

AIRPORT COMMISSION MEETING

February 19, 2019

The regular monthly meeting of the Airport Commission was held at 4:00 p.m., on Tuesday, February 19, 2019, in the Conference Room of the Admiral John H. Towers Terminal Building at the Richard B. Russell Regional Airport in Rome, Georgia.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Mr. Chip Hood
Mr. Kevin Evans
Mr. Brad Robert

OTHERS PRESENT

Mr. Gary Burkhalter, Interim Airport Manager
Ms. Rhonda Wallace, County Commission(phone)
Mr. James Miorin, Baker
Mr. Larry Owen, L&M Aircraft
Mr. Pete O'Hare, Museum of Flight
Ms. Christine Lewis, Museum of Flight
Mr. Jeremy Kwaterski, North GA Balloon Festival
Mr. John Cowman, JLC Airshow Management
Mr. Robert Henninger
Mr. Alfred Carnes
Mr. Rob Skelton
Mr. Earl Tillman
Ms. Sara Hiern
Ms. Carrie Edge
Ms. Ginny Ward
Ms. Betsy Willis, Airport Administrative Assistant

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

The airport board approved the minutes for January 15, 2019.

OLD BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Larry Owen asked the Commission for permission to expand his current maintenance facility. After reviewing the proposal, Commissioner Evans motioned to approve to move forward with the contract for the facility. Commissioner Robert seconded the motion. The motion was approved. Mr. Burkhalter stated that, once the contract is finished, it will be submitted for approval.

MANAGER'S REPORT

Mr. Burkhalter reported that some fuel revenues are down.

Mr. Burkhalter reported that the airport has recently taken two tenants to Magistrate Court for eviction and nonpayment of rent.

Mr. Burkhalter proposed to discontinue fuel accounts due to recent aged receivables that were well over the 30 days past due mark. Once the accounts are discontinued, customers will be able to pay by credit card or cash. Commissioner Robert motioned to discontinue fuel accounts. Commissioner Evans seconded the motion. The motion was approved.

Mr. Burkhalter reported that the balloon festival would like to return this year. He introduced Mr. Jeremy Kwaterski to update commissioners on changes for this year's event. Mr. Kwaterski said that the balloon festival will take place June 7 and June 8. He also said that parking for the event will be free this year but ticket prices will go up. For this year's event, he hopes to incorporate more static aircraft and flying. Mr. Burkhalter shared the agreement for the balloon festival with the Commission noting that some changes will be made. Commissioner Evans motioned to approve the balloon festival and its contract. Commissioner Robert seconded the motion.

Commissioner Robert asked about the status of RMG acquiring a military fuel contract. Mr. Burkhalter and Chairman Hood said that RMG is still working on that fuel contract.

Mr. Burkhalter reported that the Museum's agreement expires in March of 2019. He said that he has been meeting with Ms. Lewis to discuss the current terms of the lease. The new lease should be ready for review and approval for the March Airport Commission Meeting.

Mr. Burkhalter proposed removing the Tesla charging station located outside of the Museum's hangar. He said that the County is paying power for the charging station that is rarely used. He proposed that the Museum take up the payments if it is something that we would like to keep. Commissioner Robert if the County makes any revenue on the charging station. Mr. Burkhalter replied that no revenue is generated from that station. Mr. O'Hare stated that the charging station was donated by Tesla since the Museum is a nonprofit organization. Mr. Burkhalter requested that the item be tabled until next month's meeting.

SAFETY COMMITTEE

None.

BUSINESS/ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND SPECIAL EVENTS

None.

PERSONNEL AND FACILITIES

None.

FACILITIES PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

None.

FINANCIAL ANALYSIS

None.

BAKER

Mr. Miorin reported that work on the Runway 7/25 Overlay Project will begin in March or April.

Commissioner Evans asked about any funding or grants available for the Runway Extension Project. Mr. Burkhalter responded that he has reached out to Representative Graves. Mr. Burkhalter said that officials are also going to Washington to meet about the project with Senators. A decision should be made in March.

COUNTY

None.

North Georgia Balloon Festival

None.

JLC AIR SHOW MANAGEMENT

Mr. Cowman reported that the Wings Over North Georgia Air Show will take place August 31-September 1, 2019...Labor Day weekend. He said that he has confirmed the Golden Knights for the show; however, he is still waiting for confirmations from the Navy and the Air Force.

Mr. Cowman reported that he is working a new idea for Spring.

Mr. Cowman reported that the Thunderbirds will headline the 2020 Wings Over North Georgia Air Show.

GNTC-AVIATION TRAINING CENTER

None.

EAA

None.

TIGERFLIGHT

None.

MUSEUM OF FLIGHT

Mr. O'Hare introduced Mr. Henninger as the Museum's chief pilot.

Mr. O'Hare reported that the Museum will be part of a movie. Two of the scenes from the movie will take place at Rome.

Ms. Ward informed the Commission that she would like to install a reader board in the Rosie the Riveter Garden. The board will give the history and information on local Rosies. A dedication and unveiling of the reader board will be held on March 16, 2019.

AIR METHODS

None.

AOPA AIRPORT SERVICE VOLUNTEER

None.

OTHER BUSINESS

Mr. Carnes recommended that the airport section off certain areas during events. He also said that the tax dollars that are collected on aircraft should be allotted to the airport.

Mr. Skelton reported that the pavement on the taxiway at the back row of hangars needs to be repaired. Chairman Hood assured Mr. Skelton that the Commission is aware of the situation and is looking into repairs.

Mr. Burkhalter reported that the airport did have one jet for the Super Bowl. The jet paid the \$1350 ramp fee.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to discuss, Chairman Hood adjourned the meeting.

Chip Hood, Chairman

Date

DISTRIBUTION

Dr. George Bosworth
Mr. Kevin Evans
Mr. Steve Graves
Mr. Chip Hood
Mr. Brad Robert

COUNTY COMMISSION

Ms. Erin Elrod	Mr. Gary Burkhalter
Mr. Allison Watters	Mr. Scotty Hancock
Mr. Jamie McCord	Ms. Rhonda Wallace
Mr. Wright Bagby	Mr. Larry Maxey