

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

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

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

The Minutes of the November 15, 2022 meeting were considered and approved with a motion by Will Bruce, second by Pel Henry and unanimously passed.

**Continental Aerospace Report:** Nick VanHouten reported that there is a pothole in the road by the North Hangar and he needs some signs for the Handicap parking area.

Chip Groner stated that he would get with the City about fixing the pothole and to see if they have any Handicap signs or if Nick will need to order some.

Nick stated everything else seems to be going well at the Airport and he is contacting Jordan Stringfellow about a few more spots on the seal coat that need to be addressed.

Chip Groner reported that on Thursday he would be meeting with Richard from Continental to open dialog about negotiations.

Pel Henry reported that someone ran into the South Gate and damaged it.

Nick stated that he would check it tomorrow.

**Airport Operations:** Chip Groner reported that the REIL & PAPI lights are out on runway one, but the parts are now in and hopefully will be fixed soon. There is also work being done on the taxiway lights. Chip also reported that Kyle is clearing off the property on the East Side.

**Part Time Airport Manager:** Chip Groner introduced Dave Friedel as the new Part Time Airport Manager. Chip stated that Dave has extensive knowledge and experience in both Military and Civilian Airport Operations Management. A motion was made by Pel Henry to approve Dave Friedel as the new Part Time Airport Manager, second by Vince Boothe and unanimously passed.

**Fuel Farm Fence, Property Listing Update, Property Value:** Pel Henry stated that a fence will be put around the Fuel Farm with a cost of \$12,200.00 which will be shared expense with Continental Aerospace. He also stated that he has been working with Morgan Ashurst of Ashurst-Niemeyer, and they are going to put up a sign on the far west side of the property that is listed for sale. The property will be advertised for \$45,000.00 an acre. They also plan to work with the Mayor, Sherry Sullivan, to apply for grants to help develop the property.

Josh Myrick asked Pel to have Morgan Ashurst send him a copy of a proposed contract so he can have something ready to sign by the next meeting in January. Chip Groner mentioned the wetlands area on the Airport property and Josh stated that the wetlands that were purchased by HMR Engineering several years ago for mitigation credits is in the process of reverting back to the Airport and can possibly be resold for more mitigation credits to others.

**Engineer's Report:** Chip Groner stated that Jordan Stringfellow was not able to make it to the meeting but wanted to report that she has not gotten the Go Letter from the FAA for the Runway Project, and it will probably be January, 2023 before she hears anything.

Chip also stated that there has been some interest in lease spaces on the East Side located on the south side of the East-West Taxiway. He reported that the utilities could be made available, but the road access would need to be looked at for availability.

Vince Boothe stated that if the area that needs to be paved could be filled in to make the road access available, it would make that area very viable for leasing. Josh Myrick stated that before he sends the prospective tenants leases to review, the Authority would need to find out what kind of paving would be needed, the cost involved, and how will it be paid for.

Vince Boothe suggested that this be item be put on hold until Jordan can give the Authority a budget for what kind of pavement is needed and how much it would cost for the project.

**Treasurer's Report:** Amy Pearson reported that she did not have a full report available, but that the Operations Account has \$188,000.00 and the Grant Account has \$235,000.00.

Chip Groner stated that Jordan Stringfellow said that the reimbursement for the terminal design should be coming in soon.

**Legal Report:** Josh Myrick stated that he brought a resolution to be voted on for the fuel surcharge increase that will start on January 1, 2023. The increase will make the fuel surcharge ten cents per gallon. Josh stated he wanted to have the resolution for the record and be able to send notification to all tenants affected. Vince Boothe made a motion to approve the resolution for the fuel surcharge increase, second by Pel Henry and unanimously passed.

**Other Business:** Will Bruce asked the status of the AWOS. Chip Groner stated that the repairmen would be at the Airport Thursday & Friday and hopefully all repairs will be done.

**Comments from the Public:** Chip Groner expressed his thanks to Russ Kilgore for helping with the interviews for the Part Time Airport Manager and all the other help and advice he gives to the Authority Members and considers Russ a great asset to the Airport Authority.

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Chip Groner, Chairman

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Submitted by Cynthia A Boothe