

Duplin County Airport Commission Meeting Minutes-September 28, 2021 @ 7:00PM

Members Present:

Jack Alphin, Joe Bryant, A.J. Connors, Roger Davis, Larry Debose and Dexter Edwards, Bob Quinn

Members Absent:

Ricky Kennedy and Jerry Tysinger

Staff Present:

George Futrelle, Assistant County Manager / Airport Director
Josh Raynor, Airport Operations Manager

Visitors/Guests Present:

Jennifer Martin, Parrish & Partners
Thibault Sirigu, Parrish & Partners
Marty Wynn, AVCON, Inc.

Agenda-September 28, 2021

1. Call to Order – Invocation - Introductions
2. Approval of August 25, 2021 Minutes
3. Master Plan Update
4. NCFS Project Update
5. Drainage Assessment Project Update
6. AWOS Issue
7. NCFS Lease Agreement Discussion
8. Miscellaneous
9. Adjourn

Business Conducted as Follows:

1. The meeting was called to order by Chairman Bob Quinn at 7:15 pm. An invocation was given by A.J. Connors.
2. The minutes of the August 25, 2021 meeting were approved upon a motion made by Larry Debose and seconded by A.J. Connors. The motion carried.
3. Jennifer Martin gave an update on the status of the Master Plan Project and Thibault Sirigu discussed particulars with the several alternatives and land use exhibits. Jennifer said the environmental overview was in progress and the overall implementation of the master plan was under review by FAA. Thibault explained the long-term project goals for airfield development consisted of expanding the runway safety areas, grading for drainage issues, AWOS critical area clearing, additional aircraft apron area improvements, terminal area corporate hangar and apron expansion, MALSR on runway 5 and additional vehicle parking. An airport maintenance building and new T-hangars and box hangars are also planned. After discussion and final review of the preferred alternative, a motion to approve final alternative #4 was made by Jack Alphin and seconded by Roger Davis.
4. The NC Forest Service project update was provided by Marty Wynn. Change Order #4 was presented and discussed. Futrelle reported that the \$60,000 additional funding from the NC Division of Aviation had been approved so this change order simply added back the contract quantities and the \$75,000 that was previously deducted. A motion to approve Change Order #4 as presented was made by Larry Debose and seconded by A. J. Connors. The motion carried. *(NOTE-This change order was never executed due to the issue with soils requiring an additional \$300,000 so it was changed to reflect that work as well).*
5. The Drainage Assessment Project update was given and AVCON Task Order 2021-1, not to exceed \$42,594 was presented. A motion to approve the task order was made by A.J. Connors and seconded by Larry Debose. The motion carried. This is a \$100,000 grant funded at \$90,000 state and \$10,000 local and only covers assessment at this point. The design and construction will be approved after the consultant knows the extent of the problem.
6. Futrelle advised the board of the issue with the AWOS, specifically, that the FAA had turned off our wind speed and direction indicator due to it being “unreliable” because of trees within the AWOS critical area. Futrelle told the board that he had met with Stan Draughon, one of the adjacent property owners, who is willing to lease for \$1,000 per acre per year, or sell for \$12,812.50 per acre. The State Division of Aviation has suggested that the cost of relocating the AWOS, if that’s even a viable option, would be prohibitive. Ashley Clowes-Lowery, our APM, has suggested we use our NPE funds to get the project started, do the environmental, survey, design and permitting and then clear all that we own to the property line. It is unknown at this time whether or not the NC Division of Aviation will be able to fund all that would be required to purchase, clear and grub the entire 27 acres that Duplin does not currently own. More to come on this item.
7. The proposed NCFS Lease Agreement was discussed. Futrelle told the board that he had been advised by Ashley Clowes-Lowery, our NCDOT-DOA Airport Project Manager, that Bobby Walston was requesting a 40-year zero sum lease for the buildings they are funding. All of our other leases are a maximum term of 30 years total. There was

considerable discussion in this matter and it was the consensus that we stick to our desire to enter into a 30-year max lease. More to come on this item as well.

8. Under miscellaneous information, Josh Raynor reported on fuel sales; to date approximately 1,000 gallons of Avgas and 7,000 gallons of Jet-A.
9. There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned after a motion by Joe Bryant and a second by Larry Debose. The motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at 8:55 pm.