



MINUTES

SOUTH CAROLINA AERONAUTICS COMMISSION MEETING

TUESDAY APRIL 22, 2025

Commission Members in Attendance

Anne Esposito, District 1(*)
Denise Bryan, C.M., District 2
Skeets Cooper, District 3
Terry Connorton, District 4
Marco Cavazzoni, District 6
Chris Bethea, District 7
Jim Hamilton, Commissioner Emeritus
Bud Coward, Commissioner Emeritus

Visitors

Charles Taylor, Marion County
Brad Beadles, FLO
Ken Holt, Holt Consulting
Christopher Inglese, Hampton County
Jay Collins, SCAS
Teri Gooding, SCAS
Bret Garrison, Anderson County
Kelly Garin, GGMF
Frank Murray, CAE
Tim Fredlund, MaesAwyr

Remote Attendance (*)

Melanie Friscoe, SCAA
Jim Taylor, PHH
Steve Gould, UZA
Ryan Hounsell, Holt Consulting
Chris Birkmeyer, WK Dickson
Carlos Salinas, Pickens County
Mark Warner, McCormick
Bedford Wooten, Holt Consulting

Welcome & Call to Order

Commissioner Bethea called the meeting to order at approximately 10:00 AM, welcomed everyone, announced a quorum in attendance.

Aeronautics Staff in Attendance

Gary Siegfried, Executive Director
Kimmy Harris, Office Manager
Dale Estrada, Finance Director
Christopher Eversmann, Airport Development Director
Rekik Maselli, Airport Engineer (EIT)
David Smith, Project Manager
John Hodge, SCAC Attorney

Zachary Thompson, GGMF
Sarah Bush, GGMF
Johnathan Bryan, Sumter County
Karen Ogen, Richland School District One-Blast
Michael Molony, M. Molony Atty at Law
Bruce Landsberg, Mt. Pleasant Airport Support Network
Judy Elder, TBE
Paul Werts, SCAC Education Policy

Invocation and Introductions

The invocation was given by Commissioner Cooper. Following the invocation, all attendees introduced themselves.

Approval of Minutes

Commissioner Bethea presented the minutes of the February 12, 2025, meeting. He asked if anyone had any edits or corrections. Since none were forthcoming, Commissioner Cavazzoni made a motion to approve the minutes and Commissioner Cooper seconded the motion.

The minutes were approved as written.

Commissioner Bethea asked Gary Siegfried if he would present the Financial Report.

Financial & Budget Reports

Mr. Siegfried started with the balances from the end of March FY25. Operating Results finished with total expenses at 75% and income at 88% of budget.

The State Aviation Fund showed a beginning balance of \$29,477,546.51 in FY24-25. This balance along with fuel sales tax revenues of \$4,313,049.87, airline property tax revenue of \$6,867,779.47, a general fund recurring appropriation of \$500,000, and a refund of prior year expense & miscellaneous revenue of \$38,593.26 brought total available funds for airport projects to \$54,738,413.42.

After considering budgeted/committed items of \$49,062,534.59 the remaining \$5,675,878.83 was available for new grants at the end of FY24-25.

Presentation

Zachery Thompson with Guns Garin Memorial Foundation presented an update on the upgrades to their website, which is an ongoing project to support local military families during hardships, to help and encourage our youth to explore a career in aviation.

Airport Development

Mr. Eversmann presented the Airport Development report by providing brief updates concerning Airport Development deadlines, upcoming airport inspections and ongoing Aeronautics projects. Mr. Eversmann spoke about his attendance to a few events to include; the Terminal Ribbon Cutting in Florence County, a meeting with staff of Florence Regional, the Legislative Reception and the Myrtle Beach International Topping Out Ceremony.

Mr. Eversmann shared Mr. David Smith is on the lead for the Clue Tool upgrades, being conducted by Woolpert, the original developer. We have had 27-clue tool analysis performed since our last meeting. By late April or early May, we are hoping to be able to deploy the newly upgraded Clue Tool.

He spoke about the participation of the Airport Development Team in State Emergency Operations Center exercises. Mr. Eversmann shared being able to be a liaison between the EOC and the affected airports during the wildfires. He stated the upgrades for the SCAC Hangar (painting, roof repairs, windows) are underway but in the very early phases of design. In preparation for these projects, the testing of the caulk, paint and other materials has been completed to ensure nothing is hazardous.

Mr. Eversmann spoke about the status of grants in detail and shared the amount of funds reverted due to the action of closing inactive grants.

Mr. Eversmann then presented grant for consideration.

Grants for consideration (Airport Development)

District 1 – No applications.

