

HARRIS COUNTY AIRPORT COMMITTEE
March 12, 2020
10:00 AM

Members Present: Becky Langston, Randy Dowling, Nancy McMichael, Katelyn Stallings (for Pond & Co), Ronnie Pendergrass, Lynda Dawson, Jim Woods. Member Absent: Kim Tharp. Also in attendance: Phil Eberly (Lead Edge Design Group), Reg Weaver (Lead Edge Design Group), Bill Tudor (Holt Engineering), Greg Hadley (pilot), Daniel Ferrone (Pine Mountain Police Chief), Jim Trott (Mayor of Pine Mountain), Andy Kober (Pine Mountain Fire Department), Thomas Scott (Pine Mountain Fire Department).

1. **CALL TO ORDER.** Mrs. Langston called the meeting to order.
2. **CORONA VIRUS (COVID-19).** Mrs. Langston said that she participated in a conference call yesterday regarding COVID-19; that it was a good meeting; that she posted many of her notes on her FaceBook page last night and has had over 4,000 views; that it is expected there will be a minimum of 1,000,000 cases by May.
3. **MINUTES.** The motion to approve the minutes of February 13, 2020, was made by Mr. Woods, seconded by Mrs. Dawson, and passed unanimously.
4. **DISCUSSIONS**
 - A. **Airport Inspection by GDOT.** Mr. Dowling reported that the Airport had received an excellent rating on its inspection by GDOT, and that the Airport is in good condition.
 - B. **Budget Preparation.** Mr. Dowling asked the Committee for suggestions of items to include in the upcoming budget.
 1. **Airport Monument Signs.** Mrs. Dawson suggested that the cost of a permanent Airport monument sign on SR 18 in the budget.
 2. **Garage for Airport Fire Truck.** Discussion included that the Airport fire truck uses AFFF foam, which can be used in emergencies and is slowly being phased out due to being a possible carcinogen; that the truck cannot be retrofitted to use any other fire suppressant method; that the garage really needs to be larger to accommodate the Airport fire truck as well as one of Pine Mountain's fire trucks, or about 12' x 24'; that should the trucks not be needed, the structure could be used to house the Airport fuel truck. In response to question as to whether the building should be built and whether the truck serves a purpose, Mr. Woods said that constructing the building can't be justified, and Mr. Pendergrass said that the truck does not serve a purpose.
 3. **Hangar Fees.** Mr. Dowling's suggestion to possibly increasing the hangar fees, currently at \$165 and \$215, was supported by Mrs. Dawson.
 - C. **Airport Consulting Services RFQ.** Randy Dowling, County Manager, said that eight (8) responses had been received to the Airport Consulting Service RFQ; that of those responders, three (3) companies made their presentations to the Airport Committee (Mr. Dowling, Mr. Pendergrass, Mrs. Dawson and Mr. Woods) yesterday.
 - D. **Airport FBO.** Mr. Dowling said that during the consultant presentations yesterday, the question was asked as to whether or not the Airport was at the point of having an FBO (Fixed Base Operator), with the consensus being that it was not. Discussion included that to attract an FBO, airports need to be selling \$500,000 to \$1,000,000 in fuel sales, and the Airport is selling less than \$100,000.
 - E. **Shell Fuel Sign.** Mr. Pendergrass reported that the Airport's fuel provider will be providing and installing a Shell Aviation Fuel sign at the self-serve tanks at no charge to the County.
 - F. **Fuel Sales.** Mr. Pendergrass reported that fuel sales have been slow due to the inclement weather.
 - G. **Open House/Fly In Event (May 9, 2020).** Discussion regarding the upcoming event took place.
 - (1) **MASH Chopper.** Mr. Pendergrass said that he has not yet received confirmation.
 - (2) **Life Flight Helicopter.** Mr. Pendergrass said he is waiting to hear back from Life Flight.
 - (3) **Pilots to Fly Attendees During Event.** Mr. Hadley said he will contact some pilots. Discussion included that there needs to be enough pilots in order to fly in shifts; and that each pilot must provide a certificate of insurance naming the County as an additional insured.
 - (4) **Parking.** Mr. Pendergrass said he has been in touch with Murray Bradley about handling parking.

- (5) Food Trucks. Discussion included that other trucks should be invited but shouldn't compete with other truck foods; that the volunteer fire department needs to provide more hamburgers and hot dogs, as they ran out last year; and Mr. Kober said that more food depends on the sponsor's budget. Mrs. Dawson said she will try to get with Ms. Tharp about this issue.
- (6) Ice Cream Truck. Mrs. Dawson said that Kim Tharp, Chamber of Commerce, is handling the ice cream truck.
- (7) Radios. Mr. Pendergrass said that he has about 10 radios that can be used.
- (8) Classic Cars. Mrs. Dawson said that she is working on getting this group to the event.
- (9) Motorcycle Club. Mrs. Dawson said that she believes Ms. Tharp is working on this.
- (10) Aerobatic Pilot. Mrs. Dawson said that she's working on this.
- (11) Sound System. Chief Ferrone said that he will see if the system previously used is available, since it is personal property.
- (12) DC3. Mrs. Dawson said they only need 50 gallons of fuel.
- (13) Youth Aviation Program. Mrs. Dawson said she is still working on this.
- (14) Tables & Chairs. Mr. Dowling said that the County will provide.
- (15) Inmates. Mr. Dowling confirmed that inmates will be on hand to assist with trash pick up and other issues.
- (16) Trash Cans & Bags. Mr. Dowling confirmed the County will provide the trash cans and bags.
- (17) Golf Carts. Mrs. Dawson said that Ms. Tharp is arranging to use golf carts. She also said that she (Mrs. Dawson) will touch base about having JROTC members available to assist with parking or golf carts. Discussion included that only individuals with drivers licenses can operate the golf carts.
- (18) Air Boss. Mr. Pendergrass will act as Air Boss.
- (19) FAA Clearance. Ms. Stallings, of Pond & Co., is assisting Mrs. Dawson with getting the FAA paperwork completed and in order.
- (20) Flyer/Poster. Mr. Dowling reported that the flyer is out and being distributed. Mrs. Dawson said that she understood Ms. Tharp was having 100 flyers printed for distribution. Discussion included providing information to school students.

H. **Fencing Project**. Ms. Stallings said that the final invoice and release of retainage has been submitted and that final payment for the excess grassing will take place at a later date.

5. **NEXT MEETING**. The next meeting will be Thursday, April 9, 2020, at 10:00 AM.

6. **ADJOURNMENT**. There being no further business to discuss, Mrs. Langston adjourned the meeting.

Prepared by: Nancy D. McMichael, County Clerk

Minutes approved _____
by vote of _____ to _____.