

Special Moore County Airport Authority Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, January 10, 2024

Public Meeting – Immediately after the Moore County Airport Authority monthly meeting

The Special Moore County Airport Authority Meeting for Wednesday, January 10, 2024, was in-person, at The Holly Inn Evergreen Room, Pinehurst; and via Zoom. A quorum was present.

Authority Members Present: Adam Kiker, Chairman

Ken Haenlein, Vice Chairman Tom McPherson, Treasurer Gene Horne, Secretary Roland Gilliam, Member

Staff Present: Rick Cloutier, Airport Director

Carol Oakley, Finance Administrator Paul Puszynski, Operations Manager Joy Cheechov, Administrative Manager

Guests Present: Steve and Stephen Bright, Talbert & Bright

Peter Stilwell, Tarheel Communications

CALL TO ORDER: Chairman Kiker called the meeting to order at 10:40 a.m.

A. Public Comments

None.

B. Approval of Agenda

Chairman Kiker provided an overview of the agenda for this special meeting. The agenda for Wednesday, January 10, 2024, was presented.

M/S – Horne/McPherson - That the Special Moore County Airport Authority Meeting Agenda was approved for January 10, 2024.

The motion passed by the following vote:

Yes: Member Gilliam, Secretary Horne, Treasurer McPherson, Vice Chairman Haenlein, Chairman Kiker

C. New Business

 CTAF Frequency Discussion – Chairman Kiker introduced the discussion about changing the CTAF Frequency. There were email and discussions about the frequencies at the Airport. Airport Director Cloutier provided details about how to change the frequency. Then contact the FCC to request a change of frequency. Vice Chairman Haenlein provided additional information. 123.05 is used by other airports. One of the problems is that pilots don't always identify which airport they are at. There is a schedule for UNICOM. Mr. Ed Watters recommended using 122.75 in November.

Airport Director Cloutier will do some research, and have a recommendation for February's meeting.

The criteria for looking into changing the frequency: 1-Is it a real problem; 2-Is there a solution-frequency that solves the problem.

Airport Director will check with Slim Thompson, of Sovereign Aerospace, regarding his experience; and for him to share his sentiments.

The goal would be to find a frequency that less or none that use the same runway headings. There are 11 frequencies.

Vice Chairman Haenlein recommended having a safety meeting with all pilots to discuss using the same terminology.

2. Airport Identifier Discussion – Chairman Kiker introduced the item. This is a broader discussion about the name of the airport. There is some interest in the community about renaming the airport. It is ultimately up to the Authority to decide whether to name the airport.

What is the Authority trying to market? There is name recognition to identify with Pinehurst. Is there value in changing the name? Is there interest in changing the name?

Treasurer McPherson suggested getting a professional branding company; and getting the right amount of community support. He recommends tabling the topic until after the US Open.

Airport Director suggests putting some money in the budget to do the research.

Mr. Stilwell provided input about community support.

Another discussion point is to change the identifier. The identifier, KSOP, can be changed to KPAR.

The Authority will table the topic. Airport Director Cloutier will research a budgetary number.

3. Budget Kickoff

Capital Projects Update – Airport Director Cloutier asked to have the Capital Improvement Plans: this includes talking about the five-year plan too.

Stephen Bright of Talbert & Bright provided an update on BIL funded projects.

The extension of the RSA, while not included on the list, is a project.

One of the top priorities is the Apron Rehabilitation and Strengthening project.

There should be two phases.

Phase 1 will cost approximately \$7.8 million. The costs include an environmental assessment and apron design. A priority is to find out what the Airport's share of costs will be for Phase 1.

Other projects include: clearing trees, razing buildings, the storage/hangar construction projects, terminal improvements, clearing the storage and Cockman buildings.

Break for Lunch

The Authority paused for a lunch break at 12:25 p.m. The Authority reconvened at 1:44 p.m.

C. New Business - Continued

3. Airport Director Cloutier discussed items for the upcoming budget including: golf carts, Scully System for the Fuel Farm, repainting of the Fuel Farm, furniture, a digital signage display and a camera system.

Airport Director Cloutier asked the Authority members what priorities they had for the upcoming year. Vice Chairman Haenlein requested an upgrade to the rear gate, install the yelp system on the rear gate, adding performance goals, and investing in making reports "digestible". Also included were grading work for the parking lot; and restoring the markings.

4. Grants

Airport Director Cloutier talked about open and awarded grants. The Project Earhart grant was for Pinehurst Aviation Services' building. Because the full amount of the grant has not been spent, it was suggested that the remaining balance be used for Airport renovations.

Airport Director Cloutier also talked about the SCIF grant. The grant will fund two projects: the new corporate hangar and the storage building.

The Airport is waiting for information about BIL funds. The state has not requested the funds from the federal government.

The entitlement funding is in its third year of five years.

5. Other Projects

A discussion point was brought up regarding hangar space for people that don't own an airplane. Those that do not have airplanes have 90 days to put a plane in the hangar - or forfeit the hangar.

D. Closed Session

1. Pursuant to N.C.G.S 143-318.11 (f), the Airport Authority met to discuss certain personnel matters regarding individual employees.

M/S-Haenlein/McPherson-To enter into Closed Session.

Yes: Member Gilliam, Secretary Horne, Treasurer McPherson, Vice Chairman Haenlein, Chairman Kiker.

M/S-Haenlein/Gilliam-To return to Open Session

The motion passed by the following vote:

Yes: Member Gilliam, Secretary Horne, Treasurer McPherson, Vice Chairman Haenlein, Chairman Kiker.

E. Announcements/Comments

In February, Airport Director Cloutier will present a draft budget. March is the soft goal of presenting the budget for final approval. At the April meeting, a public hearing will be held to approve the ordinance.

F. Adjournment

The next MCA Authority meeting will be held in-person and via Zoom at 9:00 a.m. Wednesday, February 14, 2024.

M/S-Haenlein/Horne – That the Moore County Airport Authority meeting be adjourned.

The motion passed by the following vote:

Yes: Member Gilliam, Secretary Horne, Treasurer McPherson, Vice Chairman Haenlein, Chairman Kiker.

The Airport Authority Meeting was adjourned by Chairman Kiker at 3:21 p.m.

Adam Kiker, Authority Chairman

Gene Horne, Authority Secretary