

AIRPORTS BOARD

August 21, 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 August 21, 2014 at 1:30 p.m., in the Council Chambers of the Beaufort County Government Center. Chairman Rich Sells called the meeting to order and led the attendees in the Pledge of Allegiance.

ATTENDANCE

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

County Staff: Jon Rembold, Airports Director; Alicia Holland, Beaufort County Chief Financial Officer; Josh Gruber, Beaufort County Attorney; Councilman Rick Caporale; Councilman Steven Fobes; and Linda Wright, Administrative Assistant.

MOTION TO ACCEPT AGENDA

Motion: It was moved by Mr. Kerr, seconded by Mr. Spain that the August 21, 2014 agenda be approved. The vote was: FOR – Rich Sells, Al Spain, Will Dopp, Ron Smetek, Dan Ahern, Gregory Viventi, Graham Kerr, Carl Wedler, Derek Gilbert and Anne Esposito. AGAINST – None. ABSENT: Alan Rae. MOTION PASSED.

MOTION TO ACCEPT MINUTES

Motion: It was moved by Mr. Dopp, seconded by Mr. Viventi that the July 17, 2014 minutes be approved. The vote was: FOR – Rich Sells, Al Spain, Will Dopp, Ron Smetek, Dan Ahern, Gregory Viventi, Graham Kerr, Carl Wedler, Derek Gilbert and Anne Esposito. AGAINST – None. ABSENT: Alan Rae. MOTION PASSED.

PUBLIC COMMENTS - None

LAND ACQUISITION PROCESS

Beaufort County Attorney, Josh Gruber explained the land acquisition process at both Airports. Mr. Gruber stated that since these projects are funded through the FAA we have to comply with the federal eminent domain guidelines.

AIRPORT FINANCIALS

Alicia Holland, Beaufort County Chief Financial Officer, presented the preliminary financial statements for both Airports. She stated they are in the process of closing out FY-14 and the auditors are in the process of conducting the external audits. She stated they should have the final numbers sometime in November.

LADY'S ISLAND AIRPORT REPORT

Mr. Rembold reported on the fuel sales and operations for the Lady's Island Airport for July.

Mr. Rembold stated an October 13th court date has been set for the avigation easements. He stated the Parallel Taxiway and the Runway Safety Area projects are moving forward.

HILTON HEAD ISLAND AIRPORT REPORT

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

Mr. Rembold stated they are trying to resolve the issues with the Runway 21 On-Airport Tree Mitigation project. He said they are working on the environmental assessment and avigation easements for the tree removal of the Runway 03/21 Off-Airport Obstruction Removal project. Mr. Rembold stated there will be a preconstruction meeting on August 22nd for the Runway Lighted Sign Replacement project. He stated we are still waiting on the FAA to sign off on the Finding of No Significant Impact for the Runway 03/21 Extension Environmental Assessment project. Mr. Rembold stated the Phase III Archeology Data Recovery and Public Outreach project is moving forward on schedule and there is still a lot to do with the land acquisition for Runway 03. He stated the taxiway projects are still in the design phase. Mr. Rembold stated approvals are pending for the Master Drainage Plan, the Tree Removal between ATCT and GA Ramp, and the Runway 03 Tree Removal EA projects.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mr. Rembold stated marketing was done for National Aviation Week and SC Aviation Week including news segments, commercials and other media releases.

Mr. Rembold stated the budget given to the Board members back in March is the one that was approved and being used, but may be adjusted later.

Mr. Rembold briefed the Board on the meeting with the FAA, county staff and representatives from Palmetto Hall Plantation and Port Royal Plantation that was held in Atlanta on August 23, 2014. He stated there were two main points of the meeting. He said the first was that the FAA reiterated their solid position that our projects are justified and eligible for their funding support. Mr. Rembold stated the second point was that both of the communities agreed that they do not object to the runway safety projects we are working on. Mr. Smetek asked if minutes were taken at this meeting and Mr. Rembold stated he did not have any as the County was invited as a guest.

Mr. Rembold showed pictures of the Aviation Week proclamation, Friends of the Airport painting the rocking chairs at Hilton Head Island Airport and the sculpture dedication.

Mr. Dopp reminded everyone that the ATAX applications open Monday August 25th and close on September 22nd in case they wanted to submit an application for Air Days.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Department of Board Members – Rich Sells

Mr. Sells asked if anyone wanted to comment on the article in a community news letter that had been written by one of the Airports Board members. After hearing from some of the Board members, it was the consensus of most members that; the language was disappointing; that members are to represent the greater Board when addressing the public either in writing or while speaking; and that the Board members do not have constituents. The Chairman closed the conversation by requesting a continued collegial approach to Board activities.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS – None

PUBLIC COMMENTS CONTINUED

1. Jim Webb, a resident of Palmetto Hall, stated everyone on the island is interested in the Airport. He then read an article from the Island Packet concerning the runway extension and he questioned the accuracy of the article.

FUTURE MEETINGS

The next Airports Board meeting will be Thursday September 18, 2014 at 1:30 p.m. in the Hilton Head Island Town Council Chambers.

ADJOURNMENT – 2:40 PM