

MACON COUNTY AIRPORT AUTHORITY  
Minutes of the Meeting Held July 30<sup>th</sup>, 2024

The following airport authority members present were Chairman Gary Schmitt, Richard Rhodes, Pete Haithcock, Jack Horton and Janet Shuler. Also present were Macon County Chairman, Gary Shields, Finance Director, Lori Carpenter, Legal Counsel Stuart Sloan and FBO Manager Sabrina Crone. WK Dickson was represented by Engineer Greg Kershaw and VP Paul Smith, Director of Aviation Services. Ms. Teresa McDowell, airport board administrative clerk was excused due to personal reason.

Chairman Schmitt opened meeting at 1600 hours and welcomed guests.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR JUNE 25, 2024 MEETING**

No corrections. Rhodes made motion to approve. Second by Horton. Pass by unanimous consent.

**PUBLIC COMMENT SESSION: None**

**OLD BUSINESS**

1. First order of business, was a presentation of a check for \$28,032.22 for rent to Macon County Airport Authority by Sarbrina Crone, from Drake Aviation. Check received by Schmitt and passed to Lori Carpenter. Calculation sheet is attached and represents the period FY 2023.
2. Virtower report by Sarbrina Crone that system was up and running. Contractor made adjustment on 30 July. Month of July, aircraft landings were 358 with business jets landing at 71 and single engine 259. Military aircraft and helicopters 7. Light sports aircraft 21. Member Rhodes commented that this gives up a good picture of activity here for future development. Sarbrina also made the Board aware that a CD report is available.
3. Discussion of airport operations. Sabrina reports that deer and other animals were still accessing runway. No solution by Board as of now.

4. Sabrina presented an estimate of mowing ditch lines and drainage area that are inside the fence perimeter that current mowing is not assessable by regular mower. Estimate received was \$18,000.00 but scope of work was not presented. Currently, Airport Authority is accessing contracting work for vegetation identified in the 5010 review by FAA. Funds have been approved with a funding date expiring about October 2024. Scope of work is being identified and will go out for bids late August if approved by Board.
5. Runway lights repair. \$15,000 can be used if needed. Currently \$8,025 allocated. Rhodes made motion to approve. Horton seconded. Board voted to approve.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

1. Request for lease agreement request to be sent to NC Department of Aviation. Counsel Stuart Sloan will send request.

2. Riles Property Discussion

Preliminary review of feasibility of purchase of Riles Property

Review of steps to consider :

1. Grant Authorization
  2. Special Permits
  3. CADEX report
  4. Permitting Agent for authorization
  5. Flood Zone
  6. 404 Wet Land
  7. Archeological survey
  8. AIG Funds
  9. Designer
  10. Project permitting
  11. GEO Services for testing of soil
3. Proposal for GEO Tech services for boring of soil on Riles' property by Greg Kershaw, PE to authorize WK Dickson to request a soil compaction test by core drilling.

Motion by Rhodes and seconded by Shuler to authorize counsel Stuart to contact landowner and WK Dickson, Greg Kershaw PE for GEO request.

Vote approved 5 to 0

There being no further business to discuss, Chairman Schmitt thank VP Paul Smith of WK Dickson for attending the meeting and appreciate his participation in the property purchase review. Member Shuler makes a motion to adjourn. Seconded by Horton with unanimous member consent.

Respectfully submitted:

Pete Haithcock, Secretary