District 2

1. Richland – Lexington Airport Commission / Columbia Metropolitan Airport (CAE) / **Commercial Service Entitlement (100%)** / Develop Terminal Microgrid Project Design – Build Documents / Planning / Project cost – \$250,371

Associated AIP Grant: N/A

The requested grant amount is \$250,371.

ASDI items: CAE is a Part 139 Airport and, therefore, not inspected by SCAC Staff.

A motion was made by Commissioner Cavazzoni to approve and seconded by Commissioner Cooper.

The motion was approved unanimously.

District 3

2. Pickens County / Pickens County (LQK) / AIP State Match Grant (5%) / Rehabilitate Runway 5-23 / Construction / Grant Amendment / Project cost – \$43,658 / **This is an amendment to SCAC 22-036**

Associated AIP Grant: 3-45-0047-031-2022

The requested amount is \$2,183.

ASDI items (Mar 20, 2024): Part 77 Airspace penetrations; Cracks in Taxiway pavement; Erosion near pavement edge; Beacon Tower needs painting.

A motion was made by Commissioner Bryan to approve and seconded by Commissioner Cooper.

The motion was approved unanimously.

3. Anderson County / Anderson Regional (AND) / Secondary Runway Rehabilitation Grant (90%) / Reconstruct Runway 17-35 / Construction / Project cost – \$6,015,495

Associated AIP Grant: NA

The requested grant amount is \$5,413,946.

ASDI items (Oct 31, 2024): Part 77 Airspace penetrations; Damaged fencing; Fire Safety Codes – Gasoline Tank Trailer parking, Out-of-date fire extinguisher.

A motion was made by Commissioner Cooper to approve and seconded by Commissioner Cavazzoni.

The motion was approved unanimously.

District 4 – No applications.

District 5

4. City of Rock Hill – York County / Bryant Field (UZA) / AIP State Match Grant (2.5%) / Expand South Apron / Design / Project cost – \$197,736

Associated AIP Grant: 3-45-0049-038-2025 The requested grant amount is \$4,943.

ASDI items (May 2, 2024): Part 77 Airspace penetrations identified; Erosion near airfield fence; Fueling vehicles parked too close to structures; Faded pavement marking on Taxiway 'C'

A motion was made by Commissioner Cooper to approve and seconded by Commissioner Cavazzoni.

The motion was approved unanimously.

5. City of Rock Hill – York County / Bryant Field (UZA) / State – Local Airport Development Grant (70%) / Rehabilitate Auto Parking Lot / Construction / Project cost – \$178,573

Associated AIP Grant: NA

The requested grant amount is \$125,001.

ASDI items (May 2, 2024): Part 77 Airspace penetrations identified; Erosion near airfield fence; Fueling vehicles parked too close to structures; Faded pavement marking on Taxiway 'C'

Commissioner Bryan questioned whether this project would be eligible for DOT funding. Director Siegfried said that would only be eligible if it was part of SCDOT right-of-way, but doubted that was the case. Commissioner Bryan noted that the Fairfield County Airport had received DOT funds in the past for parking lot improvements.

A motion was made by Commissioner Cavazzoni to approve and seconded by Commissioner Connorton.

The motion was approved 5-1 with Commissioner Bryan dissenting.

6. Sumter County / Sumter County (SMS) / Terminal Building Development Grant (50%) / Renovate Terminal / Design / Project cost – \$196,485

Associated AIP Grant: NA

The requested grant amount is \$98,243.

ASDI items (Aug 23, 2022): Part 77 Airspace penetrations identified; Rwy 23 REILs inoperative; Emergency fuel shutoff sign faded; Vegetation growth on fence; Rwy 5 PAPI light inoperative; Rwy 23 ODALs inoperative.

A motion was made by Commissioner Cooper to approve and seconded by Commissioner Bryan.

The motion was approved unanimously.

District 6

7. Williamsburg County / Williamsburg Regional (CKI) / Terminal Building Development Grant (50%) / Expand and renovate Terminal / Design / Project cost – \$65,920

Associated AIP Grant: NA

The requested grant amount is \$32,960.

ASDI items (Apr 2, 2025): Part 77 Airspace penetrations identified; Rwy 14 PAPI light inoperative; Rwy pavement markings faded; Rwy 14 Threshold light inoperative; Overgrown trees in drainage ditch near Rwy.

A motion was made by Commissioner Cavazzoni to approve and seconded by Commissioner Connorton.

The motion was approved unanimously.

8. Clarendon County / Santee Cooper Regional (MNI) / State – Local Airport Development Grant (70%) / Install Security Cameras / Construction / Project cost – \$6,110

Associated AIP Grant: NA

The requested grant amount is \$4,277.

ASDI items (Jan 26, 2023): Part 77 Airspace penetrations identified; Non-standard Rwy – Twy separation.

