

AIRPORTS BOARD

April 16, 2015

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The Airports Board met on Thursday April 16, 2015 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, Leslie Adlam, James Buckley, Will Dopp, Anne Esposito, Allan Rae, Gregory Viventi (Absent: Dan Ahern, Derek Gilbert and Ross Roberts).

County Staff: Jon Rembold, Airports Director; Renee' Ford, Administrative Assistant; Beaufort County Administrator, Gary Kubic and Beaufort County Liaison Councilman Stu Rodman.

Public: Judy Elder, Talbert & Bright, Nathaniel Reed. Attendees at the Hilton Head Island Library – Ron Smetek. Attendee was unable to view meeting due to technical difficulties.

ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN AND VICE CHAIRMAN

Chairman Sells called for nominations for the Chairman of the Airports Board.

Nomination(s): Ms. Esposito nominated Mr. Sells for Chairman of the Airports Board for another term with a second by Mr. Rae. There were no further nominations. FOR –Mr. Dopp, Mr. Buckley, Ms. Adlam, Mr. Viventi, Ms. Esposito, and Mr. Rae. AGAINST – None. ABSENT: Mr. Ahern, Mr. Gilbert and Mr. Roberts. 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. Sells nominated Mr. Rae for Vice Chairman of the Airports Board with a second by Mr. Viventi. There were no further nominations. The vote was: FOR –Mr. Dopp, Mr. Buckley, Mr. Viventi, Mr. Sells, Ms. Esposito and Ms. Adlam. AGAINST – None. ABSENT: Mr. Ahern, Mr. Gilbert and Mr. Roberts. Mr. Rae was elected as Vice Chairman of the Airports Board with the understanding he will be absent during the summer months.

MOTION TO ACCEPT AGENDA

Motion: It was moved by Mr. Dopp, seconded by Mr. Rae that the April 16, 2015 agenda be approved. The vote was: FOR – Rich Sells, James Buckley, Greg Viventi, Will Dopp, Allan

Rae, Anne Esposito and Leslie Adlam. AGAINST – None. ABSENT:, Dan Ahern, Derek Gilbert and Ross Roberts. MOTION PASSED.

MOTION TO ACCEPT MINUTES

Motion: It was moved by Mr. Sells, seconded by Mr. Viventi that the March 19, 2015 minutes be approved. The vote was: FOR – Rich Sells, James Buckley, Mr. Viventi, Will Dopp, Allan Rae, Anne Esposito and Leslie Adlam. AGAINST – None. ABSENT:, Dan Ahern, Derek Gilbert and Ross Roberts. MOTION PASSED.

PUBLIC COMMENTS – Nathaniel Reed recently started a business, Hilton Head Sky (flight training company); has been approved for business license, but need guidance on paying for operation specs. Mr. Sells referred Mr. Reed to Jon Rembold, Airport Director for guidance.

Mr. Gary Kubic, County Administrator, welcomed everyone particularly the new board members. Mr. Kubic offered the county administration services to the airport board as well as making himself available to all airport board members.

NEW MEMBERS REMARKS

Ms. Leslie Adlam commented on meeting Mr. Kubic last year at the Beaufort Leadership class. The class recommends they become board members to an organization, which lead her to the Airports Board. She worked 33 years for the federal government; recently retired and moved to Hilton Head Island. Her previous assignment was legislation director for the Aviation Subcommittee. Her experience is with aviation security, federal regulations and FAA grant funding; worked directly with the FAA Administrator and the Secretary of Homeland Security. Ms. Adlam acquired most of her aviation experience while working at the San Diego International Airport; she work there for 6 years. She had the opportunity to sit on all Board meetings and provide recommendations on how TSA can better serve the public.

Mr. Buckley worked for the Coca-Cola Company prior to retiring 18 years ago; relocated to Hilton Head Island and purchased Island Travel. He has three offices, Hilton Head, Bluffton and Beaufort. Believes the airport is instrumental to the community. Due to Mr. Buckley's business, he is acutely aware of consumers flight needs and will be able to make a contribution in this regard. Mr. Buckley looks forward to working on the board and improving the airport.

LADY'S ISLAND AIRPORT REPORT

Mr. Rembold reported on the fuel sales and operations for the Lady's Island Airport for March 2015. Operations continue to go up. Jet fuel outpacing AVGAS, which is what we like to see.

HILTON HEAD ISLAND AIRPORT REPORT

Mr. Rembold gave the tower and operations reports for March 2015. Numbers were down due to weather; reduction in number of flight from US Airways compared to last year. This is due to the merger with American Airlines and American Airlines picked up other stops using the smaller aircrafts. Aging aircrafts are dying out; reduction in enplanements and landing fees. Jon Rembold has a call into American Airlines. Will give update at next meeting.

Mr. Dopp asked if the airline eliminated the DC flight on Saturdays. Mr. Rembold response was yes, at this time, due to it not being profitable.

