

# MINUTES

## SOUTH CAROLINA AERONAUTICS COMMISSION

May 17, 2022

### Commission Members in Attendance

Skeets Cooper, District 3  
Lara Kaufmann, District 4  
Doug Barnes, Vice Chairman/District  
Marco Cavazzoni, District 6  
Chris Bethea, District 7

### Aeronautics Staff in Attendance

James Stephens, Executive Director  
Ericka Thomas, Commission Secretary  
Gary Siegfried, Program Manager

### Absent

Delphin A. Gantt, Jr., Chairman  
Anne Esposito, District 1  
David Anderson, District 2

### Visitors

Bud Coward, Commissioner Emeritus  
Elliott Summey – Charleston International Executive Director  
Hernan Peña – Charleston International Deputy Executive Director  
Spencer Pryor - Charleston International Deputy Executive Director  
Melanie Friscoe, SCAA  
David McMahon, Federal Security Director, TSA  
C.J. Will – Charleston Southern University, Department of Aeronautics

### Welcome & Call to Order

Vice Chairman 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

Vice Chairman Barnes presented the minutes of the March 15, 2022 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 April 30, 2022. Stephens quickly reported the operating budget and stated that income was above projections for that point in the year, and that expenses were right on track for the time passed. Stephens then presented the financials for the State Aviation Fund, reporting a beginning balance of \$12,114,143.17. This balance along with fuel sales tax revenues of \$4,771,015.50, airline property tax revenues of \$3,377,276.23, a general fund recurring appropriation of \$500,000, and a refund of prior year expense & miscellaneous revenue of \$32,284.03 brought total available funds for airport projects to \$20,794,718.93. After considering budgeted/committed items of \$8,885,295.77 the remaining \$11,909,423.16 is available for new grants.

Mr. Stephens presented the proposed State Aviation Fund budget for FY 2022-2023. The State Aviation Fund will have an anticipated \$12,500,000 beginning balance with projected revenues of \$4,500,000 from fuel taxes, a general fund recurring appropriation of \$500,000, and an estimated airline property tax of \$4,500,000. The prior year commitments of \$8,244,216.65 with the projected revenues, leaves a total of uncommitted funds of \$17,744,216.65 for airport maintenance services, administrative support services, the commercial airport entitlement program, and state grants. Commissioner Cavazzoni made the Motion to approve the proposed FY 2022-2023 budget as presented, Commissioner Bethea seconded, and after discussions, all approved

Mr. Stephens presented the Executive Director's report by discussing events that have taken place during the past several months. Mr. Stephens has attended events for the Bamberg County Airport Field dedication and the Citadel Legislative dinner. In addition, Mr. Stephens has continued conversations with John Hodge of Hodge and Associates, LLC concerning land use and regulatory development.

Stephens then presented the South Carolina Aviation Association Grant requested of \$55,422 to be used for aviation support within the state of South Carolina, and includes the Palmetto Aviation Quarterly Newsletter, SC Aviation Safety Committee, Aviation Week, and an Airport Promotion Video. Commissioner Cavazzoni made a motion to

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approve the above requests as written. Commissioner Cooper seconded, and after some discussion, the grant was approved unanimously.

#### Airport Development

Mr. Siegfried presented the Airport Development Report and the Grants for Consideration to the Commission. Prior to presenting the grants for consideration, Mr. Siegfried discussed the Pavement Condition Index (PCI) Program with Phase I concluding, and the Statewide Exhibit A Update Project. For the FOD Razor Program, forty-three units have been delivered as of date with ten airports not requesting a device.

#### Grants for Consideration

##### **Barnwell County Airport – Runway 17/35 Lighting and Signage (construction)**

The Barnwell County Airport is requesting assistance to rehabilitate the Runway 17/35 lighting and signage system. The total cost of the project is \$1,015,853 funded at 90% FAA/5% State/5% Local.

