

MINUTES
SOUTH CAROLINA AERONAUTICS COMMISSION
February 11, 2015
4:30 p.m. Wild Dunes, Isle of Palms, South Carolina

Commission Members in Attendance

Delphin A. Gantt, Jr., Chairman at-Large
George P. Waters, District 1
John R. Hunt, M.D., District 3
Matthew J. Kappel, Vice-Chairman, District, 4
Carroll Joye, District 6
Gerald E. Harmon, M.D., District 7

Aeronautics Staff in Attendance

James D. Stephens, Executive Director
Paul G. Werts, Program Manager
Ericka Thomas, Recording Secretary

Commission Member(s) Absent

Frank W. Young, M.D., District 2
William VanAntwerp, District 5

Visitors:

Bud Coward
Merrill Donaho
Dr. Richard Figliola, Clemson University
John Ferguson, Florence Regional Airport

Visitors (Cont'd)

John Hodge, John Hodge and Associates
Don Purcell, South Carolina Aviation Association (SCAA)
Randy Rentz, Oconee County Regional Airport
John Walsh, Michael Baker International

Welcome & Call to Order

Chairman Gantt called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m. and announced a quorum in attendance. He welcomed everyone and *Commissioner Joye* gave the invocation. Mr. James Stephens introduced the visitors.

Approval of Minutes

Chairman Gantt presented the minutes of the November 13, 2014 Commission meeting and asked if anyone had any edits or corrections. Since none were forthcoming, the minutes were approved as written.

Legislative Update

Mr. Stephens presented the South Carolina Aeronautics Commission (SCAC) Legislative Update and reported that the House Ways & Means budget presentation was heard on January 22, 2015, and that there has been an amendment to change proviso 117.105, which would allow state aircraft to be used for athletic recruiting if the costs of flights are reimbursed to the Commission. Mr. Stephens stated that the schedule for the Senate Finance sub-committee hearing is at 10 a.m. on Wednesday March 18, 2015. Mr. Stephens will still be working to have a new bill introduced to amendment Title 55, Section 55-5-280(B) which would direct revenue from the Airline Property Tax (Section 12-37-2410) to the State Aviation Fund.

Mr. Don Purcell of the South Carolina Aviation Association (SCAA) provided an update on the legislative recommendation that the SCAA has sponsored to amend S.C. Code Section 13-26-2120(52) to remove the limitation of the current sales tax exemption, and to offer that exemption to all aircraft.

Mr. Stephens announced that he would be attending the 2015 NASAO Legislative Conference in Washington D.C. February 24th through February 27th, 2015.

Financial, Budget, & Executive Director's Reports

Mr. Stephens presented the financials as of December 31, 2014 showing the total Operating results of \$640,611 leaving a cash balance of \$1,610,604. The State Aviation Fund received \$449,084.81 in November and December of, bringing the available State Aviation Fund balance to \$4,539,419.39. As of December 31, 2014 the total commitments and expenditures from the State Aviation Fund were \$3,022,246.18 leaving \$339,773.48 cash available for grants and projects.

Mr. Stephens presented the Director's Report and asked for any questions or discussions. Mr. Stephens participated in meeting with the South Carolina Aviation Association annual planning meeting, as well as the National Disaster Emergency Management planning meeting the past several months. In addition, Mr. Stephens met with Senator Paul Campbell and Representative Brian White to discuss SCAA's Aircraft Parts Sales Tax Exemption request, and the agencies budgetary funding request.

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Projects for Consideration

STATE GRANT CONSIDERATION

AIRPORT	PROJECT DESCRIPTION	FAA GRANT	LOCAL SHARE	STATE SHARE	TOTAL PROJECT COST
Greenville Downtown	Retrofit and replace incandescent lighting fixtures in terminal building and replace airfield sodium vapor security light fixtures using low energy LED fixtures.		\$26,654	\$26,654	\$53,309
Rock Hill - York County	Airport layout plan update	\$149,913	\$8,329	\$8,328	\$166,570
Williamsburg County	Engineering and administration services including paving and fencing surrounding a 10 unit T-Hangar	\$612,085	\$60,725	\$9,605	\$702,415
Celebrate Freedom Foundation	2015 Aviation Summer Camp Program			\$70,000	\$70,000
GRAND TOTAL		\$781,998	\$95,708	\$114,587	\$992,294

The SCAC staff recommends approval on three projects listed above. *Chairman Gantt* made a Motion to approve funding for the three projects as presented, *Commissioner Waters* seconded, and after discussion, all approved.

Mr. Stephens presented the fourth project – Celebrate Freedom Foundation (CFF). This will be the fourth year for funding the forty-eight student Aviation Science Summer Camp and has presented the suggestion to CFF the need for additional sponsors. *Chairman Gantt* made a Motion to approve funding for the project as presented, *Commissioner Hunt* seconded, and after discussion, all approved.

Mr. Stephens discussed further a vision for funding educational programs and reaching out to other educational programs within the state to promote aviation. He stated that he felt it is important to touch as many students as possible in many different settings to insure the future of aviation.

Mr. Werts than gave the Commission updates on current projects at airports within the state.

District Reports

Commissioner Waters – Charleston International Airport is currently going through changes and has asked for continuous support. He also announced that Porter Airlines now offers flights to Canada from Charleston.

Commissioner Hunt – Visited Pickens, Oconee, Greenwood, and Anderson. Everyone is doing a fantastic job. While on his visit to Charleston, he attended Boeing's Power Plant dedication. The new Boeing addition will employ approximately one thousand eight hundred engineers within the next year. In closing, he reminded everyone that the Southeast Aviation Expo will be moving to Greenwood (GRD) in 2015.

Commissioner Kappel – No Report

Commissioner Joye – No Report

Commissioner Harmon – Complemented the Florence Airport and Chuck Henderson for providing excellent service.

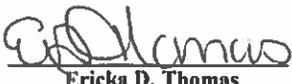
New/Other Business

Chairman Gantt announced the appointment of District Two Commissioner – Ira E. (Bud) Coward and welcomed him to the Commission.

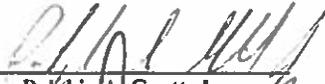
Adjournment

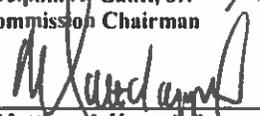
There being no further business; *Chairman Gantt* moved the meeting be adjourned, *Commissioner Kappel* seconded, and all approved.


 Gerald E. Harmon, M.D.
 Commission Secretary


 Ericka D. Thomas
 Commission Recording Secretary

April 16, 2015 Date


 Delfin A. Gantt, Jr.
 Commission Chairman


 Matthew J. Kappel, Esq.
 Commission Vice-Chairman

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