

**Macon County Airport Authority**  
**Minutes for the Meeting Held February 27, 2018**

The Macon County Airport Authority holds its regularly scheduled meeting on February 27<sup>th</sup>, 2018 at the Macon County Airport. All members with the exception of Member Jenkins, who is in Washington, D.C., are present. Also present are Jimmy Luther, project engineer; Joe Collins, Legal Counsel; Teresa McDowell, Clerk; Ryan Hanchett, The Franklin Press; Peggy Milton and Neil Hoppe, airport FBO; Dan Rogers; John Duncan; and Mark Bryson. Chair Gregory welcomes everyone present and calls the meeting to order at 4:02 p.m.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR MEETING HELD JANUARY 30<sup>TH</sup>, 2018:** After a discussion, Member Schmitt makes a motion approve the minutes as presented. Member Rhodes seconds the motion and it passes by unanimous consent.

**PUBLIC COMMENT SESSION:** Dan Rogers is present and asks: 1. If the beacon lights are all repaired, to which Member Haithcock answers that they are; 2. to discuss access to the airport grounds after hours with FBO Hoppe stating that there is no general access after-hours, but pilots are provided with a gate code, and staff can be contacted after hours for access; and 3. A discussion about obtaining a fuel truck, with the MCAA explaining that that is not feasible at this time, because there is no grant money available for this type of purchase.

**ENGINEERING REPORT:** Mr. Luther presents a report regarding the progress of the meeting recently held with the NCDOA, Russ Townsend of the Eastern Band, and members of the state archaeological office, as well as Member Jenkins and Member Gregory. Paul Webb of TRC had presented an update of the data analysis gathered so far from the last environmental/archaeological study done during the runway extension and asks for an additional \$193,000.00 to complete the phase of the project, which includes: 1. Cataloging; 2. The Final Report; and 3. An Artifacts Display. The Division of Aviation is supportive of providing these funds and asks the MCAA to apply the available NPE funds to this project. A 10% match will need to be requested through the Macon County Commissioners.

Mr. Luther also presented layouts in connection to the development of the area east of the fuel farm. He states that mitigation will have to be done in that area, and that another land capability study will need to be done. Mr. Luther continues by stating that this would be a 3-4 million dollar project, with a 10% from the county being required. Chair Gregory requests that Mr. Luther present a finalized draft to be included with any future projects.

Member Rhodes states that, in connection to approaches, technology continues to change, and that he is hopeful that approaches can be part of this discussion and project. Member Rhodes states that he would love to have someone from the FAA, pilots, and Mr. Luther attend a meeting to discuss potential approaches in connection to the runway extension. Chair Gregory states that he will try to get this type meeting set up. Chair Gregory continues by stating that the DOA staff was very impressed with this airport, and they are willing to finance projects.

**MAINTENANCE UPDATE:** Member Haithcock states that it is time to obtain contracts for mowing and maintenance of the airport grounds. He continues by stating that he would like to go ahead and put out bids. Member Haithcock states that the county has done a good job with the mowing thus far. He states that more clearing along the roadway needs to be done, and he states that in connection to the fencing, the insurance company has issued a check for the damage done through the vehicle accident.

Member Haithcock continues by stating that the obstruction lighting needs to be monitored, and that repairs need to be done on the hangars. He states that the fence needs to be treated with weed killer, and he will speak with someone at the county regarding this. He continues by stating that there is still an issue with the back door, there is still a leak in the hangar, and several lights need to be replaced. This replacement will require a cherry picker type vehicle. He continues by stating that all lights need to be replaced with LED lights.

Member Haithcock reports that May 15<sup>th</sup> is the date of the NCAA Legislative update. He states that members should attend, in that this is a good time to obtain support for local projects.

**DISCUSSION OF OPEN HOUSE:** It is the consensus of the MCAA that the open house held last August was very successful, and it is a good idea to do another of these type events. Member Rhodes states that last time the EEA members were very helpful and he will talk to them regarding lending assistance this time. He will report back at the next MCAA meeting about possible dates.

**OTHER BUSINESS:** A discussion is held in connection to the FBO contract for the Macon County Airport expiring on September 30<sup>th</sup>, 2018, and that there is much to be accomplished regarding the future management of the airport before that time.

There being no further business to discuss, Member Schmitt makes a motion to adjourn the meeting at 5:09 p.m. Member Rhodes seconds the motion and it passes by unanimous consent.

Respectfully submitted:

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Pete Haithcock-Secretary/Treasurer