

WICOMICO COUNTY AIRPORT COMMISSION

April 8, 2019

Present: Calvin Peacock, Chairman; Matthew E. Creamer, Vice Chairman; Wayne Strausburg, County Administrator; James Brooke; John Cannon; Gerard DiCairano; Nola Arnold; Bud Church; April Jackson

Staff: Dawn Veatch; Jacquie Benton-Ware

Other: Patrick Nelms, Bay Land Aviation; Bill Penna, ATCT; Nick Olmstead, Kilroy Aviation

MINUTES

The March 11, 2019 minutes were approved.

AIRPORT MANAGER'S REPORT

Marking & Rubber Removal:

The Airport Marking and Rubber Removal continues and NOTAM's have been out and the localizer has been shut down temporarily.

Vacancy Announcement:

Vacancy announcement for the Assistant Manager is now out and interviews will be on April 17th.

Airport Plans:

Provided here is the draft copy of the new ALP (Airport Layout Plan) which shows all the new hangars, construction, FEMA, FBO's and Drone facility. April 15th is the last submission to FAA. The Master Plan itself has already been submitted and provides the analysis, proposed construction, development and beginning stages of the EA (Environmental Assessment), so they have already been reviewing as we go along. The last piece to finalize this is the ALP (Airport Layout Plan) document which has all of our surfaces, proposed construction. This plan had to provide everything current and in progress as FAA will not allow us to put on anything new once this is submitted. After the 15th when the last document submission is turned in, FAA should be able to get back to us within 30 days. Once we receive their response, it will determine whether we can move forward. Once this is completed, they will begin looking into funding the EA (Environmental Assessment).

T-Hangars:

T-Hangar painting is unfortunately not moving along as originally planned. Dawn has had a discussion with the owner expressing her concern on the lack of progress. She requested a revised schedule to be able to better inform the status to all tenants.

Wings & Wheels:

Wings and Wheels advertising will start in a week or so. The Independent will do a large ad to showcase the event along with a few other radio spots. Funding for this is being provided by the Salisbury Pilot's Association.

Senator Visit:

Dawn has reached out to Senators Cardin, Van Hollen and Carper from Delaware. Senator Carper will be visiting this week, Tuesday April 16th along with the staffers from Senators Cardin and Van Hollen's office. The big topics that will be discussed will be the FEMA distribution center and the runway extension to be sure that we get the proper funding from the FAA.

Business Tenants:

Dawn would like to introduce a new tenant here at the airport, Nick Olmstead with Kilroy Aviation who does ODA, which is Organizational Design which includes after production modification. Bill Penna also made the announcement that as of April 1st, the ATCT (Control Tower) turned 20 years old and he wanted to thank everyone within the Commission, the County and the Community for making it possible. We expect to spotlight this accomplishment at the Wings & Wheels.

Business Tenants Adjourned

County Council:

Dawn attended the County Council Meeting last Tuesday, April 2nd about getting our D-Drone sole source and Councilmen Joe Holloway had several questions and requested additional information. Dawn took these concerns to FAA and is awaiting for all the details to be sorted out before disclosing further information. Once she gets word, a memo will be crafted to respond to his concerns. Dawn has also crafted a response to the FAA record of conversation that Councilman Holloway forwarded.

One of the misunderstandings is that it was explained at the FAA that it was for counter measure. It is going to be used for surveillance so we can track our beyond line and sight drones so we know exactly where they are situationally and we can get them over to Wallops Air Space and NASA safely without any kind of disruption.

Dawn shared that she had another good meeting with our FBO partners that are coming here and we are hoping to get those letters of intent soon. We currently do not have maintenance at this airfield so it is critical that we get that as it is a requirement. We currently don't even have the ability to move a disabled aircraft on the runway if needed. This has happened twice within the last two years. We awarded the contract for the box hangars last year and they haven't been able to build because they cannot get anyone to sign a pre-construction lease because there is no maintenance here so for that reason, they are building at Easton.

Fuel Tanks:

Fuel tanks need to come out. Dawn has been talking to MDE while they have been working on the wetlands. Shell was out last summer and did a sight survey. Shell has been a premium since the tariffs have gone in before, during and after so they had actually ordered us tanks last summer that are just now about to arrive.

Wayne Strausburg mentioned that the only other underground tank that the county has, services the Government Office Building. They have contracted to get that removed. He explains that we just can't expose ourselves to the potential liability within environmental hazard. With that in mind, above ground tanks will be put in to take the places of these underground tanks.

The county is being proactive and wants these 30 year old underground tanks removed safely to prevent and kind of future hazard to our community. This is ongoing and will continue to be updated as it progresses.

ADJOURNMENT

Calvin Peacock called for a motion to adjourn. Jamie Brooke moved to adjourn and Nola Arnold seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held Monday, May 13, 2019.

Calvin Peacock, Chairman