

## **Minutes of Fairhope Airport Authority September 13, 2022**

The Fairhope Airport Authority met September 13, 2022 at 5:00PM in the City Hall Council Chambers at 161 N Section Street.

Present: Don Lagarde, Chairman, Chip Groner, Vince Boothe and Amy Pearson. Pel Henry, Jack Burrell and Will Bruce were absent. Also present was Josh Myrick, Attorney, and Brad Hicks, Attorney. Cynthia A Boothe took the Minutes.

The Minutes of the August 9, 2022 meeting were considered and approved with a motion by Chip Groner, second by Vince Boothe and unanimously passed.

**Report from Continental Aerospace:** Nick VanHouten reported that things are going well at the Airport with lots of traffic and fuel sales. There has been some HVAC problems in the FBO Building but they are being repaired.

**Airport Operations:** Chip Groner reported that the AWOS was fixed, and the phone is being repaired. There are still lights out but will be repaired as soon as parts are available. Chip stated that he feels that the Authority should cancel their sponsorship for the Air Race Classic of 2025 as Fairhope would be the starting point this time and he feels it would not be as profitable to the area as being the ending point. After a group discussion a motion was made by Chip Groner to have Josh Myrick write a letter canceling the Authority's sponsorship of the Air Race Classic of 2025, second by Vince Boothe and unanimously passed.

**Engineer's Report:** Jordan Stringfellow gave the Authority members a copy of an FAA/ALDOT Funding Overview to help the members understand the AIP Grant process and will be available to go over any parts of it with the Authority members if needed. Jordan stated that the Pre-Applications are due on September 23, 2022 for the AIP Grant for the Runway Rehabilitation Project and possibly the Runway & Taxiway Lighting System Replacement. She then went over the funding details for these two projects. After a group discussion, a motion was made by Vince Boothe to have the Authority's attorney, Josh Myrick, prepare a resolution for the Authority Chairman to sign and submit to the FAA stating that the Authority is committing to pay the 5% matching funds of \$1,089,722.22, and to moving forward with the Pre-Application for the Runway

Rehabilitation and the Runway and Taxiway Lighting Replacement. A second was made by Chip Groner and unanimously passed. Jordan also stated that the Airport Layout Plan has been approved and she will send the FAA a signed copy.

**Treasurer's Report:** Amy Pearson asked if approval of the budget could be tabled until the next meeting. Chip made a motion to table the budget until the October 11<sup>th</sup> meeting, second by Vince Boothe and unanimously passed. Amy then went over the Income/Expense report for July-August 2022.

**Legal Report:** Josh Myrick stated that he has the lease modifications for Vince Boothe and Mr Wagner in the works and feels that everything will be completed by next month. Josh also reported that there has been some interest in building another T-hangar on the Southwest side of the Airport and Josh has sent them all the information they have requested, and is waiting to hear back from them. Chip Groner stated that the prospective tenant needs to be aware of the utility surcharge that will also need to be paid.

**Nominations of Authority Officers for the coming year:** Vince Boothe stated the slate of officers for the coming year:

Chip Groner-Chairman  
Pel Henry-Vice Chairman  
Will Bruce-Secretary  
Amy Pearson-Treasurer

Vince made a motion to accept the slate of officers, second by Chip Groner and unanimously passed.

**New Business:** Don Lagarde stated that the meeting for November is the same day as the General Election so a different date will need to be arranged for that meeting. He stated that he would talk to Lisa Hanks about availability.

**Comments from the Public:** No Report.

**Move to executive Session to discuss pending litigation of legal proceedings with Continental Aerospace and to discuss operations of flight schools at the Airport:** Josh Myrick stated that a motion was needed to move into Executive

Session to discuss pending litigation and the good name and character of an individual and he certifies that prior to the vote that the pending litigation section is applicable to a portion of the Executive Session and the meeting should last about 30 minutes. Vince Boothe made a motion to move to Executive Session, second by Chip Groner. Don Lagarde, Chip Groner, Vince Boothe and Amy Pearson all voted 'Aye' in a roll call vote. The Authority members moved to Executive Session at 6:25PM.

**Return from Executive Session:** The Authority Members returned from Executive Session at 7:26PM. A motion was made by Chip Groner to reconvene the meeting, second by Vince Boothe and unanimously passed.

Chip Groner made a motion to send a letter to Redcel Flight School that they are not in compliance with the Airport's Minimum Standards and have 60 days to bring themselves in compliance or cease flight training at the Airport, second by Amy Pearson. Amy Pearson, Chip Groner, and Don Lagarde all voted 'Aye', Vince Boothe abstained. Vince stated that he abstained because he had previously performed flights from Fairhope Airport for Flight Training of Mobile, his personal company, and he felt it was prudent to abstain.

**Adjournment:** A motion was made by Chip Groner to adjourn, second by Amy Pearson and unanimously passed. The meeting adjourned at 7:29PM.

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Don Lagarde, Chairman

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Submitted by Cynthia A Boothe