

AIRPORTS BOARD

March 21, 2013

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Notification: To view video of full discussion of this meeting please visit
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The Airports Board met on Thursday March 21, 2013 at 1:30 p.m., in the Council Chambers of the Beaufort County Government Center. Chairman Mazzei called the meeting to order and led the attendees in the Pledge of Allegiance.

ATTENDANCE

Airports Board Members: Chairman Joe Mazzei, Vice Chairman Graham Kerr, Will Dopp, Mike Nash, Ron Smetek, Carl Wedler, Pete Buchanan, Al Spain, Rich Sells, Councilman John McCann – Town of Hilton Head Island Liaison, and Councilman Stu Rodman – Beaufort County Liaison. (Absent: Derek Gilbert, Ross Sanders)

County Staff: Rob McFee, Director, Engineering and Infrastructure; Councilman William McBride; Joel Phillips, Beaufort County Airport Supervisor; and Larry Yeager, Hilton Head Island Chief of Operations.

Public: Judy Elder, Talbert & Bright; Wil Hamp, Resident; Joe Zimmerman, Resident; Bob Gentzler, Resident; Alan Kwiatkowski, Resident; Linda Kwiatkowski, Resident; Leo Brennan, Resident; Bob Richardson, Resident; and Robert Oetjen, Resident.

MOTION TO ACCEPT AGENDA

Motion: It was moved by Mr. Kerr, seconded by Mr. Smetek that the March 21, 2013 agenda be approved. The vote was: FOR – Mr. Mazzei, Mr. Kerr, Mr. Dopp, Mr. Spain, Mr. Smetek, Mr. Wedler, Mr. Nash, Mr. Buchanan, and Mr. Sells. AGAINST – None. ABSENT – Mr. Gilbert and Mr. Sanders.

MOTION TO ACCEPT MINUTES

Motion: It was moved by Mr. Kerr, seconded by Mr. Sells that the February 21, 2013 minutes be approved. The vote was: FOR – Mr. Mazzei, Mr. Kerr, Mr. Dopp, Mr. Spain, Mr. Smetek, Mr. Wedler, Mr. Nash, Mr. Buchanan, and Mr. Sells. AGAINST – None ABSENT – Mr. Gilbert and Mr. Sanders.

Before the guest introductions and public comments, Mr. Mazzei stated that at the last meeting there were technical difficulties with the broadcast at the Hilton Head Island Library. Mr. Mazzei stated his reply to Mr. Smetek's comment about whether the guests at the library had

heard the meeting was taken out of context. Mr. Mazzei stated that comments made at the Town Council meeting concerning his remarks were out of order and asked for an apology. Mr. Smetek disagreed and stated he did not owe an apology, but asked for an apology from Mr. Mazzei who declined.

GUEST INTRODUCTIONS AND PUBLIC COMMENTS

1. Joe Zimmerman - Mr. Zimmerman stated he was the one who spoke to the Town Council about Mr. Mazzei's comments and that there would be no apology from him as well.

LADY'S ISLAND AIRPORT REPORT

Mr. Phillips reported on the fuel sales and operations for the Lady's Island Airport for February.

Mr. McFee stated SCE&G has until March 17, 2014 to light or lower the utility poles. He also stated the court has not yet scheduled dates for the avigation easements. Mr. McFee stated the FAA sent a letter to Mr. Kubic on March 8th requesting submittal of the draft Master Plan as soon as possible. Mr. McFee stated this involves clarification of verbiage and that it would need to go back to the Airports Board, Finance, and County Council.

HILTON HEAD ISLAND AIRPORT REPORT

Chief Yeager gave the tower and operations reports as well as the noise complaints for February.

Mr. McFee gave an update of the obstruction removal process and avigation easements. The tentative start date is unknown for the South end off airport portion due to the appeals. Mr. McFee stated there was a tour of the Phase 3 archaeology data recovery and the field work will be completed tomorrow.

Mr. McFee stated the consultant has picked up as-built plans from the County for the design of the commercial terminal renovations. He stated the runway lighted signs replacements were to receive a Modification of Standards from the FAA, but has not yet been received.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

- 1. Lady's Island Airport Operations –Pete Buchanan – No Report**
- 2. Hilton Head Island Airport Operations – Will Dopp**

Mr. Dopp stated the movements for the first two months of this year compared to last year are down 17% and passenger count is down by 5%. He stated that for the same time period Signature Flight Support's revenue was up by 5%. Mr. Dopp stated revenues from Republic Parking are down slightly. Mr. Dopp stated the control tower will probably shut down April 7th, but there is a joint effort between the County and the Town to provide a temporary tower during the Heritage Golf Tournament. A discussion which included the Board, Councilman Rodman, Mr. McFee, and Mr. Alan Kwiatkowski (a guest) was then held concerning the control towers and the sequestration.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Discussion of Status of Master Plan Phase 1 Implementation – Joe Mazzei

Mr. Mazzei recapped the process for approval of the Master Plan and the implementation of Phase 1. He stated the approval of the Master Plan is behind us and we are now moving into the implementation and design phase. Mr. Kerr concurred and added that the Airport Layout Plan is actually the execution document. Mr. Smetek stated the Master Plan is only a plan and that there are significant things that need to take place before we continue with the implementation such as the true cost and benefits. He stated that there are data errors that need to be looked at before moving forward with the implementation. Mr. Smetek stated "they" have appealed to the FAA, Talbert and Bright and to Mr. Kubic to go over some of the numbers. He stated Mr. Kubic has accepted the invitation.

2. Process for Consideration Of Alteration of Phase 2– Joe Mazzei

Mr. Mazzei stated the next question is what do we want to do about Phase 2, if anything. He stated a discussion, prompted by Councilman Rodman, came up about minimizing the impact on the community as much as possible and at the same time accomplish Phase 2. Mr. Mazzei stated he does not want anyone to lose sight of the fact that Phase 1 would not be involved.

Councilman Rodman stated it is his understanding the Benefit Cost Analysis is that it is primarily for the FAA and that they are the judge of whether they agree or disagree with the numbers, but the County Council will want to have some input. He stated the mechanism for doing this is the 5 year Cash Flow Plan. Councilman Rodman stated the issue with Phase 2 is whether or not it makes sense to do a study as to what we could accomplish on airport property that is greater than 5000 feet but less than 5400 feet. He stated that he thinks it makes sense to complete the study because then it would be very transparent and everyone could look at, talk about it and decide on the options. Councilman Rodman stated he would encourage the acceleration. A discussion continued concerning the study as well as the responsibilities of the Airports Board.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS – None

PUBLIC COMMENTS CONTINUED – None

FUTURE MEETINGS

The next Airports Board meeting will be Thursday April 18, 2013 at 1:30 p.m. in the County Council Chambers of the Beaufort County Government Center.

ADJOURNMENT – 2:55 p.m.