

Minutes of Fairhope Airport Authority
June 20, 2023

The Fairhope Airport Authority met June 20, 2023 at 5:00PM in the City Hall council Chambers at 161 N Section Street.

Present: Chip Groner, Chairman, Pel Henry, Don Lagarde, Don Ward and Will Bruce. Jack Burrell and Amy Pearson were absent. Cynthia A Boothe took the Minutes.

The Minutes of the May 9, 2023 regular meeting were considered and approved with a motion by Will Bruce, second by Don Ward and unanimously passed.

Continental Aerospace Report: Paula Hembree reported that the Airport is busy and that fuel sales were up for May but that is also the busiest month each year for fuel sales. She had emailed the Authority members a Fuel Flow Number Update and went over her report.

Airport Manager's Operations Report: Dave Friedel mentioned that there had been a discussion about the taxiway on the Southwest Side of the Airport being used by unauthorized vehicles. Jordan Stringfellow of Volkert Engineering suggested a plan to Dave that when the Airport is approved for the Runway Project that the Contractor will be required to build a Construction Road leading to the laydown area for the project. She is proposing that the Authority request the Contractor to leave the Construction Road after the project is ended and then the Authority can use that road as access to the Southwest Side of the Airport.

Dave reported that the Virtower has been up and running for over a month and for the month of May it recorded 6,869 operations or approximately 82,000 per year. He spoke with ALDOT and they will be updating the Airport records.

Dave stated that Taxiway Bravo, south of the apron, is in need of repair as it will be used during the Runway Project and Taxiway Alpha will be used for the temporary runway during the Runway closure. He is suggesting that Taxiway Bravo should be fixed up to use during the Runway Project and then blocked off after the project is completed.

Dave stated that he has been talking with both Josh Myrick and Kathy about the lease standardization and they are looking at making all the leases due on November 1st each year. He will be meeting with them again soon to finalize.

Dave reported that the 2023 FAA Reauthorization Bill is in Congress now and if passed as written will make more money available for General Aviation Airports for funding of construction, especially hangars.

Pel Henry stated that he wanted to thank Dave for all the extra effort he put in to help handle all the problems caused by the heavy rains yesterday on the taxiways and wanted to express his appreciation for the hard work.

Engineer's Report: Jordan Stringfellow stated that the Terminal Project bids were opened last Thursday and there were six bidders and three of them meet within the two and one half million-dollar budget. After a group discussion of the bids a motion was made by Don Ward that after legal review and the grant consultant's review that the Authority authorizes Chip Groner, Chairman, to sign the grant authorization for the amount equal to the lowest qualified bidder that meets all the requirements for the State, Federal and bid requirements, but not to exceed \$2,455,501.25. There was a second by Pel Henry and it unanimously passed.

Jordan stated that paperwork for the Runway/Lighting Project was about 90% complete and should be ready to be submitted in a few days. Part of the paperwork for the submittal is a comprehensive report to approve Taxiway Alpha as a temporary runway during the project.

Scott Peters with GOLO Adventures stated that he and Duncan Gillis are wanting to lease lot P27 and went over the plan for the hangar they are wanting to build.

Jordan went over the placement for the Cunningham Hangar, P16B. After a group discussion, a motion was made by Pel Henry to approve the Cunningham lease, second by Don Ward and unanimously passed.

Jordan mentioned that the FAA is giving a seminar for the Southeast Region in August in Atlanta, Georgia. She stated that it is a very good seminar and a good opportunity to network with FAA officials, other airport officials and managers, and engineers. If anyone has the opportunity to go, she recommends it. Chip

Groner stated that he thought that the Authority should at least send Dave Friedel to the seminar and will bring it up again at the next meeting.

Treasurer's Report: No Report.

Legal Report: No Report


Other Business: Chip Groner stated that he had a Resolution from Josh Myrick to authorize approval of matching funds in connection with the Airport Terminal Grant with 5% for Site Development cost and 24% for Construction cost and made a motion for same, second by Pel Henry and unanimously passed.

Comments from the General Public: No Report

Adjournment: There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:00PM.



Chip Groner, Chairman



Submitted by Cynthia A Boothe