

WICOMICO COUNTY AIRPORT COMMISSION

DECEMBER 11, 2017

Present: John Hall, Chairman; Nola Arnold; James Brooke; Bud Church; Gerard DiCairano; Calvin Peacock

Staff: Dawn Veatch; James Harris; Denise Shellaby; Jacqueline Benton-Ware

Other: David Goslee, Ex-Officio Member; Patrick Nelms, Bay Land Aviation; Duane Frantz, T-Hangar Tenant

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Hall called the meeting to order at 3 p.m.

MINUTES

The October 9, 2017 minutes were approved.

TRI-ANNUAL EMERGENCY DRILL DEFERMENT

The Federal Aviation Administration approved the Tri-Annual Drill deferment. The drill will be held January 20, 2018. In the event of inclement weather, the back-up date is January 27, 2018.

SMALL COMMUNITY AIR SERVICE DEVELOPMENT GRANT

Former Airport Accountant Mrs. Karen Ironside and Mr. Ray Veatch are working on a \$750,000 United States Department of Transportation Small Community Air Service Development grant application for increased air service for SBY Airport. American Airlines will give SBY a letter of intent, with Southern Airlines' letter pending on the American Airlines' approval. Jet Blue has declined participation, and since Shamrock is not a certificated airline, they are still a work in progress. The application deadline is December 15, 2017. Mrs. Veatch is also pursuing a public/private partnership for \$120,000 - \$200,000. She is hopeful that the Governors of Maryland and Delaware will match funds. Mrs. Veatch is also exploring in-kind services from local organizations and incentives to attract additional carriers, such as waiving rent and landing fees. Mrs. Veatch invited the Airport Commissioners to a briefing tonight at Evolution Craft Brewing Company and Public House. Members from the Greater Salisbury Committee, Salisbury-Wicomico Economic Development, and the Chamber of Commerce will be in attendance. If the community does not support the effort, SBY will not get the grant.

UAS/DRONE

Last week, Mrs. Veatch attended a drone conference in Los Angeles. SBY Airport is the lead applicant among 300 organizations for the drone project. The University of Maryland Eastern Shore has also applied for the project. The Airport has already received over 2,000 responses for participation in the program. The application deadline is January 4, 2018.

FIXED BASE OPERATOR

Soon the SBY Airport will be putting the Fixed Base Operator service out for competitive bid. Mrs. Veatch has met with Signature Aviation twice and has encouraged them to bid along with Bay Land Aviation. The Request for Proposal will be for a private investor to build a 38,000 square foot hangar for aircraft maintenance and to house corporate aircraft overnight. There is to be a self-serve Avgas station

and an aircraft wash rack. It would cost \$100,000 to refurbish Bay Land's existing hangar, and Wicomico County will not build a new hangar.

TERMINAL RENOVATIONS

The bid and contract have been awarded for the renovation of the old café area. Construction has started, and the fixtures and furnishings have been ordered. To improve ventilation, the restroom doors have been removed. The seats in front of the restrooms will be relocated to the passenger lounge. An automated teller machine was installed December 5, 2017. Mrs. Veatch complimented the airport staff on the holiday decorations in the terminal. Mrs. Veatch is also pleased with the new cleaning company which started in November.

AIRCRAFT RESCUE AND FIRE FIGHTING

The Aircraft Rescue and Fire Fighting operation transition went smoothly. Fiore Industries is in place in Hangar #6. Effective November 1, the airline began paying landing fees to offset the cost.

T-HANGAR REPAIRS

The T-Hangar painting, roof repairs, and paving have been deferred to the spring. Mrs. Veatch continues to pursue the public/private partnership for the building of a new T-Hangar/box hangar building. The new hangars will have water, electric doors, and be larger than the current T-Hangars. The box hangars at the end of the building will be large enough to house a King Air aircraft. The price scale will also be different than the current T-Hangars. SBY Airport currently has a waiting list for T-Hangars.

PAY PARKING LOT

Mrs. Veatch is meeting with a parking company tomorrow to discuss electronic parking. Republic Parking Systems is encouraged to submit information and a price as well.

SNOW PREPAREDNESS

The Airport was not compromised during this past weekend's snow storm. Deicing pellets were used to keep ice from adhering to the runways. Mrs. Veatch thanked the maintenance staff for their hard work this past weekend.

AIRPORT COMMISSION COMMENTS

Mr. DiCairano complimented the drainage and paving of the taxiway lanes. He thanked the County Council and the Executive Office for supporting the projects. It is a symbolic change and practical improvement to the airport.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held Monday, January 8, 2018.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 3:35 p.m.

John Hall, Chairman