

AIRPORTS BOARD

May 15, 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
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The Airports Board met on Thursday May 15, 2014 at 1:30 p.m., in the Council Chambers of the Beaufort County Government Center. Vice Chairman Al Spain called the meeting to order and led the attendees in the Pledge of Allegiance.

ATTENDANCE

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

County Staff: Jon Rembold, Airports Director; Alicia Holland, Beaufort County Chief Financial Officer; Joel Phillips, Beaufort County Airport Supervisor; Larry Yeager, Chief of Operations; and Linda Wright, Administrative Assistant.

MOTION TO ACCEPT AGENDA

Motion: It was moved by Mr. Kerr, seconded by Mr. Dopp that the May 15, 2014 agenda be approved. The vote was: FOR –Mr. Dopp, Mr. Kerr, Mr. Smetek, Mr. Ahern, Mr. Viventi, Mr. Spain, Ms. Esposito, Mr. Gilbert and Mr. Wedler. AGAINST – None. ABSENT: Mr. Sells and Mr. Rae. MOTION PASSED.

MOTION TO ACCEPT MINUTES

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

Mr. Spain stated Allan Rae is a new member of the Airports Board, but was unable to attend this meeting. Mr. Spain thanked Mr. Sanders for his service from 2006 to 2014. He stated Mr. Sanders will be recognized at the County Council meeting in October.

GUEST INTRODUCTIONS AND PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mr. Spain stated guest introductions will be discontinued as it is not a statutory requirement. There were no public comments from Council Chambers and due to technical difficulties there was no link with attendees at the Hilton Head Island Library.

AIRPORT FINANCIALS

Ms. Holland, Chief Financial Officer for Beaufort County, stated that when the County's 2007 4.5% GO Bonds were refinanced in September 2012 no simultaneous adjustment was made to Hilton Head Island Airport's hangar portion of those GO bonds. As a result, to reflect the lower 2.07% rate now in effect as well as to correct for an earlier 2007-2012 0.5% rate overcharge, Hilton Head Island Airport has overpaid interest in the amount of \$90,663 for the full period September 30, 2007 through June 30, 2013. Ms. Holland stated the quarterly payments will go to the Beaufort County Debt Service Fund and the maturity date will remain as June 30, 2032. She provided the members with a new amortization schedule.

Ms. Holland gave a presentation on the financial statements for both Airports. Mr. Dopp wanted more detailed information in the future. Mr. Smetek concurred and added that there needs to be more subcategories in order for the Board to do a better job of evaluating and make knowledgeable recommendations to County Council. Mr. Spain stated that the newly appointed Airports Budget Committee will be responsible for these items. Mr. Viventi said these items need to be generated at the Airports Budget Committee level and then the committee will do the proper vetting and bring the information back to the Board.

Ms. Holland asked for a recommendation from the Airports Board to give the same briefing concerning the hangar debt to Finance Committee.

Motion: It was moved by Mr. Smetek, seconded by Mr. Gilbert that the Chief Financial Officer, Alicia Holland, brief the Finance Committee on the hangar debt service. The vote was: FOR – Mr. Dopp, Mr. Kerr, Mr. Smetek, Mr. Ahern, Mr. Viventi, Mr. Spain, Ms. Esposito, Mr. Gilbert and Mr. Wedler. AGAINST – None. ABSENT: Mr. Sells and Mr. Rae. MOTION PASSED.

LADY'S ISLAND AIRPORT REPORT

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

Mr. Rembold stated the court date for the tree obstructions are pending. He stated the Airport Layout Plan has been approved so we can start planning the implementation of the Master Plan. He said the priority projects are safety related so they will be working on the designing and planning of the full parallel taxiway and the improvements to the runway safety area.

HILTON HEAD ISLAND AIRPORT REPORT

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

Mr. Rembold stated they are still working on the avigation easements. He stated the public hearing was held April 21st for the environmental assessment for the runway extension. He stated the public comments are being incorporated into the final version of the document that will be reviewed and approved by the FAA.

Ms. Esposito wanted to know why the terminal renovations were put on hold and when would they be reinstated. Mr. Rembold stated the bids came in above the budget. He said they are working on ideas with the FAA for the funding of this project.

Mr. Rembold stated a website is being developed as an educational component for the Mitcheville project. He said the exhibit is still on display at the Coastal Discovery Museum. Mr. Rembold stated that land acquisition for Runway 03 is still ongoing. He stated they have received all of the review appraisals and the County is in the process of delivering the formal packages to the property owners. He stated the next step will be the negotiations for the acquisition of these commercial parcels. Mr. Rembold stated the designs for Taxiway A and Taxiway F are underway and hopefully the bid documents will be ready in the next couple of months.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

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

Mr. Dopp stated the numbers are down in comparison to this time last year partially due to the weather the first of the year and during the Heritage Golf Tournament. He stated the traffic is down 16% and the passenger count is also down. He stated Signature Flight Support's revenues were down as well. He stated the County share is up by \$5,000.00. Mr. Dopp stated the County hangars are all rented and one of the storage units has been rented. He stated the County has received over \$50,000.00 from Republic Parking during the last three contract years. Mr. Dopp stated that since Mr. Smetek shares this committee, he (Mr. Dopp) would like to report on the general aviation operations and have Mr. Smetek report on the commercial operations. Mr. Dopp stated he would clear this through the Chairman.

3. Budgets – Gregory Viventi

Mr. Viventi stated the primary purpose of Budget will be to serve as a buffer between the Airports Director, Airports Board and County Council when it comes to the budget items.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mr. Rembold stated the Hilton Head Island Airport Air Day was a success and there were approximately 200 attendees. He stated he gave a presentation to the Greater Island Council on May 1st. He also stated the "Sail" sculpture was approved at the Public Facilities meeting and the County Council meeting and has been formally adopted. Mr. Rembold stated that last week he attended the AAAE Southeast Conference. He stated that he met the former director the Charleston Airport and he asked him to speak to the Airports Board in the future on the importance of regional aviation. Mr. Rembold stated he would like to have some friends groups to take on some small projects to help beautify both airports. He stated that the Lady's Island/St. Helena Fire District has moved out of the building at the Lady's Island Airport. He said this property has now reverted back to the County. Mr. Rembold stated we are working with EMS to house a couple of their crews and vehicles at this location. He said we will also be able to start the educational component by working with the public schools and the Technical College of the Lowcountry to expand and improve upon their existing aerospace and A & P programs. Mr. Rembold stated that at this point it is being called the Aviation Training Facility. He said this will be a true public/private venture. Mr. Dopp stated this is an important educational program, but the airport needs more revenue. Mr. Rembold stated there will also be opportunities for commercial businesses such as flight schools or maintenance shops.

NEW BUSINESS – None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS – None

PUBLIC COMMENTS CONTINUED – None

FUTURE MEETINGS

The next Airports Board meeting will be Thursday June 19, 2014 at 1:30 p.m. at the Hilton Head Island Town Hall in Council Chambers. There will no audio link in Beaufort County.

ADJOURNMENT – 2:30 PM