

# AIRPORTS BOARD

August 15, 2013

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The Airports Board met on Thursday August 15, 2013 at 1:30 p.m., in the Council Chambers of the Beaufort County Government Center. Chairman Buchanan called the meeting to order and led the attendees in the Pledge of Allegiance.

## **ATTENDANCE**

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

County Staff: Rob McFee, Director, Engineering and Infrastructure; Joel Phillips, Beaufort County Airport Supervisor; and Linda Wright, Administrative Assistant.

Public: Brian Hefferman, Island Packet; Ken Hawk, Resident; Steve Cucina, Signature Flight; Erin Johnson, Signature Flight; Judy Elder, Talbert & Bright; Bob Wallhaus, Resident; Jim Webb, Resident; and Steve Fobes, Resident.

## **MOTION TO ACCEPT AGENDA**

**Motion:** It was moved by Mr. Dopp, seconded by Mr. Wedler that the August 15, 2013 agenda be approved with an amendment to change the last paragraph from "additional airline service" to "improve airline service". The vote was: FOR – Mr. Buchanan, Mr. Kerr, Mr. Dopp, Mr. Spain, Mr. Smetek, and Mr. Wedler. AGAINST – None. ABSENT – Mr. Mazzei. Mr. Sells, Mr. Gilbert, and Mr. Sanders. (Mr. Ahern arrived late and did not vote.) MOTION PASSED.

## **MOTION TO ACCEPT MINUTES**

**Motion:** It was moved by Mr. Kerr, seconded by Mr. Spain that the July 18, 2013 minutes be approved. The vote was: The vote was: FOR – Mr. Buchanan, Mr. Kerr, Mr. Dopp, Mr. Spain, Mr. Smetek, and Mr. Wedler. AGAINST – None. ABSENT – Mr. Mazzei. Mr. Sells, Mr. Gilbert, and Mr. Sanders. (Mr. Ahern arrived late and did not vote.) MOTION PASSED.

## **GUEST INTRODUCTIONS AND PUBLIC COMMENTS**

No comments.

## **REMARKS BY THE CHAIRMAN**

Mr. Buchanan stated that at the end of the meeting a subcommittee will meet to discuss the opportunities to improve airline service at the Hilton Head Island Airport.

## **LADY'S ISLAND AIRPORT REPORT**

Mr. Phillips reported on the fuel sales and operations for the Lady's Island Airport for July. He stated the numbers are up slightly from this time last year.

Mr. McFee stated SCE&G has until March 2014 to either lower or light the power poles in the approach. There are 4 aviation easements remaining. Mr. McFee stated that CDM Smith has sent a review copy of the ALP to the FAA and the South Carolina Aeronautics Commission for review. He stated this review should take approximately one week. Mr. McFee stated the quotes for the restrooms are due August 28<sup>th</sup>.

## **HILTON HEAD ISLAND AIRPORT REPORT**

Mr. McFee gave the tower and operations reports as well as the noise complaints for July.

Mr. McFee stated the church dropped their appeal and we are coordinating with CDM Smith to complete the mitigation. He stated we still have only 9 out of the 17 aviation easements for the off Airport project. Mr. McFee stated the Runway 03 (South end) off-airport obstruction removal project is being replaced.

Mr. McFee stated a lightning strike occurred on Hilton Head Island at approximately 7:00 PM last night which put the entire airfield out of service for approximately 2 ½ hours.

Mr. McFee stated the Phase III Archeology Data Recovery is in the report phase and he expects a report by the end September. Mr. Smetek asked if it was possible to get a copy of the Environmental Assessment report while they wait on the Archeology Data Recovery report. He also wanted to know if this would be a single report when everything is done. Mr. McFee stated they will be a single report when finished, but he would see what could be done to provide an advanced copy.

Mr. McFee stated bids for the terminal renovations were opened on July 30<sup>th</sup>, but this will be rebid as the only acceptable bid was 25% above the engineer's estimate. He stated we are still waiting on the Modification of Standards from the FAA for the runway lighted sign replacement.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

1. Lady's Island Airport Operations – Graham Kerr – No Report
2. Hilton Head Island Airport Operations – Will Dopp

Mr. Dopp stated the movements are down and passenger count is still down, but not as much as earlier in the year. He stated the County's revenue from Signature Flight Support is up by 2.5% compared to the same time period last year. Mr. Dopp stated Republic Parking is up 6%.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

1. Hilton Head Island ATAX – Rob McFee

Mr. McFee stated it is our intent to try for ATAX allocations again this year with Hilton Head as well as the State ATAX for Lady's Island. He stated the philosophy this time will be for an aviation based activity. He said they have reached out to Boeing, Gulfstream, junior ROTC groups and others for an air day activity in April 2014. Mr. Dopp stated that until TERC offers another opinion they will not be successful.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS** – None

## **PUBLIC COMMENTS CONTINUED**

No comments.

## **FUTURE MEETINGS**

The next Airports Board meeting will be Thursday September 19, 2013 at 1:30 p.m. in the County Council Chambers of the Beaufort County Government Center.

**ADJOURNMENT** – 2:00 p.m.