

**Macon County Airport Authority**  
**Minutes of the Regular Meeting Held on September 28, 2010**

The Macon County Airport Authority holds its regularly scheduled meeting in its office at 1241 Airport Road, Franklin, NC. All members are present. Also present are Jennifer Fuller, DOA Project Manager; Eric Rysdon, Project Engineer; Neil Hoppe and Peggy Milton, airport FBO; Teresa McDowell, Clerk; Joe Collins, Legal Counsel; Colin McCandless, The Franklin Press and David Eldridge, Macon County News.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR MEETING HELD AUGUST 31, 2010:** After a discussion, Member Jenkins makes a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Member Schmitt seconds the motion and it passes by unanimous consent.

**PUBLIC COMMENT SESSION:** None

**ENGINEERING REPORT:** Mr. Rysdon reports that Buchanan & Sons has been awarded the contract for construction of the runway extension. The contract is in the amount of 2.6 million dollars. Buchanan & Sons also submitted a 5.7% DBE goal. A preconstruction meeting has been held and the actual construction start date is set as October 11<sup>th</sup>, 2010. Mr. Rysdon will submit copies of the contract to Legal Counsel, Joe Collins for his review. Mr. Rysdon reports that the runway will stay open during the first phase of construction, with the worst case scenario being a temporary close down of one hundred (100) to two hundred (200) feet. Nodums will be coordinated to issue the necessary notice to pilots. Mr. Rysdon states that the first structure will be completed the first week, with one structure per week scheduled for completion after that. Mr. Rysdon reports that the contract length is one hundred fifty (150) days, with a built in penalty clause of one thousand (\$1000.00) dollars per day. He states that the weather reports will be monitored, and in the case of unusually bad weather, adjustments will be made. Mr. Rysdon reports that the project includes the runway extension, parallel taxiway extension and lighting for both runway ends. Chair Gregory expresses appreciation to Mr. Rysdon for the work he has done, as well as the MCAA members for their tenacity. Mr. Gregory states that this project has consisted of a team effort, and that this project will be a tremendous asset to Macon County when completed. Mr. Rysdon states that the project should be completed six (6) months after the start date if the work is conducted straight through.

**UPDATE ON HANGAR PROJECT:** Mr. Rysdon states that with respect to the survey, the surveyor wants the proposed area bush-hogged if possible. Mr. Rysdon also states that the necessary 25000 cubic yards of fill may be borrowed from the new school site. After further discussion, Member Jenkins makes a motion to request that Macon County staff do the referenced bush-hogging. Member Corbin seconds the motion and it passes by unanimous consent.

## **OTHER BUSINESS:**

FBO Hoppe presents the lease payment check to Chair Gregory. This check is in the amount of thirty nine hundred (\$3900.00) dollars and represents payment for the upcoming contract year.

Member Haithcock reports that in connection to the fuel gauge, they are currently awaiting a part in order to repair it.

In connection to the runway-taxiway lights, county maintenance is currently waiting on a circuit board to replace the one struck by lightning. Currently the lights burn at medium intensity at all times.

Legal Counsel Collins states that there is discussion regarding a VIPER tower, which is a tall communication tower, which the DOT is planning on locating on the Windy Gap property adjacent to the DOT maintenance shed. The MCAA collectively, along with Mr. Rysdon, the project engineer, determines that the height (around 400 feet) and location of the tower will interfere with incoming and outgoing aircraft to and from the Macon County Airport. Mr. Collins states that he can draft a resolution stating that the Windy Gap site will be unmanageable, and might affect the process. The airport issue will probably determine that the tower will not be located at Windy Gap, and that there should be no further consideration of this site because of the potential effect on the airport. After further discussion, Member Jenkins makes a motion to authorize Mr. Collins to draft a letter to the appropriate authorities concerning the reservations of the MCAA in connection to the proposed location of the radio tower on the Windy Gap property. Member Schmitt seconds the motion and it passes by unanimous consent. Mr. Collins will also research the county height ordinance.

In connection to the potholes on the bridge leading into the airport, Chair Gregory asks whether the MCAA should form a resolution based on the lack of response of the DOT to informal requests for repairs. Member Jenkins suggests that another informal request be made, and it is decided that Member Corbin will contact Conrad Burrell at DOT.

Mr. Hoppe states that the MCAA office will be used for voting purposes on election day.

DOA Project Manager, Jennifer Fullers states that she is redoing the database to present to the DOT in connection with repairing the airport apron. She has asked the DOT to expedite the Macon County Airport apron as it is graded as poor or failing. She will make this project of the highest priority.

Ms. Fuller also states that she continues to research the snow removal equipment as provided through the DOA, per the MCAA's request.

There being no further business, Member Jenkins makes a motion to adjourn, with Member Haithcock seconding the motion. The motion passes by unanimous consent and the meeting is adjourned at 4:42 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

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Pete Haithcock  
Secretary  
Macon County Airport Authority