

## HARRIS COUNTY AIRPORT COMMITTEE

May 11, 2017

10:00 AM

Members Present: Harry Lange, Bill Champion, Lynda Dawson, Nancy McMichael, Amanda Hill, Jim Woods, Randy Dowling. Absent: Jayson Johnston. Also in attendance: Andy Kober, news reporter and volunteer firefighter; Jim Trott, Mayor of Pine Mountain.

1. **CALL TO ORDER.** Mr. Lange called the meeting to order.
2. **MINUTES.** The motion to approve the minutes of April 13, 2017, was made by Mrs. Dawson, seconded by Mr. Woods, and passed unanimously..
3. **DISCUSSIONS**
  - A. **Verizon Wireless Rezoning Application.** Mr. Lange and Mr. Wood brought the Committee up to date on the status of the Verizon Wireless rezoning application that was heard by the Board of Commissioners on May 2, to include that the public hearing had been held and closed but that action regarding same was tabled to the July 18 meeting. Mr. Lange said that while no new evidence can be presented, unless both parties agree to same, he wants to make sure that the information from the FAA is correct (measurements, runway extension length, etc.) and stressed that the County's main issues is safety. Ms. Hill will work on trying to get definitive information from the FAA. Following discussion, Mr. Lange said that he and John Taylor, County Attorney, will talk to the appropriate people at Daniel Field, who went through a similar situation a short time ago. Mr. Champion suggested that the zoning ordinance be amended regarding airports to prevent something similar from occurring in the future.
  - B. **MOU for AWOS & Beacon Reimbursement and Fencing Design.** Mr. Lange asked Ms. Hill to provide details regarding the cost of the fencing design, which will be part of an agreement for the Board to act on during its May 16 meeting.
  - C. **Grass Issues.** Mr. Champion said that there is a problem with grass coming up in the cracks of the runway and ramp, and that some type of herbicide needs to be applied.
  - D. **Runway Markings.** Mr. Champion said that runway markings are discolored due to mildew and need to be cleaned because painting over same will not take care of the mildew problem.
  - E. **Taxiway & Runway Lights.** Ms. Hill said that the warranty on the taxiway lights expires in August of this year. Mr. Champion said that one taxiway light is out and two runway lights are out; that there is a problem with County employees working on the lights; that the taxiway lights are easily changed and he would like County employees to do so rather than having to contact Ms. Hill about the issues.
  - F. **Grass Along Runway.** Mr. Champion said that the grass along the runway needs to be cut.
  - G. **Rocks on Taxiway.** Mr. Champion reported that there is a problem with rocks on the taxiway and he would like to obtain a sweeper or vacuum to take care of the rocks, and said that perhaps such could be obtained through government surplus.
  - H. **Auxiliary Power Unit.** Mr. Champion said that an auxiliary power unit is needed; that it could possibly be obtained through government surplus; and that it would be utilized by jets.
  - I. **Taxiway Grassing.** Ms. Hill said that grass is still not in a few spots.

- J. **GPS Monument**. Ms. Hill reported that the GPS monument had been found and verified.
- K. **Fencing Project**. Ms. Hill said that Wayne Corley, with MaesAwyr, would be out soon to ride the fence line and an ATV is needed; and that he will double-check erosion issues. Also, she said that the fence cannot be put on the property of another so property between the beacon and tree line, which is too close to the runway, needs to be remedied so that the fence will be closer to the tree line. Discussion included that several gates will be included along the fencing for emergency access points; that clear cutting along the line will be needed before installation; and that the fence area can be sprayed with a herbicide about once a year to control growth. Mr. Dowling is to arrange a meeting for him and Mr. Lange to meet with Bill Doyle (Callaway Gardens) about the property needed.
- L. **Security Path**. In response to questions from Mr. Woods, Mr. Champion said that the gate is locked; that while Callaway had a lock on it, it didn't work. He said he has sent word to Bill Doyle (Callaway Gardens) that the County's part regarding the security path is completed. Discussion included that perhaps a meeting could be arranged with Mr. Doyle and Callaway's marketing director to discuss the plans for the Airport, what the County can do, and what Callaway can do to take advantage of its proximity to the Airport.
- M. **Open House/Fly-In**. Discussion included:
- (1) Equipment. There will be several volunteer fire departments displaying equipment.
  - (2) Car Clubs. Several are interested.
  - (3) Food Vendor. The only food vendor will be Pine Mountain VFD.
  - (4) Permit. Mrs. McMichael said that a special event permit would not be required as far as she could tell; that it's a one-day event with no sales.
  - (5) Event Insurance. Mrs. McMichael reported that she has not heard back from the County's insurer regarding the event insurance but will double check upon returning to the office.
  - (6) Flyer. Ms. Hill said that the flyer had been completed and sent out to various locations.
- N. **Facebook Page**. Discussion included that access and control of the County's facebook page is needed.
- O. **Building for Trucks**. Mr. Kober reminded all that the new Pine Mountain truck will be arriving in December. (One of Pine Mountain's trucks is to be housed at the Airport along with the current foam truck and two fuel trucks.)
- P. **Grants**. Ms. Hill said that because there is a public safety presence at the Airport (fire truck), there may be grants available for various projects, and that she will check into same.
- Q. **Industrial Park**. Mrs. Dawson said that Alexander City, Alabama, has a wonderful industrial park adjacent to its airport.
4. **NEXT MEETING**. Due to commitments of several members of the committee, the next meeting will be Wednesday, June 7, at 10:00 AM.
5. **ADJOURNMENT**. There being no further business to discuss, Mr. Lange adjourned the meeting.

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Prepared by: Nancy D. McMichael, County Clerk

Minutes approved \_\_\_\_\_ by a vote of \_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_.