A motion was made by Commissioner Cavazzoni to approve and seconded by Commissioner Cooper.

The motion was approved unanimously.

District 7

9. Georgetown County / Robert F. Swinnie Airport (PHH)/ AIP State Match Grant (5%) / Replace Airfield Lighting / Design / Project cost – \$90,500

Associated AIP Grant: 3-45-0005-009-2024 The

requested grant amount is \$4,525.

ASDI items (Jun 1, 2023): Part 77 Airspace penetrations identified; Missing Twy edge light; Inoperative ODAL near Rwy 5; Dim Rwy 23 threshold lights.

A motion was made by Commissioner Cooper to approve and seconded by Commissioner Cavazzoni.

The motion was approved unanimously.

10. Georgetown County / Georgetown County Airport (GGE) / AIP State Match Grant (5%) / Obtain Avigation Easements
/ Land Acquisition / Project cost – \$151,379

Associated AIP Grant: 3-45-0025-028-2023

The requested grant amount is \$7,569.

ASDI items (Jun 1, 2023): Part 77 Airspace penetrations identified; Missing Twy edge light; Inoperative ODAL near Rwy 5; Dim Rwy 23 threshold lights.

A motion was made by Commissioner Cooper to approve and seconded by Commissioner Bryan.

The motion was approved unanimously.

11. Georgetown County / Georgetown County (GGE) / Secondary Runway Rehabilitation Grant (90%) / Reconstruct Runway 11-29 / Construction / Project cost – \$6,329,521

Associated AIP Grant: NA

The requested grant amount is \$5,696,569.

ASDI items (Jun 1, 2023): Part 77 Airspace penetrations identified; Missing Twy edge light; Inoperative ODAL near Rwy 5; Dim Rwy 23 threshold lights.

A motion was made by Commissioner Cooper to approve and seconded by Commissioner Cavazzoni.

The motion was approved unanimously.

12. Pee Dee Regional Airport Commission / Florence Regional (FLO) / **Commercial Service Special Allocation (100%)** / Renovate Security Screening Checkpoint (SSCP) / Design / Project cost – \$194,659

Associated AIP Grant: NA

The requested grant amount is \$194,659.

ASDI items: FLO is a Part 139 Airport and, therefore, not inspected by SCAC Staff.

A motion was made by Commissioner Cavazzoni to approve and seconded by Commissioner Cooper.

The motion was approved unanimously.

13. Pee Dee Regional Airport Commission / Florence Regional (FLO) / **Commercial Service Entitlement (100%)** / Perform 18B Survey and Airspace Analysis / Planning / Project cost – \$209,350

Associated AIP Grant: NA

The requested grant amount is \$209,350.

ASDI items: FLO is a Part 139 Airport and, therefore, not inspected by SCAC Staff.

A motion was made by Commissioner Cavazzoni to approve and seconded by Commissioner Cooper.

The motion was approved unanimously.

14. Pee Dee Regional Airport Commission / Florence Regional (FLO) / **Commercial Service Special Allocation (100%)** / Renovate Commercial Service Terminal / Design / Project cost – \$2,516,798

Associated AIP Grant: NA

The requested grant amount is \$2,516,798.

ASDI items: FLO is a Part 139 Airport and, therefore, not inspected by SCAC Staff.

A motion was made by Commissioner Cavazzoni to approve and seconded by Commissioner Cooper.

The motion was approved unanimously.

Grants for consideration (Education)

1. WA Perry Middle School / Richland School District -1 / Purchase X-Stream Wind Tunnel / Equipment / Project cost - \$9,416

A motion was made by Commissioner Cooper to approve and seconded by Commissioner Cavazzoni.

The motion was approved unanimously.

Flight Department

Mr. Tim Truemper presented the flight department. The difference between FY24 and FY25 flight time is about 6-minutes. Surplus has the two airplanes older airplane listed for sale. Everyone loves the new plane. The Governor shared with Tim the new plane is comfortable, quiet and the air conditioner works. The Governor loves it.

Mr. Siegfried noted that the old aircrafts were appraised, which is what we would like to get for them. The planes are close to going live on the website. Mr. Siegfried shared with everyone there is a 30-day bidding process for the aircraft with surplus.

Mr. Truemper stated we will keep flying the old aircraft as long as we have them. The Flight Department is busy and pilots are flying quite often.

Commissioner Bethea asked if there were any questions for Mr. Truemper.

Hearing none, Commissioner Bethea asked Mr. Siegfried to present the Director's Report.

Executive Director's Report

Mr. Siegfried presented the Director's Report. He shared the amount of grants with no activity whatsoever. The Legislative Audit brought this concern to our attention. Mr. Siegfried shared being able to revert approximately \$400,000 in funds from the grants with no activity which can be made available for use on other projects.

