

AIRPORTS BOARD

October 15, 2015

The electronic and print media were duly notified in
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Notification: To view video of full discussion of this meeting please visit
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The Airports Board met on Thursday, October 15, 2015 at 1:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers at the Town of Hilton Head Island. Vice-Chairman Allan Rae called the meeting to order and led the attendees in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Vice-Chairman Rae introduced and welcomed the two new board members; Gerry Costa and Blakely Williams.

ATTENDANCE

Airports Board Members: Jim Buckley, Gerry Costa, Allan Rae, Leslie Adlam, Will Dopp, Anne Esposito and Blakely Williams (Absent: Rich Sells, Gregory Viventi, Dan Ahern and Wally Wallace).

County Staff: Jon Rembold, Airports Director, Renee' Ford, Administrative Assistant, Beaufort County Councilman, Steve Fobes, and Town of Hilton Head Island Councilman, John McCann.

Public: Judy Elder - Talbert & Bright; Residents – Jim Webb, Ron Smetek, Jim Croley and Joe Zimmerman.

MOTION TO ACCEPT AGENDA

Motion: It was moved by Mr. Buckley, seconded by Mr. Dopp that the October 15, 2015 agenda be approved. The vote was: FOR – Gerry Costa, James Buckley, Allan Rae, Will Dopp, Anne Esposito, Leslie Adlam and Blakely Williams. AGAINST – None. ABSENT: Rich Sells, Dan Ahern, Greg Viventi and Wally Wallace MOTION PASSED.

MOTION TO ACCEPT MINUTES

Motion: It was moved by Mr. Buckley, seconded by Ms. Esposito that the September 17, 2015 minutes be approved. The vote was: FOR – Gerry Costa, James Buckley, Allan Rae, Will Dopp, Anne Esposito, Leslie Adlam and Blakely Williams. AGAINST – None. ABSENT: Rich Sells, Dan Ahern, Greg Viventi and Wally Wallace. MOTION PASSED.

PUBLIC COMMENTS – None.

LADY'S ISLAND AIRPORT REPORT

Mr. Rembold reported on the fuel sales and operations for the Lady's Island Airport for September 2015; low numbers due to weather, but better than last year.

HILTON HEAD ISLAND AIRPORT REPORT

Mr. Rembold gave the fuel, tower and operations reports for September 2015. Numbers were low due to weather.

Mr. Buckley asked one of the charts reflect Military number and Local MIL what is the difference? Mr. Rembold stated he would have to see the chart. Mr. Rembold and Mr. Buckley will discuss after meeting.

PROJECT SCHEDULE UPDATE

Mr. Rembold along with Ms. Elder reviewed the project schedule updates.

LADY'S ISLAND PROJECT SCHEDULE

- **Lady's Island RWY 07 Obstruction Removal** – south end on Lady's Island; Trial was held the week of 28 September, it was completed and the jury found in our favor the monetary amount that we proposed; the appraisal amount was in fact what was compensated to the land owner. FAA will participate in the compensation. Due to the re-trial, we have to redo the surveys and update the aviation easements. Also, there are new property owners and trees have grown; must notify new property owners and have them to sign the easement. Advertise 12/15/15, Open Bids – 1/15/16, Construction Start – 3/15/16. Approximately 3 month construction.

Mr. Dopp asked if there is a possibility of an appeal on the trial. Mr. Rembold stated the other side indicated it was final; did not expect an appeal.

Mr. Rae asked if the dates will change again. Mr. Rembold indicated the dates are good; it was a change from the last meeting.

- **RWY 07/25 RSA, Parallel Taxiway, Apron, Fuel Farm Relo EA** – Ms. Elder reported on the Advertise for hearing: two things we are waiting for; (1) is the National Fishery accepting the essential fishery habitat reports and (2) determining the impact to the marsh on both ends of the runways. Expect the Advertise for Hearing to be on schedule.

HILTON HEAD PROJECT SCHEDULE

- **REILS Relocation (FAA Project)** – FAA is working on replacing the REILS. RWY 03 is complete; they were able to relocate those out of the RSA. 21 REILS are NOTAM'd out because those will be replaced after the TWY project is complete. New REILS will not be installed until that phase of the TWY A project is completed.
- **RWY 21 Off Airport Trees** – Ms. Elder reported bids were opened October 8th; currently verifying the bids, need additional information from contractor, will give results to Mr. Rembold. Construction should start circa December 2015-January 2016.

Mr. Dopp asked if the bids were in the "ball park". Ms. Elder response was yes.

Mr. Buckley asked, what is the construction time on RWY 03, with a construction date of 10/29/15. Ms. Elder stated its 120 days; it is in the contract. Contractor hopes to have it completed before the 120 days; same for the North End.

Mr. Rae asked if the construction start date for RWY 21 will change due to the construction start date for RWY 03 was pushed back. Ms. Elder responded by stating it is possible for RWY 21 construction start date to be pushed to January 2016.

- **RWY 03 Off Airport Trees** – Had the pre-construction meeting but due to the flooding, the contractor, which is out of Sumter, had to push construction start date back to circa October 29, 2015.
- **Avigation Easement** – Mr. Rembold reported the County has had some correspondence with St. James Baptist Church. The county attorney and avigation easement attorney are working on the documents with St. James Baptist Church. Should have an update in a couple of weeks.
- **Palmetto Hall** – The county sent the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) in September; haven't heard back. The county sent a follow up letter circa October 14th to the president of the POA asking for action on the MOU and a signed avigation easement. The deadline is Tuesday, October 20th, if we do not have a signed document by then, the county will file for a "condemnation" and move forward with the schedule to keep in line with the FAA project.

