

MACON COUNTY AIRPORT AUTHORITY
Minutes for the Meeting Held April 30, 2024

The Macon County Airport Authority holds its regularly scheduled meeting on Tuesday, April 30, 2024 at 4:00 p.m. at the Macon County Airport. All members are present. Also present are Stuart Sloan, Legal Counsel; Lori Hall, Financial Director; Sabrina Crone, Airport Manager; and Teresa McDowell, Clerk.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR MEETING HELD MARCH 26, 2024: After a brief discussion, Member Horton makes a motion to approve the minutes as forwarded. Member Rhodes seconds the motion and it passes by unanimous consent.

PUBLIC COMMENT SESSION: None

OLD BUSINESS:

ENGINEERS REPORT: Project Engineer, Greg Kershaw, is unable to attend the meeting today but forwarded information to the authority. The information includes that the work authorization for the Corporate Hangar Development (60% design) is near completion and will be presented to the authority at the next scheduled meeting.

UPDATE ON HANGAR RENOVATION GRANT: Ms. McDowell states that she attended the training workshop for the hangar renovation grant, and has prepared and forwarded all of the required documentation to the Southwestern Commission. The authority will be notified when these funds will be awarded by the Office of State Budget Management.

FOLLOW UP ON REPORT OF VIRTOWER PURCHASE/AGREEMENT WITH THE DIVISION OF AVIATION: The contractor has been paid, and the authority is now waiting on installation.

FOREST SERVICE UPDATE ON CLEARING NORTH-EAST END OF RUNWAY: Member Haithcock reports that the Forest Service did clearing today and that it looks good. He states that the bill for the clearing is \$3,200.00. He continues by stating that there are popular trees that also need to be removed, and that should be done at the next scheduled clearing. Member Haithcock states that he has maps of the areas that need to be addressed. He also reports that the wetlands around the AWOS system need to be addressed, or the AWOS will eventually be affected. He states that the tree/brush removal is out for bids and that four contractors want to submit bids based on the potential scope of work. Member Haithcock also states that the mowing of the hay located on airport authority property needs to be addressed and that the engineer, Greg Kershaw should be consulted regarding this matter. Currently the operating budget for mowing in the fund balance is over \$100,000.00.

UPDATE ON RUNWAY LIGHTS REPAIR/REPLACEMENT: Ms. Crone, Airport Manager, submits bids from Walker/Whiteside for two options for repair of the runway lights. Option #1 is for \$7,470.00, with Option #2 being for \$6,275.00. These options do not include travel or labor to install of them. After further discussion, Member Horton makes a motion to prepare a budget amendment choosing Option #2, up to and including the amount of \$15,000.00. He continues the motion by stating that this should include any cost of installation by Walker/Whiteside. Member Rhodes seconds the motion and it passes by

unanimous consent. Ms. Crone is asked to contact Walker/Whiteside and ask them to schedule this project.

NEW BUSINESS:

FY2024-2025 BUDGET PRESENTATION: Finance Director, Lori Carpenter, discusses the FY 2024-2025 budget and states that the budget is for \$48,100.00. She continues by stating that there has been an increase in auditing fees of \$500.00, and an additional cost of \$6,000.00 for the VIRTOWER system. The Division of Aviation will refund \$3,000.00 of the cost of the Virtower system at the end of this fiscal year. She continues by stating that the airport authority should schedule the public hearing for the budget at the next scheduled meeting of May 28, 2024. Ms. Carpenter will prepare the ad stating the date of the public hearing, which will be published in The Franklin Press. She states that the authority should be prepared to adopt the budget during the regularly scheduled June meeting.

OTHER BUSINESS:

The authority expresses sympathy for the death of Neil Hoppe, long-time FBO of the Macon County Airport. Ms. McDowell is asked to order a plant in honor of Mr. Hoppe.

Member Haithcock gives an update on his and Member Horton's attendance of the NCAA conference. He states there were good presentations, and that North Carolina is recognized as being a leader in aviation.

There being no further business to discuss, Member Horton made a motion to adjourn. Member Rhodes seconds the motion, which passes by unanimous consent. The meeting is adjourned at 5:12 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Pete Haithcock, Secretary