

**Minutes of Fairhope Airport Authority**  
**May 9, 2023**

The Fairhope Airport Authority met May 9, 2023 at 5:00PM in the City Hall Council Chambers at 161 N Section Street.

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

The Minutes of the April 11, 2023 regular meeting were considered and approved with a motion by Will Bruce, second by Pel Henry and unanimously passed.

**Continental Aerospace Report:** Paula Hembree stated that the Airport has been very busy with lots of fuel sales and an ABS Clinic is scheduled for May 19<sup>th</sup> and should bring in about 24 Bonanzas.

**Airport Manager's Operations Report:** Dave Friedel

Wagner Hangar Positioning-Dave reported that the Wagner Hangar placement is a little out of line and asked Jordan Stringfellow to make a comment.

Jordan stated that the building is about ten degrees off from what their original layout was but does not appear to impact the lot to the east. The plan is to have White-Spinner resurvey their lot to adjust the lot line.

Chip stated that they made the building parallel to the access road and not the taxiway.

Vehicle Taxiway Usage-Dave stated that there is a problem with the taxiway on the Southwest side of the Airport being used by unauthorized vehicles and even pedestrians. He said that according to the Airport Security Plan that this type of usage is not allowed, and that the Authority needs to start enforcing this as the taxiway will be used as the runway when the Runway Project starts construction. He plans to send a copy of the Security Plan to the hangar tenants so that plans can be made to reach their hangars by another route. There is a construction road on the Southwest Side of the Airport, but it is in poor condition.

Dave stated that the Virtower has been up and running since April 26<sup>th</sup> and that so far the count has averaged about one thousand operations a week but that there has also been a lot of bad weather recently. He also stated that on May 3<sup>rd</sup> there were 433 operations just for that day. Dave thanked Vince Boothe for the High Lift equipment and Kyle Klenner for using the lift to help install the Virtower. He also fixed the bracing and gutter damage on the North Hangar and changed out the lights around the ramp areas and T-Hangars. He said that the Authority should be able to wait to change out all the lights to LEDs until a later budget cycle.

Dave stated that he met with Kathy last week and wants to get with Josh Myrick about all the leases and see if they can come up with a plan to standardize all the lease payment due dates so that they are all due at the same time. Josh agreed that was a good plan and would be glad to meet with Dave.

Dave said he wants to update and verify the insurance and all based aircraft at the Airport so that the Authority has an accurate list for reporting to the FAA which might help with funding projects.

Dave reported that the wind sensor is fixed on the AWOS.

Dave stated that he was in touch with Jason Stanley who is interested in detailing aircraft at the Airport and is obtaining liability insurance that will be needed before he can set up his business there. Josh stated that he would need a proposal from him so that a lease could be set up and the Authority would need to set the lease price and any other lease restrictions that would need to be included in the lease.

**Engineer's Report:** Jordan Stringfellow told Chip that she had reached out to her environmental group and that the cost to do a Phase I Environmental Assessment for the Southwest Side of the Airport would cost about \$5,000.00.

Update on the Runway/Lighting Project-The design is well under way, and she hopes it will be 50% done next week so that she can meet with ALDOT and the FAA to talk about the sequence of construction, getting permission to close the runway and using the taxiway as a temporary runway. She is hoping to have bids in hand by Mid-July.

Update on the Terminal Project: Everything is ready to go, and she is waiting for the FAA to approve the floor plan.

**Treasurer's Report:** Amy Pearson went over the Profit and Loss Budget Performance ending March 2023 and stated that everything looks good.


**Legal Report:** Josh stated that he has two leases in the works that he feels should be signed soon, one for Mr Cunningham and one for Mr Gillis of GOLO Aviation.

**Board Discussion/Approval Requests:** Mr Duncan Gillis of GOLO Aviation stated that he had originally been interested in building a hangar on the Southwest Side of the Airport but because of the cost involved with that site and limited access that he would now like to lease lot P27 on the East Side of the Airport. After a group discussion, Jack Burrell made a motion to have the Chairman, Chip Groner, sign a letter of intent for Mr Gillis for lot P27 expiring in 120 days and Mr Gillis will pay a \$10,000.00 deposit and provide a survey of lot P27 that includes the metes and bounds for the lot. Second by Will Bruce and unanimously passed.

**Other Business:** No Report.

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

**Adjournment:** There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:15PM.

  
Chip Groner, Chairman  
Submitted by Cynthia A Boothe