

AIRPORTS BOARD

April 10, 2014

The electronic and print media were duly notified in
Accordance with the State Freedom of Information Act

Notification: To view video of full discussion of this meeting please visit
http://beaufort.granicus.com/ViewPublisher.php?view_id=2

The Airports Board met on Thursday April 10, 2014 at 1:30 p.m., in the Council Chambers of the Beaufort County Government Center. Temporary Chairman Graham Kerr called the meeting to order and led the attendees in the Pledge of Allegiance.

ATTENDANCE

Airports Board Members: Al Spain, Will Dopp, Rich Sells, Ron Smetek, Ross Sanders, Dan Ahern, Gregory Viventi, Carl Wedler, Graham Kerr and Councilman John McCann, Town of Hilton Head Island Liaison. (Absent: Derek Gilbert, Anne Esposito, Councilman Stu Rodman, Beaufort County Liaison)

County Staff: Jon Rembold, Airports Director; Councilman Rick Caporale; Councilman Bill McBride; Joel Phillips, Beaufort County Airport Supervisor; Larry Yeager, Chief of Operations; and Linda Wright, Administrative Assistant.

Public: Mick Metcalf, Talbert & Bright. Attendees at the Hilton Head Island Library were not able to introduce themselves due to technical difficulties. According to the sign in sheet the guest were Joe Zimmerman, Resident; Jim Webb, Resident; and Ed Tiscornia, Resident.

ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN AND VICE CHAIRMAN

Mr. Kerr called for nominations for the Chairman of the Airports Board.

Nomination(s): Mr. Dopp nominated Mr. Sells for Chairman of the Airports Board with a second by Mr. Smetek. There were no further nominations. FOR –Mr. Dopp, Mr. Kerr, Mr. Smetek, Mr. Ahern, Mr. Viventi, Mr. Spain, Mr. Sanders and Mr. Wedler. ABSTAINED: Mr. Sells. AGAINST – None. ABSENT: Ms. Esposito and Mr. Gilbert. Mr. Sells was elected as Chairman of the Airports Board.

Mr. Sells asked for nominations for a Vice Chairman of the Airports Board.

Nomination(s): Mr. Smetek nominated Mr. Spain for Vice Chairman of the Airports Board with a second by Mr. Kerr. There were no further nominations. The vote was: FOR –Mr. Dopp, Mr. Kerr, Mr. Smetek, Mr. Ahern, Mr. Viventi, Mr. Spain, Mr. Sells, Mr. Sanders and Mr. Wedler. AGAINST – None. ABSENT: Ms. Esposito and Mr. Gilbert. Mr. Spain was elected as Vice Chairman of the Airports Board.

MOTION TO ACCEPT AGENDA

Motion: It was moved by Mr. Kerr, seconded by Mr. Spain that the April 10, 2014 agenda be approved. The vote was: FOR –Mr. Dopp, Mr. Kerr, Mr. Smetek, Mr. Ahern, Mr. Viventi, Mr. Spain, Mr. Sells, Mr. Sanders and Mr. Wedler. AGAINST – None. ABSENT: Ms. Esposito and Mr. Gilbert. MOTION PASSED.

MOTION TO ACCEPT MINUTES

Motion: It was moved by Mr. Ahern, seconded by Mr. Spain that the March 20, 2014 minutes be approved. The vote was: FOR –Mr. Dopp, Mr. Kerr, Mr. Smetek, Mr. Ahern, Mr. Viventi, Mr. Spain, Mr. Sells, Mr. Sanders and Mr. Wedler. AGAINST – None. ABSENT: Ms. Esposito and Mr. Gilbert. MOTION PASSED.

GUEST INTRODUCTIONS AND PUBLIC COMMENTS

Guest introductions were made in Council Chambers, but due to technical difficulties the guests at the Hilton Head Island Library were unable to introduce themselves. There were no public comments.

CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS

Mr. Sells thanked the Board for electing him as Chairman of the Board. He then commented on his preparation for the chairmanship as well as his goals.

LADY'S ISLAND AIRPORT REPORT

Mr. Phillips reported on the fuel sales and operations for the Lady's Island Airport for March. Mr. Phillips stated the Air Day was a success with approximately 350 people in attendance. He recognized the participants and thanked them for their support. Mr. Phillips gave a special thanks to Talbert & Bright for their financial support, to Joy Nelson the Beaufort County Public Information Officer and to his staff for all of their hard work.

Mr. Rembold stated the court date for the tree obstructions should be in May. He stated the Master Plan is with the FAA.

HILTON HEAD ISLAND AIRPORT REPORT

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

Mr. Sells noted that the link had been restored with the Hilton Head Island Library.

