to Senator Hagan, Senator Burr and Congressman Shuler, expressing support and appreciation for their assistance. Member Haithcock seconds the motion and it passes by unanimous consent.

Contract for Area Cleanup: Member Haithcock states that he will solicit bids for a bi-monthly clean up in the area around the terminal building (beds in parking lot-adjacent to building). Mr. Collins states that it would be prudent to ask for proof of insurance from whoever does the work, but that most likely the contractor will be considered an independent contractor and the MCAA will not be liable if someone gets hurt.

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

Respectfully submitted:

Pete Haithcock-Secretary/Treasurer