Mr. Siegfried spoke about the advertisement to purchase a new fueler. He also noted that he reviewed and revised the regulations that we started on a couple of years ago. With Chairman Gantt not being present Commission decided to hold off the Education Committee discussion. Director Siegfried noted that it is time to get the Airplane Committee back together to start picking a second aircraft.

Mr. Siegfried opened the discussion about the next meeting date.

Ms. Dale Estrada shared the financials will not be complete until the end of July.

Commissioner Bryan suggested just have the meeting in July. The Commission came to the decision to have the next meeting on Tuesday, July 22, 2025.

New Business

Commissioner Bethea asked if anyone had any new business to discuss.

Hearing none, Commissioner Bethea stated he had one item, which is the Senate Bill filed by Senator Grooms. The bill speaks about deleting almost \$7 million dollars in airline property tax. Commissioner Bethea shared this to make sure everyone is aware of this particular bill. Before the next session in January of 2026, he asked for the Commission to reach out to those Senators, who are a part of the Transportation Committee within their district. Commissioner Bethea handed out a copy of the bill along with the names of senators, who will be casting their vote on this bill.

Commissioner Bethea asked for all Commissioners to present their district reports.

District Reports

District 1: Commissioner Esposito – Nothing to report.

District 2: Commissioner Bryan spoke about a Columbia Metropolitan Airport, CAE Master Plan event on May 15, 2025 to give details about everything going on at CAE. Two new airlines have started service at CAE.

Aiken just completed Masters week, which is a very busy time for the airport. Commissioner Bryan was not able to attend. Commissioner Emeritus Coward, who attended on her behalf shared it was a successful week at The Masters. He lost count of the number of aircraft parked at Aiken Regional.

District 3: Commissioner Cooper shared a thank you from Anderson County for the secondary runway. On April 12, 2025, Anderson County had a Ribbon Cutting for New Playground next to the Airport. Commissioner Cooper and the children had a great time at the playground. Anderson County will back to SCAC for funds for their ramp because they are out of room. Greenwood County does not have much going just a few tree issues. Laurens County had a Ribbon Cutting for their Terminal Building on February 21, 2025, which went very, very well. McCormick County is working with the Marines on April 30, 2025. During Aviation Week on May 2, 2025, Commissioner Cooper will be back in McCormick County, which will be the last day the airport will be open for a while possibly 2-3 months. Oconee County trying take care of their new rotating beacon and looking at land use issues for their ramp area. Pickens County endured one of the largest wildfires in the state. During the relief efforts, Pickens County pumped over 18, 000 gallons worth of jet fuel. Saluda County working on lighting project. Newberry County getting everything settled from the vandalism, which occurred a few months ago and looking into getting some parking lot rehabilitation. Edgefield County working on getting doors put back on their hangars and they have a good grass strip.

District 4: Commissioner Connorton spoke about Aviation Week coming up. Spartanburg Community Aviation Program on April 27, 2025 picking up its 100th student. VOR will go into operation in October in Spartanburg. Also, taxiway should be under construction again in late May/early June and

completed by August. Possibly commence building new hangars in a couple of weeks, which will take 12-weeks in building. New taxiway for Delta in the middle of the airport should be completed by May 21, 2025.

District 6: Commissioner Cavazzoni did not present a report.

District 7: Commissioner Bethea shared about his attendance at different events such as the SCAA Legislative Gathering was fruitful as always. Marion County Breakfast Club hosted by Charles Taylor. Commissioner Bethea also met with Senator Rankin about the Bill# 0436. Before the Legislative Gathering, Commissioner Bethea visited with the folks at the Citadel at their BBQ Gathering.

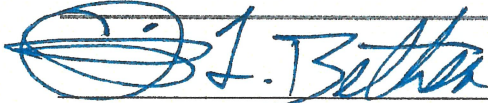
MYR topping out new gates and opening 20-T Hangars on May 1, 2025. April 28, 2025 flying into Florence. May 1, 2025 flying into Marion County. Georgetown with Jim Taylor for the Ribbon Cutting on the new runway.

Next Meeting Date

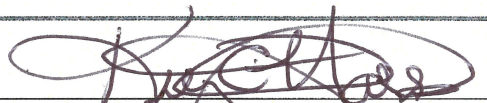
The next regular Commission Meeting is tentatively set for Tuesday, July 22, 2025.

Adjournment

There being no further business, a motion was made by Commissioner Cavazzoni to adjourn the meeting and Commissioner Cooper seconded. The meeting was adjourned.



Chris Bethea
District 7 Commissioner



Kimmy Harris
Recording Secretary

July 22, 2025
Date