

MOUNT AIRY/SURRY COUNTY AIRPORT AUTHORITY
MEETING OF MAY 23, 2019

The Mount Airy/Surry County Airport Authority met on May 23, 2019 for an Airport Authority meeting. The meeting was held at 6:00 pm at the Surry County Historic Courthouse, 114 West Atkins Street, Dobson, North Carolina.

Authority members present for the meeting were Authority Chairman Eddie Harris, Authority Vice Chairman Larry Johnson, Authority Member Jon Cawley, Authority Member Bill Goins, Authority Member Mark Marion, Authority Member David Rowe, and Authority Member Van Tucker.

Others present for the meeting, at various times, included:

Sandy Snow, Assistant County Manager
Rhonda Nixon, Budget and Performance Director
George Crater, Airport Manager
Ed Woltz, Airport Authority Attorney
Tim Gruebel, Parrish and Partners

Authority Chairman Eddie Harris called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone.

Authority Chairman Harris asked for approval of the March 28, 2019 meeting minutes.

Upon motion of Authority Member Tucker, seconded by Authority Member Goins, the Board voted unanimously to approve the March 28, 2019 meeting minutes as presented.

Rhonda Nixon, Budget and Performance Director, presented a financial update and the recommended operating budget for FY 2019-2020. Ms. Nixon stated the overall budget was healthy. Final budget amendments for the year will be completed in June.

Additional funding will be received for capital projects by December 31, 2019.

George Crater, Airport Manager, and Tim Gruebel, Parrish and Partners, discussed construction of the Pike hangar. The projected cost of the hangar is \$1.7 million. The low bid came in at \$1.3 million. The steel has been ordered and grading is underway.

George Crater, Airport Manager, and Tim Gruebel, Parrish and Partners, discussed the parallel taxiway. Mr. Crater has talked to Rachel Bingham and Carl Rose and Sons regarding lighting

contractors. Mr. Gruebel stated the project would likely be three months in duration and would double the number of lights.

The possibility of a potential land swap was discussed. Surveys would need to be completed. George Crater, Airport Manager, stated the Airport Authority land was purchased with State funds. Authority Attorney, Ed Woltz, explained the process of land purchased with State money and owned by an Airport Authority.

The Phase II design is 90% complete. A new access road and retention pond will be built. The Authority is currently waiting on Department of Aviation approval. Mr. Crater will update the Authority at the July 25, 2019 meeting.

George Crater, Airport Manager, discussed general Airport business including fuel sales at the Airport. The cost to lease a fuel truck would range from \$500 to \$1,500 per month. The benefits of having a fuel truck were discussed. Mr. Crater stated some airports no longer allow fuel farms. The Authority will discuss the pros and cons of a fuel truck at a later meeting.

Ed Woltz, Airport Attorney, presented a legal update for the Authority's information.

Mr. Woltz recommended a review of the Authority's existing liability insurance to determine if coverage is adequate. Staff will work with the insurance providers and report back at a later meeting.

Airport Attorney Ed Woltz recommended the Airport rules be changed to require mechanics that service planes on Airport property be required to have the same liability insurance as the FBOs and list the Authority as an additional insured.

The consensus of the Authority was to amend the Airport rules to reflect the requirement, as discussed.

Airport Attorney Ed Woltz discussed the Brown easement and access near Holly Springs Road. The possible land trade is being reviewed with Rachel Bingham.

Ed Woltz, Airport Attorney, reported no information has been received yet from Attorney Dan Barrett regarding in process legal appeals.

Mr. Woltz has consulted with the FAA regarding an earlier hangar inspection. No action is anticipated based on current information.

David Rowe, Airport Authority Member, discussed his percentage of ownership in Smith-Rowe, LLC and any possible conflict of interest or perception of conflict of interest his partial ownership could present for future Airport Authority projects. Mr. Rowe does not have a definite ownership percentage, currently, but the number would be small.

Authority Member Rowe wishes to remain on the Authority Board and would be vigilant in avoiding any situations of conflict of interest or appearances of impropriety. Attorney Woltz would monitor any potential conflicts of interest or perceptions of conflicts of interest to assure compliance.

The Authority has no objections and it was the consensus for Mayor Rowe to continue to serve as a Board member.

George Crater, Airport Manager, and Authority Vice Chairman Larry Johnson discussed recent visits they, along with County Manager Chris Knopf, recently took to the Elizabeth City and Rocky Mount Airports.

Authority Member Rowe commended the hiring of George Crater as Airport Manager and feels he will move the Airport in a positive direction.

Authority members discussed future directions for the Airport.

The Authority members reviewed the closed session minutes from the March 28, 2019 meeting, as presented by the Authority Secretary.

Upon motion of Authority Member Tucker, seconded by Authority Member Marion, the Authority voted unanimously to approve but not release the closed session minutes from the March 28, 2019 meeting.

The next Authority meeting will be held on July 25, 2019 at the Historic Courthouse. The September meeting will be held at the Mount Airy/Surry County Airport.

Upon motion of Authority Member Goins, seconded by Authority Member Tucker, the Authority voted unanimously to adjourn. The meeting ended at 7:34 pm.

Eddie Harris
Airport Authority Chairman

Sandy Snow
Airport Authority Secretary