Mr. Rembold stated the on-airport tree mitigation is underway. Mr. Rembold stated the off-airport tree obstruction removal is still ongoing. He stated the County Attorney advised him they are close on the last couple avigation easements on the South end, but there are still a lot of avigation easement issues on the North end. Mr. Rembold stated the terminal renovations are still on hold. Mr. Rembold stated the modification of standards have been approved by the FAA. He said the Environmental Assessment is still available for public review and comment and that

the public hearing is still set for April 21st from 5:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. at the Hilton Head Island Public Library. Mr. Smetek wanted to know if anyone in the County does a technical review of Talbert & Bright's benefit cost analysis. Mr. Rembold stated this information is reviewed by the FAA, but if problems are noted they can be presented to him and he will see that it is reviewed. Mr. Rembold reminded everyone that the Mitchelville traveling exhibit is available for use. Mr. Rembold said the review appraisals for the land have been received for the Dillon Road properties. He stated the next step is to work with the property owners and developing the offer packages through the County legal department. He stated they have started the appraisal for the Hunter Road side. Mr. Rembold stated that the geotechnical investigation and survey are complete for the taxiway project and it is in the engineering design stage.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. Lady's Island Airport Operations – Graham Kerr

Mr. Kerr stated it was a wise decision to have the Lady's Island Air Day in conjunction with the Sun and Fun event as it brought in more traffic to the Lady's Island Airport. He suggested that next year they work with Ridgeland to bring in more unusual aircraft as well as work with the Air Station for additional aircraft.

2. Hilton Head Island Airport Operations – Will Dopp

Mr. Sells asked that Mr. Smetek co-chair the Hilton Head Island report with Mr. Dopp. Mr. Smetek accepted.

Mr. Dopp stated the numbers were down for March partially due to the weather, but has improved slightly over the last two months. He stated Signature Flight Support's revenues were down as well. He stated the County share is up 2% due to the additional 1% added to the retail fuel sales. Mr. Dopp stated all of the hangars are fully rented and the County is netting a little over \$13,000 a month. Mr. Dopp stated he did not receive the reports in time for Republic Parking. He stated the Heritage Golf Tournament will be next week and should increase business and suggested aerial photographs be taken on Sunday. He also reminded everyone that the Hilton Head Island Airport Air Day is April 26th.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mr. Rembold stated he received the legal documents for the sculpture "Sail" that is being donated to the Hilton Head Island Airport and asked that the Board recommend to Public Facilities that this be forwarded to County Council for approval.

Motion: It was moved by Mr. Smetek, seconded by Mr. Spain that the Airports Board recommend to Public Facilities to seek approval from County Council for the "Sail" sculpture and accompanying legal documents. The vote was: FOR –Mr. Dopp, Mr. Kerr, Mr. Smetek, Mr. Ahern, Mr. Viventi, Mr. Spain, Mr. Sells, Mr. Sanders and Mr. Wedler. AGAINST – None. ABSENT: Ms. Esposito and Mr. Gilbert. MOTION PASSED.

Mr. Rembold stated that at the last meeting he briefed the Board about the letter of support in favor of continued funding of the FAA contract towers. He asked that the Chairman and Vice

Chairman of the Board sign the same letter. He said he also asked the Town of Hilton Head to do the same thing.

Motion: It was moved by Mr. Dopp, seconded by Mr. Spain that the Airports Board endorse the recommendation to have the Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Board sign the letter in support of continued funding of the FAA contract towers. The vote was: FOR –Mr. Dopp, Mr. Kerr, Mr. Smetek, Mr. Ahern, Mr. Viventi, Mr. Spain, Mr. Sells, Mr. Sanders and Mr. Wedler. AGAINST – None. ABSENT: Ms. Esposito and Mr. Gilbert. MOTION PASSED.

Mr. Rembold stated he has participated in some public relation events for the airports including the Air Days which was a 30 minute show on Coastline on the County Channel. He stated he and Public Information Officer, Joy Nelson, appeared on WTOC to promote the Air Days on live television. Mr. Rembold stated he also briefed the Hilton Head Island/Bluffton Chamber of Commerce Government Affairs Committee and the Hilton Head Island Economic Development Corporation. He said Senator Scott had a public relations event at Signature Flight Support.

Mr. Kerr suggested that when airport projects are discussed that it would be a good idea to not only brief the people that support the projects, but to seek out the opponents to educate and inform them.

Mr. Dopp stated the Board needs timely financial information on the airports. He stated they have not received any information since September. Mr. Smetek concurred and stated they need to see next year's financials earlier than they have in the past. Mr. Viventi suggested formulating some type of ongoing information stream to work towards improvement of the airports. Mr. Wedler asked if the Board could have "read only" privileges of the County's MUNIS. Mr. Rembold stated he would check on his request.

NEW BUSINESS – None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS - None

PUBLIC COMMENTS CONTINUED

There were no comments from the public.

FUTURE MEETINGS

Mr. Sells stated the Mayor of Hilton Head Island has agreed to let the Airports Board use Town Council Chambers to hold some the meetings at no charge. He stated he would like to alternate the meetings between Hilton Head Island and Beaufort. He stated that at a future meeting in Beaufort he would like for the Board to meet before hand at the Lady's Island Airport for lunch. Mr. Smetek offered to host a lunch at Palmetto Hall when the Board meets at the Hilton Head Island Town Hall.

The next Airports Board meeting will be Thursday May 15, 2014 at 1:30 p.m. in the County Council Chambers of the Beaufort County Government Center.

ADJOURNMENT – 2:20 PM