Mr. Dopp was approached by Port Royal plantation residents, by the noise of the new helicopter company flying over Port Royal. Mr. Dopp asked if the tower or Chief Yeager would remind the owner not to fly too low and to respect the fly zone. Mr. Rembold responded by saying he will speak to the owner. The owner is very approachable and new to Hilton Head; will remind him of the fly zone. Believes the owner will be receptive of the feedback

Mr. Rae asked if we received any feedback on the new parking system. Mr. Rembold responded by stating Republic Parking staff was stationed in the terminal for the first few weeks. It's smoothing out; receiving fewer questions. Had Republic Parking move the signs around so they are more visible and remind people to have their license plate number. All airport staff has been trained to answer any questions regarding the kiosk.

Mr. Rembold stated Rwy 21 On-Airport Tree mitigation, contract has been closed out. Runway 03/21 obstruction removal design is 90% complete.

Mr. Rembold announced there was a Public Hearing on April 13th at the Hilton Head Library regarding Runway 03 Tree Removal Environmental Assessment (EA); only had six (6) people to attend. The primary question was, "where are the trees located?" They wanted to know if it was going to affect their apartment/place of residence.

Land acquisitions for Runway 21 offers are in final negotiations. Taxiway A relocation and replacement ramp design plans are under review. Expect bidding to take place this summer. The design of the tree removal between ATCT and GA ramp is underway. These projects go hand-and-hand. Both projects will follow the same timeline.

Taxiway F realignment design is underway. Master drainage plan design draft document is completed, in QA/QC. Only concern is the large ditch that runs parallel between Runway 21 and Taxiway F; will need permitted; waiting on Army Corps of Engineers timeline.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mr. Rembold reported Lady's Island airport is procuring a new self service pump.

Hilton Head airport will be getting two (2) HVAC systems. We had to request an emergency

procurement to replace two (2) of our larger units. The units will cool the main terminal and the passenger hold room.

The ATCT will be getting new recording equipment. Mr. Dopp asked what gets recorded. Mr. Rembold stated communications between planes and Tower, as well as the crash phone at the fire station and Tower.

Mr. Rae asked if this was an FAA reimbursement item. Mr. Rembold response was no it is not; it's part of the building supplies.

Mr. Rembold stated he had a couple of speaking engagements; the Lowcountry Rotary Club and Beaufort Kiwanis Club. He tries to get an understanding as to what the membership want to hear. Most of it is Airport 101; what the projects are, why and how they are funded.

Small tour group visited Hilton Head airport; all freshman at USBC with different areas of study. Mr. Carlton Dallas who is on the board of directors for Economic Development of Hilton Head Island, mentors youth and expose them to different career paths. Met with Jon Rembold and Chief Yeager; took them to Signature to show them private jets and to sit in a corporate jet. Watched take-offs and landings. Objective is to create an environment where once a student graduates and obtain employment will eventually return to South Carolina and have a good source of employment.

Mr. Rembold met with Congressman Sanford, for 45 minutes, to discuss the background on Hilton Head Island airport. Mr. Rembold explained funding and how the FAA played in it. Mr. Rembold asked Congressman Sanford to assist with the inter-agencies cooperation at the federal level, to help keep them focused on the safety and development of our airport projects. Congressman Stanford pledged to do what he could to help keep our airports projects on track.

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Rembold presented the work authorization for the design of the first phase of the environmental assessment at ARW to implement the runway safety area, continuation of the partial taxiway and relocation of fuel farm. Mr. Rembold asked the board for approval to move this project onto the Finance Committee.

MOTION TO ACCEPT THE FOLLOWING:

☐ ARW – Master Plan Implementation – Phase I

Motion: It was moved by Mr. Dopp, seconded by Ms. Esposito that ARW – Master Plan Implementation – Phase I be approved. The vote was: FOR – Rich Sells, Greg Viventi, James Buckley, Will Dopp, Allan Rae, Anne Esposito and Leslie Adlam. AGAINST – None. ABSENT: Dan Ahern, Ross Roberts and Derek Gilbert. MOTION PASSED.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Hangar Development

Mr. Rembold stated he has a draft version of the RFP to send to our Purchasing department for review. Will start at ARW where we have a big demand and real estate we can

develop; will use the same template at HXD when we have real estate available to develop. Once RFP is completed, will review proposals by those who want to develop hangars and select one or multiple folks. As part of the package, there will be a lease agreement attached. The county would locate the property; write the lease term and identify performance terms.

Mr. Dopp asked if the interest is more at Lady's Island than Hilton Head. Mr. Rembold stated there is interest at both airports; can implement faster at ARW because of the real estate availability. There is a lot of interest at Hilton Head.

Mr. Dopp asked if all the hangars were occupied. Mr. Rembold stated yes they are all occupied. Mr. Rae asked is there more interest from developers or tenants. Mr. Rembold stated both, has received interest from both developers and tenants.

Chairman Sells welcomed Councilman Stu Rodman to the meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENTS CONTINUED – None

FUTURE MEETINGS

The next Airports Board meeting will be Thursday May 21, 2015 at 1:30 p.m. at Beaufort County Government Center, County Council Chambers.

ADJOURNMENT – 2:20 PM