

MINUTES

SOUTH CAROLINA AERONAUTICS COMMISSION

July 19, 2022

Commission Members in Attendance

Anne Esposito, District 1
David Anderson, District 2
Skeets Cooper, District 3
Doug Barnes, Vice Chairman/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
Tim Truemper, Chief Pilot
Austin Wagler, Associate Engineer
Melody Mikell, Finance Director

Absent

Delphin A. Gantt, Jr., Chairman
Lara Kaufmann, District 4

Visitors

Bud Coward, Commissioner Emeritus
Rose Dobson Elliott – Hampton County Administrator
Dobie Hiers – Hampton County Airport Manager
Johnathan Bryan Sumter County Attorney
Joseph Atherton – GUNS Garin Memorial Foundation
Kelly Garin – GUNS Garin Memorial Foundation
Zachary Thompson – GUNS Garin Memorial Foundation
Wayne Corley, PE – MaesAwyr, LLC

Lauren Luneckas - Children's Museum of the Upstate
Bethany Kern – Children's Museum of the Upstate
John Hanna – Alleghany County Airport
Mark Warner – McCormick County
John Hodge – Hodge & Associates, LLC
Ken Holt – Holt Consulting
Ryan Hounshell, PE – Holt Consulting
Tim Fredlund, PE – MaesAwyr, LLC

Welcome & Call to Order

Commissioner Bethea called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m., welcomed everyone, announced a quorum in attendance, and Commissioner Cooper gave the invocation.

Approval of Minutes

Commissioner Bethea presented the minutes of the June 21, 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 May 31, 2022. Stephens 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 \$5,546,482.41, 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 \$21,570,185.84. After considering budgeted/committed items of \$9,658,125.77 the remaining \$11,912,060.07 is available for new grants.

Stephens then presented two educational grants for consideration. 1) GUNS Garin Memorial Foundation grant request of \$87,000 to be used for the continuing website development, CRM software integration, video & direct mail fulfillment, content creation, communications strategy team, and account development & marketing. Commissioner Cooper made a motion to approve the above requests as written. Commissioner Anderson seconded, and after some discussion, the grant was approved unanimously. 2) The Children's Museum of the Upstate grant request of \$355,000 to be used for the creation of "Wings in the Air" aviation exhibition. The creation will include the exhibit design/fabrication, delivery & installation, building uplift, contingency, and maintenance. Commissioner Esposito made a motion to approve the above requests as written. Commissioner Anderson seconded, and after some discussion, the grant was approved unanimously.

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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 his involvement with the Citadel. Thanked Austin Wagler on getting airports plans scanned on the main server, and David Smith for the continuous work on upgrading the Clue Tool.

Grants for Consideration

Sumter Airport – Apron Reconstruction Project (construction)

Sumter County intends to reconstruct part of their existing asphalt apron with new concrete pavement (see Attachment A). The apron currently serves several jet aircraft that use Sumter as their home airport. It is anticipated that additional traffic may be added as hangars are built and the airport continues to grow. In addition, reconstructing the apron will enhance the longevity of the airfield pavement and reduce the potential for Foreign Object Debris (FOD) from deteriorating pavement.

The total cost the of the project is \$4,446,217 and will be funded with two separate SCAC grants.

The first will be funded at 90% FAA/5% State/5% Local with SCAC participation at \$124,722.

The second grant will fund be funded at 60% State/40% Local with SCAC participation at \$1,171,064.

Amount of grant funding requested is \$1,295,786

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

Anderson Regional Airport – Runway 17/35 Rehabilitation (preliminary design)

Anderson County intends to rehabilitate or reconstruct runway 17-35 under the State runway program (see Attachment B). The runway is approximately 5,000' long and 100' wide. Based on record information, the runway pavement was originally constructed around 1966, and it does not appear any major rehabilitative efforts have occurred since that time. According to the 2016 Pavement Condition Index (PCI) Study, the 2021 PCI value was projected to be 33, which classifies the pavement as being in very poor condition and warrants reconstruction. This initial phase of the project consists of preliminary design effort which will include geotechnical investigation, topographic survey, geometric layout and pavement design which will help in deciding the recommended rehabilitation method and the associated construction cost estimate. Final design will be performed under a later grant.

The total cost of the project is \$109,978 funded at 90% State/10% Local.

Amount of grant funding requested is \$98,980

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

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Williamsburg Regional Airport – Hangar and Apron Development Project (construction)

Williamsburg County intends to construct 3 hangar buildings with apron access (see Attachment C). Due to a demand for hangar space at airport, the County intends to add more hangars southeast of the terminal building. The structures will consist of several box hangars constructed as one unit. Each hangar unit will be 55' long x 58' wide. Construction will also include an associated asphalt apron to provide access to and from the new hangars.

The total cost of the project is \$1,135,554. Eligible portions of the work will be funded at 90% FAA/5% State/5% Local.