Amount of grant funding requested is \$50,792

Commissioner Cavazzoni made a motion to approve the above requests as written. Commissioner Cooper seconded, and after some discussion, the grant was approved unanimously

##### **Beaufort Executive Airport – Runway 7/25 Rehabilitation (design and bidding)**

The Beaufort Executive Airport is requesting assistance to rehabilitate Runway 7/25. The pavement condition index for runway 7/25 is 56 which indicates that rehabilitation is warranted. The total cost of the project is \$289,907.30 funded at 90% FAA/5% State/5% Local.

Amount of grant funding requested is \$14,495

Commissioner Cavazzoni made a motion to approve the above requests as written. Commissioner Cooper seconded, and after some discussion, the grant was approved unanimously

##### **Cheraw Municipal Airport – Runway 8/26 Rehabilitation (design and bidding)**

The Cheraw Municipal Airport is requesting assistance to rehabilitate Runway 8/26. The pavement condition index for runway 7/25 is 41-55 which indicates that major rehabilitation is warranted. The total cost of the project is \$208,527.30 funded at 90% FAA/5% State/5% Local.

Amount of grant funding requested is \$10,426

Commissioner Bethea made a motion to approve the above requests as written. Commissioner Cavazzoni seconded, and after some discussion, the grant was approved unanimously

##### **Georgetown County Airport – Runway 11/29 Reconstruction (design and bidding)**

The Georgetown County Airport is requesting assistance to reconstruct Runway 11/29. The pavement condition index for runway 11/29 is 19 which indicates that the pavement has failed, and reconstruction is warranted. The total cost of the project is \$269,880 funded at 90% State/10% Local.

Amount of grant funding requested is \$242,892

Commissioner Bethea made a motion to approve the above requests as written. Commissioner Cooper seconded, and after some discussion, the grant was approved unanimously

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#### **Greenwood County Airport – Terminal Renovation (construction)**

The Greenwood County Airport is requesting assistance to renovate the terminal building. The airport was constructed in 1994 and this is the first renovation work in the terminal since original construction. The total cost of the renovation is \$173,143 funded at 60% State/40% Local.

Amount of grant funding requested is \$103,886

Commissioner Cooper made a motion to approve the above requests as written. Commissioner Cavazzoni seconded, and after some discussion, the grant was approved unanimously.

#### **Hartsville Regional Airport – Runway 3/21 Rehabilitation (design and bidding)**

The Hartsville Regional Airport is requesting assistance to rehabilitate Runway 3/21. The pavement condition index for runway 3/21 is 52-61 which indicates that major rehabilitation is warranted. The total cost of the project is \$260,648.05 funded at 90% FAA/5% State/5% Local.

Amount of grant funding requested is \$13,032

Commissioner Cooper made a motion to approve the above requests as written. Commissioner Cavazzoni seconded, and after some discussion, the grant was approved unanimously.

#### **Lee County Airport – Perimeter Security/Wildlife Fencing (design and bidding)**

The Lee County Airport is requesting assistance to design a perimeter fence to enhance security and safety. The project was evaluated by a wildlife specialist and determined to be warranted. The total cost of the project is \$45,596 funded at 90% FAA/5% State/5% Local.

Amount of grant funding requested is \$2,280

Commissioner Cooper made a motion to approve the above requests as written. Commissioner Bethea seconded, and after some discussion, the grant was approved unanimously.

#### **Marion County Airport – Runway 4/22 Rehabilitation (construction)**

The Marion County Airport is requesting assistance to rehabilitate Runway 4/22. The pavement condition index for runway 4/22 is 61 which indicates that rehabilitation is warranted. The total cost of the project is \$5,834,571 funded at 90% FAA/5% State/5% Local.

Amount of grant funding requested is \$291,728

Commissioner Bethea made a motion to approve the above requests as written. Commissioner Cooper seconded, and after some discussion, the grant was approved unanimously.

#### **Marlboro County Jetport – Northern Parallel Taxiway Rehabilitation (design and bidding)**

The Marlboro County Jetport is requesting assistance to rehabilitate the northern parallel taxiway. The pavement condition index for this taxiway 65 which indicates that rehabilitation is warranted. The total cost of the project is \$127,967 funded at 90% FAA/5% State/5% Local.

