

MACON COUNTY AIRPORT AUTHORITY
Minutes of the Regular Meeting Held on August 31st, 2021

The Macon County Airport Authority holds its regularly scheduled meeting on August 31st, 2021. All members with the exception of Member Shuler are present. Also present are Legal Counsel, Joe Collins; Project Engineer, Jimmy Luther; County Commissioner, Ronnie Beale; and Teresa McDowell, Clerk. Chair Schmitt welcomes all present and calls the meeting to order at 4:09 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF MEETING HELD JULY 27TH, 2021: After a brief discussion, Member Rhodes makes a motion to approve the minutes. Member Horton seconds the motion and it passes by unanimous consent.

NORTH CAROLINA AIRPORTS ASSOCIATION CONFERENCE REPORT: Member Horton and Member Haithcock attended the conference and they give the authority an overview of the conference. They report that it was a busy conference, and covered many topics, including an economic impact overview of N.C. airports. They report that airports add 61 billion to the economy, and that they are awarded 163 million in grants. They spoke of the Virt (Virtual) Tower which indicates when planes land, and how much fuel they take on among other things. Member Horton reports that Caleb Whitby, Project Engineer for the DOA, reported that the fuel farm construction component of the grant will be awarded to the airport. Mr. Whitby reports that it is a \$900,000.00 grant which will require a 10% county match. Member Horton continues by stating that he saw many positive examples of FBO's and authorities being partners rather than adversaries. The report continues by stating that a program for airport leadership and management which can result in a designation of certified leadership is offered through the NC Institute of Education. Classes are offered via ZOOM for the cost of \$20.00 per class, and Member Horton recommends that members attempt to attend some of these meetings.

FBO BI-ANNUAL LEASE AGREEMENT/RENTAL REPORT: FBO Phillips messaged that there is not a 6 month report available at this time, and he will submit it to Chair Schmitt within 30 days. It is also reported that Jake Tallent has left his employment with MaconAir, and will be working with jets at another company in the eastern part of the state.

UPDATE ON NCDOT FUEL FARM FUNDING AND ENGINEERS REPORT: Project Engineer Jimmy Luther reports that the Department of Transportation will award the construction component of the fuel farm grant based on the TIP estimate of \$900,000.00. He continues by stating that the as soon as the DOA states they can bid, they will do so. Mr. Luther states that they will be leaving the back wall in place because the footprint of the fuel farm cannot be enlarged.

ANNUAL MCAA ARETREAT: Member Horton reviews the retreat agenda. He also makes a motion to move the regularly scheduled meeting from Tuesday, September 28th to Monday, September 27th, to be held at the conclusion of the retreat. Member Rhodes seconds the motion and it passes by unanimous consent.

MCAA CLERK'S CONTRACT: This agenda item is moved to the next scheduled meeting.

It is advised by legal counsel that a closed session is not necessary at this time. Mr. Collins states that the lease has been enhanced by a "Management Agreement" which component is formed under another LLC,

MaconAir Management, LLC. This agreement removes some of the exclusivity language. This updated document has been forwarded to Project Manager Caleb Whitby for review. After a discussion regarding the potential remodel of the upstairs area of the terminal building, the authority agrees by consensus to allow the remodel under the FBO MountainAir to move forward, with the modifications to be done at no cost to the authority or to the county. The entire cost of the remodel will be absorbed by the lessee, who will also pay 50% of the light bill for the terminal building.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Commissioner Beale advises that Derek Cody, the Vice-Chair of the Huey Division would like to meet with the authority for 10-15 minutes at an upcoming meeting. He would like to speak about writing a request for the runway extension.

Mr. Beale continues by stating the RPO is scheduled to meet the same day as the retreat and he would like to bring the Chairman with him for a portion of the retreat. He states that his attendance will not be part of the agenda.

Member Haithcock states that a liability insurance policy through Wayah Agency is due for payment October 25th, 2021. The authority questions the necessity of continuing with this particular policy. Member Horton will research the necessity.

Commissioner Beale recommends that a member of the authority meet with the Macon County Commissioners during their scheduled meeting on October 12th, to present information regarding the progress of the authority/airport.

There being no further business to discuss, Member Horton makes a motion to adjourn the meeting . Member Rhodes seconds the motion and it passes by unanimous consent. The meeting is adjourned at 5:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Pete Haithcock, Secretary