

AIRPORTS BOARD

March 17, 2016

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, March 17, 2016 at 1:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers at Beaufort County Administration Building. Chairman Sells called the meeting to order and led the attendees in the Pledge of Allegiance.

ATTENDANCE

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

County Staff: Jon Rembold, Airports Director; Renee' Ford, Administrative Assistant; Beaufort County Councilman Rick Caporale, Beaufort County Councilman, Stewart Rodman and Beaufort County Councilman, Gerald Dawson.

Public: Judy Elder - Talbert, Bright and Ellington.

MOTION TO ACCEPT AGENDA

Motion: It was moved by Mr. Dopp, seconded by Mr. Ahern that the March 17, 2016 agenda be approved. The vote was: FOR – Wally Wallace, James Buckley, Gregory Viventi, Dan Ahern, Rich Sells, Will Dopp, Leslie Adlam, Blakely Williams and Gerry Costa. AGAINST – None. ABSENT: Anne Esposito. MOTION PASSED.

MOTION TO ACCEPT MINUTES

Motion: It was moved by Ms. Adlam, seconded by Mr. Viventi that the February 18, 2016 minutes be approved. The vote was: FOR – Wally Wallace, James Buckley, Gregory Viventi, Dan Ahern, Rich Sells, Will Dopp, Leslie Adlam, Blakely Williams and Gerry Costa. AGAINST – None. ABSENT: Anne Esposito. MOTION PASSED.

PUBLIC COMMENTS – None.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

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

Nomination(s): Mr. Dopp nominated Mr. Wallace for Chairman of the Airports Board with a second by Mr. Ahern. There were no further nominations. FOR – Mr. Buckley, Mr. Ahern, Mr.

Viventi, Mr. Sells, Mr. Dopp, Ms. Adlam, Ms. Williams, and Mr. Costa. AGAINST – None. ABSENT: Ms. Esposito. Mr. Wallace was elected as Chairman of the Airports Board.

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

Nomination(s): Mr. Buckley nominated Mr. Viventi for Vice Chairman of the Airports Board with a second by Mr. Dopp. There were no further nominations. The vote was: FOR – Mr. Dopp, Mr. Wallace, Mr. Buckley, Mr. Ahern, Mr. Sells, Ms. Adlam, Ms. Williams and Mr. Costa. AGAINST – None. ABSENT: Ms. Esposito. Mr. Viventi was elected as Vice Chairman of the Airports Board.

FINANCIAL UPDATE

Alicia Holland, Beaufort County Chief Financial Officer, was unable to attend meeting.

LADY'S ISLAND AIRPORT REPORT

Mr. Rembold reported on the fuel sales and operations for the Lady's Island Airport for February 2016; ARW was 2,300 gallons more than last year! An excellent February; Mr. Wallace asked if there is a breakdown between Avgas and Jet A. Mr. Rembold stated it should be on the attached detailed reports.

HILTON HEAD ISLAND AIRPORT REPORT

Mr. Rembold gave the fuel, tower and operations reports for February 2016. Numbers are steady and continue to be up from last year.

PROJECT SCHEDULE UPDATE

LADY'S ISLAND PROJECT UPDATE

Mr. Rembold stated there have had three (3) public meetings; two well attended; one resident attended the last meeting. Letters have been sent out to property owners for a one-on-one to reach a mutual agreement; to-date only two residents responded; we are close to having the project in final design. We will be trimming some trees versus cutting them down completely; similar to what's being done on Hilton Head. The plan is to be advertise bid in the Spring; award late Summer or early Fall.

Lady's Island RWY 07 Safety Area and Parallel Taxiway Environmental Assessment:

- Assessment for this project is moving along; the environmental assessment document is going through the internal review; we're waiting on a little more information regarding our salt water mitigation. The project is moving as scheduled.

EA Document Preparation -95% (internal review)
FAA Review – April 1, 2016 - Milestone Date
Public Hearing – July 1, 2016 - Milestone Date
Final EA – September 15, 2016 - Milestone Date

HILTON HEAD PROJECT UPDATE

RWY 21 Obstruction Removal – Mr. Rembold reported on RWY 21 north end; expect to start work this month (March). We'll put together a schedule; approach the property owners to let them know when to expect the surveyor and the arborist to identify trees and mark them. Afterward, the crew will begin work.

Mr. Dopp asked if we have a permit from the Town of Hilton Head. Mr. Rembold stated, yes, we have our permit. The Town of Hilton Head grant permits by parcels. Mr. Dopp asked if Palmetto Hall will get a two (2) week notice before tree trimming; the board believed it's in the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). Mr. Rembold will check the MOU and report back.

Mr. Sells asked where TB&E and the contractor, Allcare Tree, are in their discussions. Mr. Rembold stated TB&E and the contractor are setting a date based on the contractor's workload and coordinating with the surveyor and arborist. Once we get a firm date we will provide notification to the property owners.

