

County Council of Beaufort County
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**AVIATION ADVISORY BOARD MEETING MINUTES
OF FEBRUARY 21, 2008**

The print media was notified in accordance with the State Freedom of Information Act.

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Beaufort County Aviation Advisory Board was held at 1:30 PM on Thursday, February 21, 2008 at the Beaufort County Airport. Chairman David Ames opened the meeting and noted that there was a quorum present.

A motion was made and seconded to accept the January 17, 2008 meeting minutes. The vote was postponed until the next scheduled meeting.

Guests were introduced.

MEMBERS PRESENT

David Ames-Chairman
Pete Buchanan-Vice Chairman
John Curry
Anne Esposito
Leonard Law
Ross Sanders
Dick Warden
Councilman Ken Heitzke - Town of Hilton
Head Liaison
Harvey Ewing
Councilman Rick Caporale - Beaufort
County Liaison

STAFF

Paul Andres-Airport Director
Joel Phillips - Beaufort Co. Airport Supv.
Priscilla Stewart - Admin Assistant

GUESTS

Councilman Stu Rodman
Saleem Khattak – Director Public Services
Chris Eversmann – Wilbur Smith Associates
Gary Gildner – Resident
Nick Esposito – Resident
Lolita Huckaby – Beaufort Today
Lou Zellar - Resident
John Morissette - Resident
Jack Schuler – Resident
Claude Dinkins - Resident

MEMBERS ABSENT

Dan Lynch
Jared Newman

HILTON HEAD ISLAND AIRPORT REPORT

1. Tower Report: Paul Andres
 - For the month of January 2008 there were 3,259 total flight operations of which 1,720 were conducted under IFR procedures.

2. Operations Report: Paul Andres for Chief Yeager
 - 36 general aviation flights after Tower closure during the month of January.
 - 120 commercial airlines flights after Tower closure also for the month of January.
 - There were 7 medivac flights during the month of January.
3. Noise Complaints & Traffic Counters: No report. Will be updated at the next meeting.
4. Projects: Paul Andres
 - The survey crew is reevaluating the tree obstructions on the South End of the Airport. We are arranging a meeting next week with the Town staff to review the corrected data and complete that project.
 - The Environmental Assessment addressing the tree obstructions on the North End of the Airport is underway.
 - The Emergency Generator contract was approved by County Council. The equipment to perform the work is on order. Once the equipment is received, the work can begin on site.

BEAUFORT COUNTY AIRPORT REPORT

1. Fuel Sales: Joel Phillips
 - For the month of January, sold a total of 5,619 gallons of AvGas and 4,937 gallons of Jet A fuel.
 - Down 1,100 gallons in fuel sales compared to January 2007.
2. Projects: Paul Andres
 - Tree obstruction removal is out for bid. There was a pre-bid meeting last week. The bids are due February 27TH. The property owners have received a final 30 day notice from the attorneys indicating they need to sign the avigation easement and/or make their plant back mitigation desires known. Without the signed avigation easement, the County's attorney will proceed with airspace condemnation action. The County waived the plant back requirements for the tree removal. Any plant back will not exceed the County's recommended rate. Mystic Ship Builders may be interested in using the Live Oak wood.
 - Aircraft Hangars. Mosquito Control hangar project is underway with Beaufort Construction.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. Finance: Dick Warden
 - Dick Warden has stepped down as the Head of the Finance Committee.
 - The last report was December 31, 2007.
 - Requested the status of the December motion to follow up on the audit of the Financial Controls/procedures for the airports.
 - Councilman Stu Rodman - Public Services and Finance will have a meeting sometime in February to decide which items belong to Public Services and which should go to Finance.
 - Update was given by Councilman Rodman about the meeting regarding the financial operations of the airports.
 - Pete Buchanan will act as the temporary Chair of the Finance Committee.

Dave Ames proposed a Resolution thanking Dick Warden for serving as the Head of the Finance Committee for four years. Due to his leadership, progress has been made in the reporting and understandability of the financial operations of the airports. The Resolution was seconded and passed unanimously.