Amount of grant funding requested is \$6,398

Commissioner Bethea made a motion to approve the above requests as written. Commissioner Cooper seconded, and after some discussion, the grant was approved unanimously.

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#### **Oconee County Airport – Runway 7/25 Emergency Runway Repair (Phase 3)**

The Oconee County Airport is requesting assistance for an emergency repair to Runway 7/25. The runway is scheduled for reconstruction in FY 23, but this repair was necessary to keep the runway open and safe until construction can be started later this summer.

The total cost of the project is \$18,000 funded at 75% State/25% Local.

Amount of grant funding requested is \$13,500

Commissioner Cooper made a motion to approve the above requests as written. Commissioner Betha seconded, and after some discussion, the grant was approved unanimously

#### **Pageland Airport – Terminal Apron (construction)**

The Pageland Airport is requesting assistance to construct a terminal apron. The Pageland Airport has very limited space for parking aircraft. This new apron will help ease this issue which was exacerbated by the loss of 4 tie down spaces that were located in the Runway 04/26 departure surface

The total cost of the project is \$358,018 funded at 90% FAA/5% State/5% Local.

Amount of grant funding requested is \$17,901.

Commissioner Bethea made a motion to approve the above requests as written. Commissioner Cooper seconded, and after some discussion, the grant was approved unanimously

#### **Rock Hill – York County Airport – Taxiway J Rehabilitation (design and bidding)**

The Rock Hill – York County Airport is requesting assistance to rehabilitate taxiway J. The pavement condition index for this taxiway 57 which indicates that rehabilitation is warranted.

The total cost of the project is \$109,976 funded at 90% FAA/5% State/5% Local.

Amount of grant funding requested is \$5,499

Commissioner Cooper made a motion to approve the above requests as written. Commissioner Betha seconded, and after some discussion, the grant was approved unanimously

**Total amount requested for all new grants is \$772,829**

#### **Flight Report**

Chief Pilot Tim Truemper presented the flight reports, and stated that he had been attending virtual on NBAA's Safety Management Systems program. He also reported that Fore Flight is currently being upgraded in order for all SCAC pilots to have access, and he reported that flights are increasing and utilization appears to be recovering from the impacts of COVID.

#### **District Reports**

*Commissioner Cooper* – Reported that McCormick County has recently hired MaesAwyr, LLC to begin looking at the McCormick County airport potential improvements for future individuals and business to use the airport.

*Commissioner Kaufmann* – Reported that traffic at the Greenville Spartanburg International Airport has increased by approximately 90 % and cargo increasing 10% since 2019.

*Vice Chairman Barnes* – Reported that the Lancaster Airport Advisory Committee met on May 5, 2022. Robert Kraft was in attendance, who client list included Gulfstream Aerospace Corporation.

*Commissioner Cavazzoni* – Reported that all the airports in District Six are doing good.

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*Commissioner Bethea* – Reported that the second runway is open at Georgetown and commented on the article by SCAA on the growth of the Georgetown Airport.

**New Business**

Elliott Summey welcomed everyone to the Charleston International Airport and invited all to a tour of the airport.

C.J. Will of the Charleston Southern University (CSU), Department of Aeronautics gave a short presentation of how CSU's aviation program is continuing to grow, now offering three-degree programs. In 2022 there have been approximately 100 applicants into the different programs and will be starting an internship program at the Berkeley County Airport.

David McMahon, Federal Security Director, TSA reported that in less than one year, the Real ID program will be in full effect and November 19<sup>th</sup> is TSA Appreciation Day.

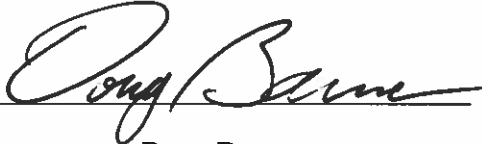
**Next Meeting Date**

The next Commission Meeting will be held on July 19, 2022.

**Adjournment**

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

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**Doug Barnes**  
**Commission Vice Chairman**

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**Ericka D. Thomas**  
**Commission Secretary**

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9/27/22

**Date**