

**MINUTES**  
**SOUTH CAROLINA AERONAUTICS COMMISSION**  
**2553 Airport Blvd**  
**West Columbia, South Carolina 29170**  
**June 27, 2019**

**Commission Members in Attendance**

Devon A "Al" Frances, District 1  
David Anderson, District 2  
Skeets Cooper, District 3  
Darwin Simpson, District 4  
Doug Barnes, District 5  
Marco Cavazzoni, District 6  
Chris Bethea, District 7

**Aeronautics Staff in Attendance**

James Stephens, Executive Director  
Ericka Thomas, Commission Secretary  
Gary Siegfried, Program Manager  
Melody Mikell, Finance Director  
Tim Truemper, Chief Pilot

**Visitors**

Bud Coward  
Katie Koon, South Carolina Aviation Association  
Dan Stoddard, Prime Engineering

**Absent Commission Members**

Delphin A. Gantt, Jr., Chairman

**Welcome & Call to Order**

Due to the absence of Chairman Gantt, the Commissioners in attendance voted for Commissioner Barnes to chair the meeting. Commissioner Barnes called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m., welcomed everyone, announced a quorum in attendance, and Commissioner Bethea gave the invocation.

**Approval of Minutes**

Commissioner Barnes presented the minutes of the May 2, 2019 Commission meeting and asked if anyone had any edits or corrections. Since none were forthcoming, the minutes were approved as written.

**Financial, Budget, & Executive Director's Reports**

Mr. Stephens presented the Operating and State Aviation Fund financials as of March 30, 2019. Mr. Stephens reported that the State Aviation Fund received an additional \$534,041.10 from aircraft fuel sales, bringing the annual State Aviation Fund FY18-19 fuel sales tax revenue to \$2,690,520.50. This amount along with the \$500,000 general fund recurring appropriation, the airline property tax of \$2,211,900.68 and a refund of prior year expense/insurance claims of \$41,984.76 brought the year to date total for the State Aviation Fund revenue to \$11,561,462.12.

Mr. Stephens then presented the FY 2019-2020 budget proposal based upon June 13, 2019 financials, showing an estimated beginning balance of the State Aviation Fund of \$7,883,346.46, estimated fuel sales tax of \$2,500,000, the general recurring appropriation of \$500,000, and an Airline Property Tax estimate of \$2,200,000 creating an estimated revenue of \$13,083,346.46 minus prior year commitments of \$3,901,550.16, leaving an anticipated budget of \$9,181,796.30 to be available for approved grants and projects.

Mr. Stephens gave the Executive Director's Report which outlined the events that have taken place since the last Commission Meeting. During the past month, Mr. Stephens has continued to participate in planning sessions for the 2020 NASAO Conference which will be held in Greenville, South Carolina. He has continued to meet with various airports and their Commissioners to discuss their futures as well as how they could participate in funding programs. Mr. Stephens discussed his last formal testimony to the House Legislative Oversight Sub-committee and what will be the possible outcome and suggestions.

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**Airport Development**

Mr. Siegfried presented the Airport Development report to the Commission. Since the last Commission meeting the Airport Development department been participating in various pavement maintenance projects in Hampton County, Charleston Executive, Mt. Pleasant, Rock Hill, and Greenville Downtown. Solicitations for maintenance programs are being conducted for the Pavement Sealer contract renewal, the Herbicide and Fire Ant control, and the Airfield Electrical on Call Services.

**Grants for Consideration**

1. Greenville Downtown Airport (GMU)                      **Requested Amount: \$48,071**  
The Greenville Airport Commission has requested a State/Local grant to assist with improvements in public areas of the existing terminal building. These improvements include removal of carpet and replacement with vinyl tile, and the removal of three existing airlock doors being replaced with electronic sliding doors.
  
2. Williamsburg County School District                      **Requested Amount: \$96,643**  
The Williamsburg County School District is implementing an Aerospace Engineering course for the upcoming school year and has requested a grant to assist with the purchase of lab equipment and education supplies.

After much discussion the Commission agreed to fund \$76,800 for the supplies with the expectation that the Williamsburg County School District would supply the Project Lead the Way funding requirements.

The total amount of projects to be considered is \$124,871. Commissioner Cooper made the motion to approve as presented, Commissioner Bethea seconded, and all approved as presented.

**District Reports**

**Commissioner Francis** – Attended the Illegal Charter meeting June 18-19. Commissioner Francis gave his resignation to the Commission due to personal reasons and thanked the Commission for having him a part of the successful aviation community.

**Commissioner Anderson** – Introduced himself and is looking forward in participating with the Commission.

**Commissioner Cooper** – The new Anderson Terminal building is well underway. The Greenwood County Airport will be having a 2020 Airshow and Expo. Announced that Mr. Sammy Wham of the Laurens County Airport Commission will be retiring and will be missed. Pickens County Airport is completing four hangars, and five t-hangars. The new Newberry terminal building is still under construction.

**Commissioner Simpson** – GSP has an enormous amount of construction taking place. Spartanburg is in the final stages of completing their construction projects and have cleared all the obstructions.

**Commissioner Barnes** – Attend the Illegal Charter meeting June 18-19 in North Charleston. Encouraged people to attend the upcoming Aviation Week.

**Commissioner Cavazzoni** – Participated in the Illegal Charter meeting in North Charleston, June 18-19.

**Commissioner Bethea** – Dillion County has received funding in the new 2019-2020 budget to begin construction projects. Attended the Hampton County Watermelon Festival with Commissioner Cooper with six airplanes in attendance.

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**New/Other Business**

Mr. Stephens encouraged everyone to participate with Aviation Week that is coming up on August 18 – 24.

August 18<sup>th</sup> – Berkeley County Airport, Breakfast Club  
August 19<sup>th</sup> – Fairfield County Airport, S & S Aviation Discovery Flights  
August 20<sup>th</sup> – Lowcountry Regional Airport, Airport Open House  
August 21<sup>st</sup> – Orangeburg Municipal Airport, Airport Showcase  
Rock-Hill/York County Airport, Fly a Reporter  
August 22<sup>nd</sup> – Spartanburg Downtown Memorial, Airport Showcase  
August 23<sup>rd</sup> – Conway-Horry county Airport, Luncheon  
August 24<sup>th</sup> – Fairfield County Airport, Boy Scout Event  
Hampton County Airport, Youth Event

**Executive Session**

Commissioner Barnes made a Motion that the Commission go into Executive Session. Commissioner Cooper seconded, and all approved. Following the Executive Session, the Commission returned to open session at 2:05 p.m. and announced that no action was taken.

**Adjournment**

There being no further business, Commissioner Barnes moved that the meeting be adjourned, Commissioner Bethea seconded, and all approved.

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Doug Barnes

Commissioner District 5

  
Ericka D. Thomas  
Commission Secretary

August 15, 2019 Date

*Aeronautics Seal*