

TRIANGLE NORTH EXECUTIVE AIRPORT COMMISSION

Tuesday, December 13, 2016

Minutes

The Triangle North Executive Airport Commission was called to order at 5:30 p.m. by Chairman John Allers on December 13, 2016 in the conference room of the Triangle North Executive Airport.

In attendance were Commissioners: John Allers, Don Lancaster, Phillip Stover, and Taylor Bartholomew. Also, in attendance were Steve Merritt (Airport Manager) and Jim Farthing (Michael Baker Engineering). Absent from the meeting: Commissioners Guy Martin, Herman Dickens, and David Bunn.

The second agenda item was review and approval of minutes from the October 11, 2016 meeting. Commissioner Bartholomew motioned that the minutes be approved as read, with Commissioner Stover seconding. The motion passed unanimously.

The third item on the agenda was public comments. Chairman Allers called for comments from the public. There were no public comments at this time.

The fourth item on the agenda was election of officers. Commissioner Bartholomew made the motion that the officers remain the same, with John Allers as Chairman and Phillip Stover as Vice Chairman. Commissioner Lancaster seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

The fifth item on the agenda was the airport operations update by Steve Merritt. Mr. Merritt said everything is working fine, except for the radio communications outlet. It's just worthless. They wanted to charge us \$4,000 to fix it, so it's still sitting at the repair station, and we're trying to figure out what to do about it. We had some runway lights knocked over, but no one has admitted it. Mr. Merritt said he feels fuel prices may go up soon.

Mr. Merritt said Jeff Lewis, Director of Emergency Services, wants to put a shelter at the airport for an ambulance. This will be behind the Total Flight Solutions big hangar. The EMS were using the lobby area of Total Flight Solutions, but we moved them to the back.

Mr. Merritt said the fuel tanks have some rust on them, so we're going to have airport employee Dale Massey paint them.

Commissioner Lancaster asked if Brett James was current on his account. Mr. Merritt said yes, Mr. James is up-to-date, and he has three months left.

The sixth item on the agenda was the budget update by Steve Merritt. Mr. Merritt said we are doing very well, with a \$190,000 operating profit for the first five months. We sold \$40,000 worth of fuel for one month, so we backed out roughly \$2,800 for the sales tax. Instead of sending the Department of Revenue the sales tax amount, Finance sent the entire \$40,000. They eventually did get it back from the DOR.

Commissioner Stover asked have we given up on getting an RCO. Mr. Merritt said he would like to have it, but whoever was in charge at that time has left and the ball has been dropped. The people in Atlanta want us to create some type of certificate of need. The thing is, they've got a regulation that says they put these around Class B and not Class C airports. Commissioner Stover said maybe we need to call one of our representatives. Mr. Merritt said we want it and we'll pay for it. The application needs to be redone and we need somebody to support it.

The seventh item on the agenda was application for discretionary funds to support industrial area development by Steve Merritt. Mr. Merritt said the project is done. There are two items left, which we won't get until there's a site plan for the hangars, and that's electricity and sewer. Jim Farthing said we were supposed to get a new estimate, and we will follow up on that.

Mr. Merritt said Total Flight Solutions wants a back door on their hangar, and our original plans didn't allow enough room for the backside ramp. We have about \$200,000 available now, and we will be requesting an additional \$200,000 to complete this phase of the project.

The eighth item on the agenda was update on taxiway construction for former Anne Gordon property by Steve Merritt. Mr. Merritt said this is done. We have one sign that hasn't been put in yet. Jim Farthing said he would make a call about that and find out what the status is.

In other business:

- Steve Merritt said he and the Economic Development office are working closely with an industrial development prospect. They want to build a facility in the Triangle North Franklin Business Park, and use the airport facilities. We met with them two weeks ago and I'm going to meet with them again in two more weeks. We've got to get some more information from them as to exactly what they want. Since the FAA doesn't like it when someone wants to use access to an airport, when they aren't actually located on the airport property, we are going to have to do some negotiating. Their manufacturing building would be located in TNF and their hangar would be on airport grounds.
- Steve Merritt said at the last meeting, he mentioned that we were #3 on a list of 25 projects for CAMPO for funding from the NCDOT. The request under consideration is \$11,000,000 for construction of the runway extension of 1,000 feet. There will be public comment in January, with approval sometime in June. This is 90% funding, and we are very optimistic we will be awarded the funds.
- The next meeting is February 14, 2017 at 5:30 p.m.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:05 p.m.