Amount of grant funding requested is \$7,395

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

Allendale County Airport – Apron Reconstruction Project

Allendale County intends to reconstruct their existing asphalt apron and taxilanes with new asphalt pavement (see Attachment D). As shown in the 2016 Pavement Condition Index (PCI) Study completed by SCAC, the projected 2021 PCI values of the apron/taxilanes are approximately 57, which classifies the pavement as being in fair condition and warrants rehabilitation. The project will also include installing new drainage culvert and trench drain to correct existing drainage issues. Additional project work will include new pavement markings and tie-downs to accommodate additional aircraft.

The total cost of the project is \$1,617,333 funded at 90% FAA/5% State/5% Local.

Amount of grant funding requested is \$80,867

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

Santee Cooper Regional Airport – Obstruction Clearing

This project will consist of a vegetative management study/lidar survey, and obstruction clearing to meet FAA standards and enhance safety at the airport. The goal of this project is to have no obstructions penetrating the TERPS Threshold Siting Surface (20:1) (CAT 4) for the Runway 20 approach and TERPS Threshold Siting Surface (20:1) (CAT 2) for the Runway 2 approach. The objective is to clear trees that penetrate the surfaces (approximately 20 trees) and trees that are expected to penetrate the surfaces within the next 1 to 5 years (approximately 65 trees).

The total cost of the project is \$235,934 funded at 90% FAA/5% State/5% Local.

Amount of grant funding requested is \$11,797

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

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Lancaster County Airport – New Lighting Vault (construction)

The airfield lighting regulators and associated equipment are currently located inside one of the hangars on the airfield. This is an unsafe condition, as employees working in the hangar are in constant close proximity to the unprotected high-voltage equipment. This project proposes to construct a new precast 12'x20' lighting vault (see Attachment E) near the proposed new terminal building, as well as to relocate equipment from the old vault and replace aged out electrical components. The project also includes an emergency generator to power airfield lights and NAVAIDS during electrical outages. The grant includes the AIP eligible portion of the generator (35% of total generator cost). It also includes construction phase professional services for office administration, inspection and quality assurance testing.

The total cost of the project is \$571,440 funded at 90% FAA/5% State/5% Local.

Amount of grant funding requested is \$28,572

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

Lancaster County Airport – New Terminal Building (construction)

The current 2,292 square foot terminal building was constructed over 40 years ago and is outdated, undersized and unequipped for both existing and future airport demands. The new terminal building (see Attachment E) will have 5,539 square feet of heated space, 288 square feet of unheated mechanical/entry area, and 2,243 square feet of covered porches and porte-cochere. Bids were opened on April 21, 2022 and the total price of the terminal building is \$2,750,000, meaning the \$500,000.00 grant amount requested is 18.2 percent of the total bid price from Hayco Construction for the building.

Amount of grant funding requested is \$500,000

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

Georgetown County Airport – Hangar Taxilane and Hangar Sitework (design, permitting and bidding)

The Georgetown County Airport is requesting assistance to design a taxilane rehabilitation and hangar sitework (see Attachment F) associated with a new development consisting of three (3), 30,000 square foot hangars (Sherpa development) to be constructed on the east side of the airport.

The total cost of the project is \$301,319 funded at 60% State/40% Local.

Amount of grant funding requested is \$180,791

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

Hampton County Airport – Obstruction Removal (construction)

The Hampton County Airport is requesting assistance to remove trees from the approach to 29 at the airport.

The total cost of the project is \$13,600 funded at 80% State/20% Local.

Amount of grant funding requested is \$10,880

Commissioner Esposito 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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Hampton County Airport – NPIAS Justification Analysis

The Hampton County Airport has made a significant investment in hangars and other airport infrastructure and now has greater than ten (10) based aircraft at the airport. This is one of the essential FAA requirements for inclusion of an airport into the National Plan of Integrated Airports System (NPIAS) which makes an airport eligible for FAA funding. Additionally, the Airport is currently working on meeting the FAA standards by removing obstructions and completing the Master Plan, which sets up a roadmap to full compliance with the FAA requirements.

The project will develop a justification document which will be provided to the FAA with the required data to consider NPIAS inclusion per FAA Order 5090.5, Formulation of NPIAS and ACIP.

The Hampton County Airport is requesting assistance to develop this justification document.

The total cost of the project is \$56,898 funded at 80% State/20% Local.

Amount of grant funding requested is \$45,518

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

McCormick County Airport – Airport Planning Services

The McCormick County Airport is requesting assistance with planning services at the airport. The planning will consist of:

- Airport visioning workshop
- Airport inventory of existing conditions
- Airport facility requirements
- Terminal area development alternatives
- Obstruction evaluation
- Airport protection ordinance update

The total cost of the project is \$120,052 funded at 80% State/20% Local.