2. Lady's Island Airport Facilities: - Pete Buchanan

A motion was made and seconded to notify the City of Beaufort in writing of the FAA requirements under Part 77 airspace.

The motion was withdrawn pending confirmation that the City has adopted changes which are the same as the County's.

- Master Plan – no update. The topic may be placed on the March agenda of the Public Services Committee.

A motion was made and seconded that the proposed Carmody Hangar be sited closer to the road. The vote passed unanimously.

3. Hilton Head Island Airport Facilities: Anne Esposito

- The six (6) rocking chairs ordered by Signature Air are here.
- Inspected the airport this morning and it was looking very nice and clean.
- Wi-Fi is installed and Hargary will meet with Paul Andres next week to discuss project status.

A motion was made and seconded for Wilbur Smith Associates to be the consultant for the ARFF design project. The motion passed unanimously.

4. External Affairs: John Curry

- Airport Appreciation Day is tentatively scheduled for Sunday, May 4, 2008 from 1 – 4 PM.

COMMUNITY RELATIONS COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Hilton Head: Don Baldwin absent. No report.
- Lady's Island: No meeting. Dick Warden is trying to arrange an airport presentation for the residents of Dataw.

HILTON HEAD ISLAND CRC ISSUE UPDATE – No new updates regarding flight patterns. Mr. Doug Murphy said at the Hilton Head Island CRC meeting that the visual approach should be completed by the end of July 2008.

OLD BUSINESS

- Aviation Advisory Board Vacancy: Still under review by County Council.
- The noise abatement brochures have been printed. The brochures have been distributed to both commercial airlines and general aviation.
- The noise abatement informational signs are still in work with the State Aeronautics Division.
- Master Plan. The recommendations from the Feasibility Study are as

follows:

Ad Hoc Airport Steering Committee Recommendation

It is the recommendation of the Ad Hoc Airport Steering Committee (Ken Heitzke, Rick Caporale, and Dave Ames) that Beaufort County Council authorize the County Administrator to pursue the development of a full Master Plan for the Hilton Head Island Airport.

Further, we recommend this Master Plan must highlight and address the three questions established by the ad hoc committee and attached to this recommendation.

Also, we recommend work begin on consultant selection and members of the ad hoc committee, along with additional appointments from the Town of Hilton Head Island and County, create the RFP, as well as participate in the final selection of a consultant.

Lastly, we recommend a request for FAA funding participation be initiated for this project.

Chairman Ames discussed the procedures necessary to add an item to the meeting agenda after it had been published.

A motion was made and seconded that under unusual circumstances, an action item may be added to the agenda at a meeting with the majority of those present voting in favor of the amendment. The vote passed seven (7) in favor and one (1) against.

NEW BUSINESS - None

PUBLIC COMMENTS

1. John Morresette - Mr. Morresette asked that the board look into two issues. One being a photographic center that would allow visitors to take pictures and view the planes taking off and landing. The other item was that the board should consider profitability not only just for the present, but the future potential for increased revenues as well.
2. Lou Zeller - Asked if he could view the tree obstruction overlay and the Airport Master Plan. Joel Phillips, Supervisor of the Beaufort County Airport will see him after the meeting.
3. Nick Esposito - Mr. Esposito applauded the City and County in doing an update to the Master Plan. Mr. Esposito feels that some timelines need to be applied to avoid any long delays.
4. Councilman Stu Rodman – The first pilot to land at HH was Arnold Palmer and suggested that maybe we should install a placard or name the airport after him.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 2:40 PM.

FUTURE MEETINGS

Aviation Advisory Board: The next meeting will be held on Thursday, March 20, 2008 at 1:30 PM at the Hilton Head Air Service Building.

Hilton Head Island Airport Community Relations Committee: The next meeting will be held on Thursday, May 1, 2008 at 4:30 PM at the Hilton Head Air Services Building.

Beaufort County Airport Community Relations Committee: The next meeting will be announced at a later date.