

**Macon County Airport Authority
Minutes of the Regular Meeting Held on June 25th, 2013**

The Macon County Airport Authority holds its regularly scheduled meeting in its office at 1241 Airport Road, Franklin, North Carolina. All members with the exception of Member Jenkins are present. Also present are Eric Rysdon, Project Engineer; Joe Collins, Legal Counsel; Jack Horton, Macon County Manager; Lori Hall, Macon County Finance Officer; Katie Stanley, Macon County Intern; Neil Hoppe and Peggy Milton, airport FBO; Travis Tallent, the Macon County News; and Teresa McDowell, Clerk. Chair Gregory welcomes all present, and calls the meeting to order at 4:01 p.m.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FOR THE REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETING HELD MAY 28TH, 2013: After a discussion, Member Corbin makes a motion to approve the minutes as forwarded for the May 28th, 2013 regularly scheduled meeting. Member Schmitt seconds the motion and it passes by unanimous consent.

PUBLIC COMMENT SESSION: County Manager, Jack Horton, takes this opportunity to express his and Macon County's appreciation for the service the Macon County Airport Authority provides. He states that the airport has undergone projects which have resulted in a vast improvement to the area and also states that the airport is of great economic benefit to Macon County.

ENGINEERING REPORT-APRON REHABILITATION PROJECT AND UPDATE ON WIDENING OF RUNWAY AND LIGHTING MATTER: Mr. Rysdon states that he is in the process of wrapping up the paperwork with Chuck Durant of NHM in connection to the apron rehabilitation project. He states that the apron has turned out "really nice" and is already on Google Earth. He has also been contacted by other airport personnel in the state seeking information regarding the cost analysis and life cycle of the concrete apron. Mr. Rysdon also addresses the runway widening project and states that they are making good progress. He has spoken with the contractors, who agree that they can do the job working only at night to lessen the impact on the airport. The airport will only have to be closed during the overlay process. Mr. Rysdon states that the bids should go out in July, with the end of August and first part of September being the goal construction start date. Mr. Rysdon states the airport should only be closed for about a week. FBO Hoppe states that he will put out a NODAM regarding this project and closures. Member Corbin asks that a notification to the public be put out as far in advance as possible so pilots and the public will have time to schedule and work around the closure. Mr. Rysdon also reports that the widening project and lighting project will occur at the same time. He states that the runway lights will be de-energized for a short period of time after the seven (7) day closure for overall paving, with the new

lighting system to include LED lights, runway lighting and control cards. There will be temporary markings done for thirty (30) days to allow the asphalt to cure, with permanent markings after that. Mr. Rysdon states that W.K. Dickson will have an inspector on site during the project. Chair Gregory states that the funding is in place through the Division of Aviation, but the county match funding has not been awarded as of yet. Mr. Rysdon states that this project will be ready to bid in July, and then they will have a better understanding of the cost involved. He expects four (4) to five (5) contractors to submit bids, and that is the least amount that is expected. Mr. Rysdon also explains that any contractors submitting bids would have to be qualified through the Division of Aviation, under the Division of Highways process. Mr. Rysdon states that this project should be bid by the next MCAA meeting. He also states that the property is previously disturbed property so there is no DENR permit required. It is suggested that the Eastern Band of the Cherokee Indians be informed of this project. All funding will have to be in place before the contract can be awarded. Chair Gregory will attend the scheduled Macon County Commissioners meeting on August 13, 2013 to ask for the ten percent (10%) match.

APPROVAL OF REAPPOINTMENT FOR MEMBER HAITHCOCK AND CHAIRMAN GREGORY: Chairman Gregory reports that both he and Member Haithcock were reappointed to the Macon County Airport Authority by the Macon County Commissioners. The decision was unanimous.

HANGAR UPDATE: Member Jenkins is not present at today's meeting, so Chair Gregory gives a brief update on this project. It is his understanding that all the survey work has been done, and now the points of the survey need to be incorporated into the no-rise report. County Manager Horton will check with the engineer, Larry Lackey, regarding the progress of this project on Wednesday.

MAINTENANCE/LANDSCAPING REPORT: Chair Gregory has been in touch with Steve Ledford regarding the mowing of the airport grounds and the beacon light repair/replacement. He states that the county staff has continued to mow the runway and apron, but does not have the personnel available to do the cleaning around the fence line or to maintain the front of the terminal building area. There is also very little money in the county budget to pay for these type jobs. Member Haithcock states that the Sheriff's Department may be able to provide inmate workers for some jobs. Member Haithcock also reports that the Macon County Airport is now in compliance with the SWPPP requirements.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Chair Gregory states that the airport was recently utilized by visitors to the Cherokee area and Harrah's Casino. He states that Harrah's staff provided vehicle transportation to the

casino from the Macon County Airport, and that an e-mail was forwarded to him from the General Manager of Harrah's, Brooks Robinson, that stated the airport would be utilized in a number of Harrah's destination flights in the future.

Mr. Hoppe states that the rotating beacon light is inoperative. Steve Ledford checked the light and, based on the condition of the motor, his recommendation is to replace the light with a new one, rather than try to repair this one. Chair Gregory states that it should be replaced because of the safety issues involved, and Mr. Rysdon states that Division of Aviation grant funding may be available for the replacement. After further discussion, Member Corbin makes a motion to move forward with soliciting costs for replacement of the beacon lighting, up to and including fifteen thousand (\$15,000.00) dollars, stating that this is a safety issue and needs to be a priority of the airport. Member Corbin continues by stating the replacement will be based on the availability of funding. Member Schmitt seconds the motion and it passes by unanimous consent.

Mr. Hoppe states that the PAPI lights are not working. Mr. Rysdon will check on this issue.

Mr. Hoppe states that he would like to see the WAS system (level of instrument approach to the airport, allowing a turn-in approach rather than a straight approach) installed at the airport. Mr. Rysdon will speak to the DOA Project Manager, Dion Viventi, and Chair Gregory will speak with Parks Preston of the FAA in connection to this matter. This type of system would allow night landings.

Mr. Hoppe states that he would also like to see the MCAA request to have a single point fueling system installed. He states that his fuel sales have increased by two (2) to three (3) times what they were last year. Mr. Hoppe states that leasing a fuel truck can be done at the cost of seven hundred fifty (\$750.00) dollars per month.

Mr. Hoppe informs the MCAA that there is water standing in the area around the fuel tanks. He is concerned that the tanks will rust. He states that the drain has been lowered once, but is still too high to completely drain the water from the area. Member Schmitt will check into this matter and report back to the MCAA.

Mr. Hoppe also reports that the electrical junction box on the west side of the building is missing its lid. Chair Gregory will check with Steve Ledford about replacing it.

Chair Gregory passes out professional, informative brochures in connection to the airport that was developed through the Economic Development Commission. Member Corbin states that the County Commissioners need to be briefed on the amount of revenue that is brought in by the airport. Mr. Rysdon states that the Macon County Airport has a multi-million dollar impact.

There being no further business, Member Corbin makes a motion to adjourn the meeting. Member Schmitt seconds the motion and it passes by unanimous consent.

Respectfully submitted:

Pete Haithcock
Secretary
Macon County Airport Authority