

HARRIS COUNTY AIRPORT COMMITTEE
January 11, 2018
10:00 AM

Members Present: Harry Lange, Jim Woods, Bill Champion, Lynda Dawson, Nancy McMichael, Amanda Hill. Members Absent: Randy Dowling, Colin Martin. Also in attendance: Katie Eleam (MaesAwyr); Jim Trott (Mayor of Pine Mountain); Daniel Ferrone (Pine Mountain Police Department); Andy Kober (news reporter and volunteer firefighter).

1. **CALL TO ORDER.** Mr. Lange called the meeting to order.
2. **MINUTES.** The motion to approve the minutes of November 9, 2017, was made by Mrs. Dawson, seconded by Ms. Hill, and passed unanimously with four in favor (Dawson, Hill, Champion, McMichael), no opposition, and two abstentions (Lange and Woods who were not in attendance. (There was no meeting in December.)
3. **DISCUSSIONS**
 - A. **Fence Project.** Ms. Hill reported that the fence project is going back out for bid today; that when bids were received on December 21, two were incomplete, one was \$120,000 over budget, and two were late and could not be considered; and that the new bids are due February 8. In response to questions, Ms. Hill said that the access keypads will be hardwired but will have some type of emergency access back-up; and that the project needs to be coordinated with the security system, for which Mrs. McMichael will provide Ms. Hill with the IT Director's contact info. Mr. Champion suggested that the fence be moved north to follow the cleared vegetation line to provide better aesthetics in the terminal area, and Ms. Hill said that it appeared the distance and quantities would be the same as design and could be determined in the field since the plans have been finalized. Discussion included that the terminal will be part of the fence, which will probably result in more foot traffic through the terminal, even though there will be a pedestrian gate in the fence for accessing the parking area.
 - B. **ALP Update.** Ms. Hill reported that the data is being compiled to include the aircraft that are based at the Airport; and that once the update is complete, it will be provided to Randy Dowling (County Manager), Mrs. McMichael, and Mr. Lange for review and comments before being sent out to the Committee.
 - C. **Road Paving.** Ms. Hill reported that the survey is in place; that they are having to look at the geometrics; and some spot elections needs to be made.
 - D. **AWOS Maintenance.** There was a brief discussion regarding the AWOS maintenance contracts, and Mrs. McMichael indicated that the confusion regarding the contracts is being reviewed and resolved.
 - E. **Budget FY19.** Ms. Hill said that in response to Mr. Dowling's email about the upcoming budget, she had ideas for some non-capital items to include a new entrance sign, sign at SR 18, and landscaping, but that more discussion could take place at the next meeting about same.
 - F. **Fire Truck & Housing.** Discussion included that the fire truck to be housed at the Airport needs to be covered and be in a heated facility with a substantial concrete pad. Mr. Kober is to send Mrs. McMichael the minimum specifications for such a building. Ms. Hill said that GDOT funds cannot be used for such a structure, but that there may be some public safety grants or regional commission grants available.
 - G. **Fuel Sales.** Mr. Champion reported that fuel sales were down in November and December mainly due to fuel costs and the weather.
 - H. **Fuel Prices.** Mr. Champion reported that cheaper fuel prices may be available through Epic; that Epic will allow up to \$4,000 annually for fuel truck repair where Shell does not; that the credit card fees are about the same. He then suggested that no immediate change take place for a while.
 - I. **NDB Antenna & Equipment.** Mr. Champion suggested that the unused obsolete NDB antenna and equipment be sold; that the small hut, which is on Callaway property and in which the equipment is housed is rotting and needs to be taken down. Mrs. McMichael said that the Board of Commissioners would have to declare the antenna and equipment surplus before any action could be taken to sell same, and she was directed to add it to the January 16 Commission agenda for action.

- J. **Fly-In in June.** Mr. Champion said that the upcoming fly-in should be done differently from previous years; that people who attended last year were disappointed when they learned there would be no airplane rides and left fairly early; that he suggested having the Army Aviation Heritage Foundation & Flying Museum be utilized, for which funds will have to be raised to help offset the fees paid by people wishing to take short rides in the helicopter; that the cost is normally \$70/per person, which is high for the average family to pay, so the cost would be reduced with the difference being made up from the raised funds; that he has contacts regarding a DC3, in which 10 people can ride at one time, and that a similar fund raising could also be utilized; that perhaps the Chamber will help with the fund raising; that it may be possible to purchase tickets in advance; and that he would like to see the display of cars return. Discussion also included that there may be other companies that provide rides in planes or helicopters for nominal fees.
 - K. **Hangars.** Mr. Champion reported that all the hangars are full, with three having two planes but that he will probably lose a few when Lanett finishes its new runway.
 - L. **Terminal Renovation.** Mr. Champion reported that it may be spring before all the renovations can be finished. Mrs. Dawson asked when the work would be finished, and Mrs. McMichael replied that the maintenance crews have been tied up repairing frozen or broken water lines and addressing heating issues the past two weeks, and once they have the opportunity to complete the renovation work, they will do so.
 - M. **Fuel System Inspection.** Mr. Champion reported that there will be fuel inspection next month.
 - N. **Papas Lights.** Mr. Champion reported that all the Papas lights are working.
 - O. **Runway Lights.** Mr. Champion reported that all but one of the runway lights are working.
 - P. **Cleaning and/or Repainting of Runway Striping.** Mr. Champion said that the striping/lettering on the runway needs to be cleaned to remove the mildew; that visibility is an issue; and that even though the striping/lettering needs to be repainted, the mildew must first be removed, and the removal will delay the need for repainting for a time. Mrs. McMichael is to contact the Prison Warden, the Public Works Director, and the Facilities Maintenance Director regarding this issue.
 - Q. **Nelson Road Trees.** Mr. Champion reported that the trees on the Rogers property at Nelson Road have not yet been removed and that it needs to be done. Mrs. McMichael is to contact the Prison Warden and the Public Works Director regarding this issue.
 - R. **Bucket Truck.** Mr. Champion reported that he has been able to take care of the holes in hangars 4 and 5, so he no longer has a need for a bucket truck. However, he said that he now needs skirting along the bottom; that he has priced same at \$90 for 10 feet; and that he's not going to move forward on the skirting at this time.
 - S. **Inmate Help.** Mr. Champion reported that the prison inmate is working out well.
 - T. **Airport Website.** Mrs. Dawson said that the website has gone as far as it can without funds being expended; that more funding may be needed even though Mr. Dowling has indicated the work can proceed by using the remaining advertising funds; and that the quote for same is around \$2,400 or \$2,500. Mr. Champion said that before spending funds he wants to make sure as to where such can be found or moved. Mrs. McMichael said that as long as the bottom line does not go over budget, funds can be moved around, but that such needs to be relayed to Mr. Dowling and/or accounting. Mrs. McMichael is to advise Mr. Dowling that a meeting with Mr. Champion is needed regarding this issue.
- 4. **NEXT MEETING.** The next meeting will be Thursday, February 8, 2018, at 10:00 AM.
 - 5. **ADJOURNMENT.** There being no further business to discuss, Mr. Lange adjourned the meeting.

Prepared by: Nancy D. McMichael, County Clerk

Minutes approved February 8, 2018 by a vote of 7 to 0.