RUNWAY 03/21 EXTENSION (Both Runway Ends)

Mr. Rembold report the runway extension project depends on the FAA; the timing of the design and the phasing of the project(s) have a lot to do with FAA identifying funding for the project. The details are in the CIP plan. FAA knows that it's coming, but we're not sure the quantities of funding and timing of those will determine the scope of work and how it gets phased; will have more updates as FAA provides us with the funding schedule. **Mr. Dopp** asked if the EMAS for both ends was in the CIP. Mr. Rembold stated the EMAS is identified in the CIP for funding purpose. **Mr. Buckley** stated in last month meeting, it was stated FAA has some flexibility in funding based on other airport facilities having delays in their projects. Is there anything the board should be doing with our congressional delegates or other political figures to help us maintain or advance our schedule. Mr. Rembold thanked him for that offer and will keep the board up to date.

RWY 03 Obstruction Removal - Mr. Rembold reported the project is 45%-50% completed. All trees that were slated to be removed have been; the company is currently trimming. There may be more trees that will have to be cut based on the arborist recommendation.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Legislative Issues – Mr. Rembold reported on his trip to Washington, DC. Prior to the trip Mr. Rembold sent letters to members of the state general assembly regarding airline property tax and place \$5M into the budget for Aeronautics Commission. Ms. Leslie Adlam hand carried a letter when she went up and the Chamber of Commerce sent a letter on behalf of the airport. Mr. Rembold received some favorable feedback from our delegate. Ms. Adlam stated Senator Tom Davis was very supportive. The bill has passed the House; it's in the Senate Finance Committee. Mr. Rembold "thanked" Ms. Adlam for advocating on our behalf.

Director Presentations – Mr. Rembold reported he spoke at the Chamber Government Affairs Committee about our airport. Provided a brief update on our improvement projects; the Committee voted to send a letter of support to the state delegation encouraging passage of key airport legislation.

Program for Exceptional People – Mr. Rembold reported clients from Program for Exceptional People received a tour of the airport. The purpose was to give the clients an overview of what to expect when travelling through an airport. TSA and American Airlines walked them through from arriving to the airport, getting a boarding pass, to going through security. They educated them with what to bring on an airport, what is appropriate to take through security and even a “pat down”. The tour is part of a nationwide Autism Travel Awareness program. TSA has a program called “Passenger Support”; a specialist who provides on the spot assistance to people with disabilities. The next tour will be Wednesday, March 23rd. There was an article in the March 15th Bluffton Sun regarding the tour.

Advocacy Trip – Washington DC – Mr. Rembold reported he was in Washington, DC to advocate for the **FAA reauthorization bill**. Representatives from the Georgia and South Carolina airports; members from Hilton Head Chamber of Commerce and Savannah Chamber of Commerce & Visitors Bureau; General Dynamics and Gulfstream also attended. They hosted a breakfast for the staffers and members of Congress. They briefed them on the current situation with the airports regarding the **FAA Reauthorization bill** and the **PFC (Passenger Facility Charge)**. Because the legislative process on the bill will probably move forward; they will be advocating for a long term solution, at least one year.

In regards to the PFC, the last time the PFC was increased was in 2000. As a result, many airports, including Hilton Head, have reached their debt capacity under the \$4.50 PFC and cannot finance new projects. An increase to \$8.50 PFC will provide airports the continued safety, security, expansion and modernization of airport facilities. All were in favor of the long term bill and most on the increase of PFC.

Mr. Dopp asked if there were any discussion on the control tower. Mr. Rembold stated no not at that time. It was not a topic at the breakfast meeting. The airports position is to have uninterrupted, safe service from the control tower.

The Role of the Board – Mr. Rembold has some ideas of small, aesthetic improvement projects to bring to the board, who are chief advocates for the airport. Mr. Rembold appealed to the board to reach out to their connections within the community to assist in the following improvements:

- Rocking chairs & tables need restoration;
- Add charging stations;
- Snack area in dire need of paint, tables & chairs;
- Carpet, specifically sterile area;
- Hallway (behind rental car area) paint;
- Add ceiling fans to circulate air;
- More Heritage advertising from RBC;
- Improve entrance to terminal (a covering/awning) and
- Friends of the Airport

Ms. Adlam asked if the airport was county run. Mr. Rembold stated we are within the county, but an enterprise fund. Mr. Wallace stated other airports that are county-run have used

organizations that are non-profit to do things at the airport. Mr. Rembold stated we also need to look at Lady's Island airport. It also can use a new conference room, landscape, furniture in the terminal.

NEW BUSINESS – Mr. Dopp has been approached regarding the video & audio availability at Hilton Head Island Library; so they can participate in the BCAB meeting. Mr. Rembold stated the audio is available and understands the video will be available soon. As soon as he receives a date he will report to the board.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Avigation Easements – Beaufort County and St James Baptist Church are working on a resolution.

PUBLIC COMMENTS - None

FUTURE MEETINGS

The next Airports Board meeting will be Thursday, April 21, 2016; 1:30 p.m. at the Town of Hilton Head Council Chambers.

ADJOURNMENT – 2:15 PM