

# TRIANGLE NORTH EXECUTIVE AIRPORT COMMISSION

Tuesday, April 14, 2015

## Minutes

The Triangle North Executive Airport Commission was called to order at 5:30 p.m. by Chairman John Allers on April 14, 2015 in the conference room of the Triangle North Executive Airport.

In attendance were Commissioners: John Allers, Herman Dickens, Taylor Bartholomew, Don Lancaster and Phillip Stover. Also, in attendance were Steve Merritt (Airport Manager), Clellie Allen (The Wake Weekly), Bruce Allen (Concerned Citizen), and Jason Elliott (Michael Baker Engineering). Absent from the meeting were Commissioners Guy Martin and David Bunn.

The second agenda item was review and approval of minutes from the February 10, 2015 meeting. Commissioner Dickens motioned that the minutes be approved as read, with Commissioner Bartholomew seconding. The motion passed unanimously.

The third item on the agenda was public comments. Chairman Allers called for comments from the public. Bruce Allen, 992 Mays Crossroads Rd., Franklinton, reminded the Commission that at the February meeting there was some discussion about how much money is in certain accounts for airport projects, and that there seems to be a problem with these numbers. Mr. Allen said he has been in contact with Chuck Murray about these numbers and has found that at the beginning of the year, there was \$50,750 remaining. As of 2009, when Mr. Murray started tracking airport monies, you have spent \$152,000 more than you have taken in.

The fourth item on the agenda was the airport operations update by Steve Merritt. Mr. Merritt said we dodged a bullet during last Wednesday evening's hail storm, because it came as close as just a half-mile down the road in the Royal community. We did have a little hail, but it wasn't a great deal. Only one person said he believes his plane was hit and it only has three dents.

Mr. Merritt said we are doing the right thing by keeping the fuel price a little higher than some of our neighbors. However, we are not as high as RDU. The margin it's given us is much better and there is more of a gross profit contribution.

Mr. Merritt said the gates and all the equipment are working and we just started mowing this week. Commissioner Lancaster asked about the gate at the Fayard's hangar that is open and has been open for two months. Mr. Merritt said this is true. It needs a latch on it and he will get Justin Leonard to take care of this.

The fifth item on the agenda was the budget update by Steve Merritt. Mr. Merritt said since we are spending less money on fuel, we have a better profit picture than before. We are requesting an increase in the building and grounds maintenance account because we are bound to have maintenance on the tractors.

The sixth item on the agenda was application for discretionary funds to support industrial area development by Steve Merritt. Mr. Merritt said since we don't have enough money in our control

to build out the former Anne Gordon property, we want to apply for discretionary funds to supplement that. Mr. Merritt said he has talked with four potential tenants about signing letters of intent to build. Commissioner Lancaster said if there is only \$50,750 remaining, then we don't have enough for a 10% match. Mr. Merritt said he wants to start fresh and meet with the new Finance Director (Mitchell Robinson) about the accounts. He feels that all the money hasn't been represented in the previous report and that the account is possibly named incorrectly. Chairman Allers said his understanding was that the ad valorem taxes were going to be in a separate account.

Mr. Merritt said if there aren't any objections, he will seek the letters of intent and put together a request to see if we can get in line for discretionary money over and above the \$150,000 we've been awarded. The Commission had no objections.

The seventh item on the agenda was update on taxiway construction for former Anne Gordon property by Steve Merritt. Mr. Merritt asked Jason Elliott to give an update on this item. Mr. Elliott said he met with the Public Utilities department yesterday and they are going to get started on extending the water line for the airport to tie in to it. We should have all the permits submitted by the end of the month and ready to bid by early June. Commissioner Stover said what we are lacking money for is the apron. Mr. Elliott said yes, that is correct.

In other business:

- Commissioner Lancaster said the Airport has to make sure that Bob Luddy's hangar is not blocked, so when his plane flies in, it can be put in his hangar. It was blocked recently by another plane and Commissioner Lancaster said he received a phone call about it. Mr. Luddy was threatening to move his jet and he was very upset. Mr. Merritt said he told Patrick Allen (Airport employee) in the future, you can't go home without making sure this is taken care of. Commissioner Lancaster said this is not the first time this has happened, so this needs to be managed by Mr. Merritt. Commissioner Dickens said he doesn't know how we were going to be able to stop this without some kind of fine being levied. Mr. Merritt said he has talked with Dario Laverde (works for the Fayards) about the last incident and Mr. Laverde said he got involved in doing something else and just forgot to the move plane. Mr. Merritt said he will talk with Pete Tomlinson to see if we can levy some kind of fine to prevent this from happening in the future.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:00 p.m.