Mr. Rae asked, if there was an understanding of the MOU. Mr. Rembold stated the understanding was from County council and Town council and sent to Palmetto Hall. Mr. Rembold reiterated neither he nor the deputy administrator has heard back from Palmetto Hall.

- **TWY A/Replacement Ramp + Tree Removal and RTR Relocation** – Ms. Elder reported we are on schedule. Estimated start date is mid-November, but due to holidays, the date may change slightly. Estimating 12 months for construction.
- **RWY extension and TWY F** – Moving forward, have received comments from Army Corps of Engineers and DHEC; Talbert & Bright are working on responding to comments. Once responses are turned in they have 6 to 9 months to sign the permit.

Mr. Rae asked will the commercial flights be affected by the construction on TWY A. Mr. Rembold replied by stating the commercial flights use TWY F (western taxiway) they will not be affected. Pre-construction meeting will be held October 30th; afterwards Mr. Rembold will meet with the hangar owners to inform them if/how they will be affected.

Mr. Dopp asked if there was a reasonable alternative for hangar owners. Mr. Rembold mentioned the possibility of ramp parking, but beyond that, he reiterated the contractor could suggest alternatives.

Mr. Rembold was happy to announce FAA has awarded the Hilton Head Airport a \$13 million grant; we received excellent press. Rusty Nealis and Larry Clark from FAA Atlanta worked hard to get the funds. Mr. Nealis was able to get the funds needed for Hilton Head Airport; FAA looks at HXD as a key project - they would like to see the projects completed.

Mr. Dopp noticed the Island Packet announced US Airways was switching over to American Airlines. Did we expect any schedule changes or aircraft changes? Mr. Rembold was not aware of any changes except the rebranding inside the terminal. We will have to wait and see. Mr. Dopp asked if we were still dealing with the same people at Piedmont. Mr. Rembold replied, yes; personnel have not changed.

Mr. Buckley asked about the schedule for RWY 03; does the 120 days allow for holidays. Is there a schedule in the contract showing which holidays? Mr. Rembold response was there are some allowances in the contract due to the upcoming winter season & holidays to adjust the schedule.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mr. Rembold reported the Localizer DME is operational. Passed the flight check and overtime for the tower staff has been cancelled.

Mr. Rembold reported on his **speaking engagement at Osher Life Long Learning Institute (OLLI)**. OLLI is offered through USBC; it's an educational opportunity for citizens who are interested in learning various topics. This Fall there is an aviation bundle being offered. The other instructors are Wally Wallace and Dan Ahern who teach North of the Broad on pilot specifics. Mr. Rembold spoke to approximately 20/25 people, for 2 hours; presented our mission; reported on the operation of the airport; great Q&A.

Mr. Buckley asked where the class was held. Mr. Rembold stated near Pineland Station on Hilton Head Island.

Mr. Rembold gave an update on the **Motoring Festival & Concours d'Elegance**. Moving along well; final details are being made. Board members who asked for passes received them.

Everything will be on the general aviation side of the airport. The event is scheduled for October 30th & 31st.

Mr. Dopp stated he had a couple comments from hangar owners regarding the debris in the grass area. Will it be cleaned up before the event? Mr. Rembold stated the event will be in front of the T-hangars and we do need to redo the grass area; probably will not get done before the event.

Mr. Rembold report on the **National Airport Conference** held in Savannah, GA, September 21st & 22nd. It was a great conference, great opportunity to interface with other airport directors; about 300 attendees. Mr. Rembold was able to spend time with other "destination resort" type airport directors. Some of the topics were with the TSA panel and how social media can be used for security.

Josh Riley from IT department is putting together a short video about the **new website** to be presented to County council and Finance committee. Once it is presented, the next step will be to launch the new website.

NEW BUSINESS

We had two fire fighters; Eddie Buhler and David Lilly, attend the IFSAC Aircraft Rescue Fire Fighting Academy in Columbia, SC. They were able to get there and return safely before the storm. This is a live fire training course that each of our ARFF guys must attend. This helps us with our Part 139 requirements.

FAA Grant 38 Approval – Mr. Rembold was happy to announce Hilton Head Airport received a \$13 million grant for the following improvements:

- ◆ RWY 03 Obstruction Removal
- ◆ TWY A Relocation + Ramp Replacement + Tree Clearing
- ◆ Property Acquisition

Contract Award Recommendation – Mr. Rembold was going to ask the board for Contract Award recommendation but we are still dealing with the research.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Status on Lighting at GA Parking Area – Mr. Rembold reported Palmetto Electric has started the underground cables for the lighting at GA parking area. Once the poles are installed and inspected we will have the trees trimmed. Expect to be completed by the time the Motoring Festival event happens and before time changes.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mr. Jim Webb, resident of Palmetto Hall, spoke regarding the MOU. He stated the MOU is different than what was discussed earlier. Mr. Webb stated he forward the meeting minutes to Mr. Kubic before the MOU was drafted and didn't get a response. He stated the association responded with a letter indicating a "necessary part" of the agreement was missing. The part in question is the "incorrect engineered drawings" that were previously supplied. The association would like to meet with Talbert & Bright (if agreeable by County) and get a set of full prints. Association is not able to sign the document until they receive a full set of new prints. Mr. Buckley asked for a copy of the letter Palmetto Hall sent to Mr. Kubic.

Mr. Ron Smetek, a resident of Palmetto Hall, wanted to point out the date of the letter was sent from Palmetto Hall to the County (9/25/15); and (2) Mr. Kubic responded back to a draft MOU in September that was undated, and felt this was very unprofessional.

FUTURE MEETINGS

The next Airports Board meeting will be Thursday November 19, 2015 at 1:30 p.m. at Beaufort County Government Center Council Chambers.

ADJOURNMENT – 2:15 PM