Amount of grant funding requested is \$96,041

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

McCormick County Airport – Airfield Property Grading (design)

The McCormick County Airport is requesting assistance with design of airfield grading that will remove ground obstructions to the airports design standards surfaces. The County intends to perform the grading using Public Works forces.

The total cost of the project is \$29,941 funded at 80% State/20% Local.

Amount of grant funding requested is \$23,953

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

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Pickens County Airport – Runway 5/23 Rehabilitation and Crossfield Apron and Taxiway Development

Pickens County is requesting assistance to rehabilitate Runway 5/23 and to construct an apron on recently acquired property on the northeast portion of the airport.

This was bid as one large project, but in order to meet the funding constraints of the FAA the project has been separated into three (3) different construction schedules. Each one is described below and will be funded as separate grants.

Schedule 1

Schedule 1 consists of rehabilitation of runway 5/23. According to the 2016 Pavement Condition Index (PCI) Study, the 2021 PCI value was projected to be 61, which classifies the pavement as being in fair condition and warrants rehabilitation.

The total cost of this schedule is \$4,040,456 funded at 90% FAA/5% State/5% Local.

Amount of grant funding requested for Schedule 1 is \$202,023

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

Schedule 2

Schedule 2 consists of the construction of a partial parallel taxiway and stormwater detention pond to serve the crossfield apron portion of the project. A portion of this schedule will be funded using a Bipartisan Infrastructure Legislation (BIL) grant.

The total cost of this schedule is \$1,548,045, but only \$295,000 will be funded under BIL. The County is requesting that SCAC provide matching funds for 5% of the BIL grant. The County intends to provide funding for the rest of the project with local dollars.

Amount of grant funding requested for Schedule 2 is \$296,327

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

Schedule 3

Schedule 3 consists of the construction of a crossfield apron portion of the project.

The total cost of this schedule is \$4,230,905 funded at 60% State/40% Local.

Amount of grant funding requested for Schedule 3 is \$2,538,542

Total amount requested for Schedules 1, 2 and 3 is \$3,036,892

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

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Spartanburg Downtown Memorial Airport – Runway 23 Erosion Repairs (bidding)

The Spartanburg Downtown Memorial Airport is requesting assistance to repackage and bid erosion control repairs located at the edge of the runway safety area of the approach to runway 23. The damage was caused when a storm inlet became clogged during heavy rain causing runoff to overflow and erode around the inlet and storm sewer system. This is a safety issue and needs to be corrected.

The total cost of the project is \$39,600 funded at 60% State/40% Local.

Amount of grant funding requested is \$23,760

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

Charleston International Airport – Commercial Service Entitlement (FY 2022 and FY 2023)

The Charleston International Airport is requesting FY 2022 and FY 2023 Commercial Service entitlements to be used for the unfunded portion of a project to remove and replace damaged concrete pavement slabs on Taxiways A, B, M, F and G, and also the commercial service and cargo aprons. The project will also remove and replace joint sealant. This will help reduce FOD and associated potential damage to aircraft operating at CHS.

The total cost of the project is \$2,719,599.

Amount of grant funding requested is \$500,000

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

Flight Report

Chief Pilot Tim Truemper presented the flight reports, and stated that numbers are going up, but have not yet reached pre-COVID numbers. Recruiting has not started for Clemson but Mr. Truemper does expect flying number to increase. Continuing maintenance is taking place on the aircraft.

District Reports

Commissioner Esposito – Reported that Beaufort County thanks the Commission for their continued support.

Commissioner Anderson – Reported that it was great to see the large attendance at the commission meeting and the support of aviation in the state.

Commissioner Cooper – Reported that McCormick and Pickens County thanks the commission for their approval of grants and the continuous support of the airports.

Commissioner Barnes – Thanked the people of District 5 for their support of the airports.

Commissioner Cavazzoni – Thanked Hampton County for their great work on the support of the airport.

Commissioner Bethea – Thanked the Commission for the support of the Georgetown airport.

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New Business

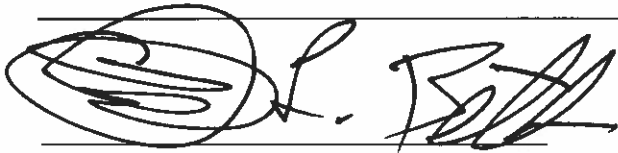
John Hodge reported on the ongoing work the new regulations concerning the use of the State Aviation Fund, and procedures for compliance with land use in the vicinity of airports. A notice of drafting has been filed and will be published in the State Registry on July 22 for a 30-day comment period. Once this expires, and any comments are addressed, the submission of regulations will be submitted to the Legislative Council on September 9th. At which time they will have a 120-day period to approve or make changes.

Next Meeting Date


The next Commission Meeting will be held on September 27, 2022.

Adjournment

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



Chris Bethea
Commissioner, District 7



Ericka D. Thomas
Commission Secretary

9/27/22

Date