

**Minutes of Fairhope Airport Authority**  
**January 17, 2017**

The Fairhope Airport Authority met January 17, 2017 at 4:30PM in the Delchamps Suite, Room 1, in the Civic Center at 161 N Section Street.

Present: Joe McEnerney, Chairman, Chip Groner, Tom Scheck, Jack Burrell and Vince Boothe. Also present was Josh Myrick, attorney. Pam Caudill and Ray Hix were absent. Cynthia A Boothe took the minutes and the meeting was “streamed” live.

The minutes of the December 20, 2016 were considered and approved on a motion by Chip Groner, second by Jack Burrell and unanimously passed.

**Approval of the “non-buildable easement” for Cedar Creek and Mid-Bay Air Hangars:** Josh Myrick explained that the two hangars that are under construction at the Airport will have a 25-foot non-buildable construction buffer to eliminate the need to build a fire wall and to meet City of Fairhope building code requirements. After a group discussion a motion was made by Vince Boothe to approve the easements, second by Jack Burrell and unanimously passed.

**Approval of the fiber optic easement for AT&T:** The approval of the easement was tabled until the February 21st meeting.

**Update the status of the East Side Construction project:** Joe McEnerney stated that there have been some weather and holiday delays but the contractor is making good progress and is about 28% complete.

**Discussion of the development of the West Side of the Airport:** Joe McEnerney stated that he has had some inquiries from a couple of realtors who might be interested in marketing the property on the west side. After a group discussion the members decided that Joe would talk to these realtors about presenting their proposals for developing the property.

**Discussion and approval of the call for a “special independent audit” of the Airport Authority as recommended by Mayor Wilson:** Joe McEnerney stated that Mayor Wilson would like to have an independent audit of the Airport Authority.

After a group discussion it was decided to table pursuing the audit until the members can look at a copy of the annual audit done by HBK to see what is included in their audit and to see if a further audit is needed.

**Update on the proposal to refinance the Airport Authority's \$7,445,629 existing debt:** Joe McEnerney stated that requests for proposals were sent out for the refinancing of the Airport debt to local banks. The proposals are due back by January 24<sup>th</sup> with a projected close date on or about February 27, 2017. He also stated that he would review the proposals and bring a recommendation back to the Authority. Vince Boothe made a motion to authorize Joe McEnerney to accept and review the bids for recommendation, second by Tom Scheck and unanimously passed.

**Treasurer's Report and review of large maintenance expenses in December:** In Ray Hix's absence Joe McEnerney reported that the financials are in good order and the first installment of the 2016 AIP grant money has been received.

**Other Business:** Chip Groner stated that he has been working with Sheri Schwartz of the City of Fairhope Police Department to develop a drone policy for the City of Fairhope. Recently the popular press has had numerous articles about injuries caused by drones. He also stated that when the policy is completed it could be posted on the Airport's website. Chip said that he and Pam Caudill are also reviewing the Airport's security plan and he also mentioned some repairs and maintenance that needs to be done on the runways, taxiways and gate security.

Jack Burrell stated that the Authority might want to look at building some shade hangars on the east side once the construction on the east side is completed.

Joe McEnerney stated that the Aviation Academy is having their annual student open house on February 7, 2017 and encouraged Board members to attend.

Jack Burrell introduced Sherry-Lea Bloodworth Botoy as the new Economic Development Director for the City of Fairhope.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 5:13PM.