

Macon County Airport Authority
Minutes of the Meeting Held on June 25th, 2024

The Macon County Airport Authority holds its regularly scheduled meeting at the Macon County Airport. All members are present. Also present are Greg Kershaw, Project Engineer; Lori Carpenter, Finance Director; Sabrina Crone, Airport Manager; Stuart Sloan, Legal Counsel; and Teresa McDowell, Clerk. Chair Schmitt welcomes all those present and calls the meeting to order at 4:05 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR MEETING HELD MAY 28TH, 2024: After a brief discussion, Member Rhodes made a motion to approve the minutes as forwarded. Member Horton seconds the motion and it passes by unanimous consent.

PUBLIC COMMENT SESSION: None

APPROVE BUDGET AMENDMENT #4: In connection to the Virtower system, Member Haithcock makes a motion to approve the amendment as presented. Member Horton seconds the motion and it passes by unanimous consent.

APPROVE BUDGET ORDINANCE AMENDING 2023-2024: After a brief discussion, Member Rhodes makes a motion to approve the ordinance as presented. Member Shuler seconds the motion and it passes by unanimous consent.

APPROVE BUDGET ORDINANCE 2024-2025: After a brief discussion, Member Rhodes makes a motion to approve this ordinance as presented. Member Haithcock seconds the motion and it passes by unanimous consent.

These documents are on file in the Finance Director's office.

OLD BUSINESS:

ENGINEERS REPORT: (INCLUDING PRESENTATION OF WORK AUTHORIZATION FOR HANGER DEVELOPMENT): Mr. Kershaw reports that the DOA turned down the original entry he submitted which included a 30% design, and has suggested a revision to include a 60% design. Mr. Kershaw states that he is revising the plan again and will submit it by the end of the week. It has been indicated to him that the environmental inspection will need to be 100%, with a wetlands, archaeological and feasibility study. Once a CATEX (Categorical Exclusion) is developed then will be able to fund this project with the NPE/AIG funding. A 10% match is already in place for the \$150,000.00 grant amount. In addition, any CARES money needs to be expended by October.

DISCUSSION OF POTENTIAL GRANT FOR OBSTRUCTION CLEARING: Member Haithcock reports that heavy foliage needs to be cleared. Per the 5010 some trees do not have to be removed, but there is potential to clear some trees all the way to the roadway. Member Haithcock continues by stating that the FBO is responsible for maintenance of 10 feet outside of the wire along the creek bank, and that the Department of Transportation may be able to do the roadway. He states that he will continue working on determining the best process to address the obstruction clearing.

UPDATE ON RUNWAY LIGHTS REPAIR/REPLACEMENT: The repair has not taken place as of yet.

UPDATE ON VIRTOWER INSTALLATION: The contractor will be at the airport to install the VirTower system on June 26th, 2024.

NEW BUSINESS: None

OTHER BUSINESS:

1. Member Horton requests that the financial reports from the FBO be submitted at the upcoming meeting.
2. There will be discussions with technicians this week in connection to the repair of the hangar doors, with Attorney Stuart Sloan stating that it is not the responsibility of the authority for this repair.
3. Member Horton will contact the state regarding the status of the funding for the “old” terminal building repair.
4. Member Rhodes states that he has spoken with an adjoining property owner, Tom Riles, regarding a potential property purchase. The property consists of 5.8-acre tract with some buildings and the owner is currently asking approximately \$500,000.00. It is determined that an appraisal is needed, but will start by researching the current tax value. Member Rhodes states that the potential savings of utilizing the fill dirt of this property for use in a potential hangar site should be considered in determining the value of the property. Mr. Kershaw states that an appraiser would have to be DOA approved. There are several issues that need to be addressed in connection to this property, which would eventually be used for hangar sites. Some issues include purchase price, and environmental mitigation among other things. This project is considered a long-term project and various environmental issues would need to be addressed before an actual purchase can be made. It would be at least 6 months before a closing date could be set. Legal Counsel Stuart Sloan will prepare a pre-contract of interest in purchasing and Mr. Kershaw will research how much fill would be necessary for the hangar site. There will be drafts submitted at the next meeting.

There being no further business to discuss, Member Horton makes a motion to adjourn. Member Rhodes seconds the motion, which passes by unanimous consent. The meeting is adjourned at 5:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Pete Haithcock, Secretary