



MINUTES
OCONEE COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING
Called Meeting
June 13, 2008

MEMBERS, OCONEE COUNTY COUNCIL

Mr. George Blanchard District I, Chairman
Mr. Thomas S. Crumpton, Jr., District II
Mr. Mario Suarez, District III
Mr. Marion E. Lyles, District IV
Mr. H. Frank Ables, Jr., District V

Oconee County Council met on Friday, June 13, 2008 at 9:00 AM in Council Chambers, 415 South Pine Street, Walhalla, SC with all Council Members [except Mr. Lyles & Mr. Suarez], County Administrator Dale K. Surrett, Elizabeth G. Hulse, Clerk to Council & Mr. Bradley A. Norton, County Attorney present.

Press:

Members of the press notified (via mail): Keowee Courier, Westminster News, Daily Journal, Anderson Independent, WGOG Radio, WYFF TV, WLOS TV WSPA TV & WSNW Radio.

Member of the press present: Dick Mangrum - WGOG

Call to Order:

Chairman Blanchard called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. He noted that his meeting was a "called meeting" to address a time sensitive airport issue and that no other business would be conducted at this meeting.

Items for Discussion & Action by Council:

Mr. Surrett addressed Council along with Mr. Kevin Short, Airport Director, regarding three related issues: FAA AIP [Airport Improvement Project] Grant #17, Talbert & Bright Work Authorization and Bid #07-23. He noted that this meeting was called to respond to the FAA in a prompt manner to ensure receipt of the grant funds in the amount of \$2,652,000.

FAA AIP Grant #17 / \$2,652,000.00:

Mr. Surrett along with Mr. Short addressed Council and noted that the Oconee County Airport received short notice of the grant award in the amount of \$2,652,000. The grant includes funds to correct the runway line-of-sight problem [\$1,459,122.00] and an additional funding [\$1,192,878.00] for future construction of the 600 foot runway extension. Timely acceptance of this grant is crucial. In addition, closure of the airport during the work will also occur. The intent is to have all work completed [barring extreme weather conditions beyond the county and vendor's control] in time for the first Clemson home football game scheduled for September 6, 2008. The request from the Airport is for Council to authorize Mr. Surrett to accept FAA AIP Grant #17 in the amount of \$2,652,000.00.

Mr. Crumpton made a motion, seconded by Mr. Ables, approved 3 – 0 to authorize Mr. Surrett to accept FAA AIP Grant #17 in the amount of \$2,652,000.00 [\$1,459,122.00 for line of sight construction and \$1,192,878.00 additional funding for future construction of the 600 foot runway extension].

Talbert & Bright Work Authorization #3401-0801, Amendment #2:

Mr. Surrett and Mr. Short addressed Council regarding the Airport's request to authorize Mr. Surrett to sign work authorization #3401-0801, Amendment #2, for work related to FAA AIP Grant #17. He noted that Talbert & Bright will manage the grant for the county.

Mr. Ables made a motion, seconded by Mr. Crumpton, approved 3 – 0 to authorize Mr. Surrett to sign the Talbert & Bright Work Authorization #3401-0801, Amendment #2.

Bid #07-23 / Runway 7-25 light of sight modifications:

Mr. Surrett, Mr. Short and Ms. Marianne Dillard, Procurement Director; addressed Council regarding the award of Bid #07-23. It was noted that BMCO Construction of Lumberton, NC was low bidder in the amount of \$1,370,691.00. Mr. Ables questioned why a local contractor was not chosen over an out of state vendor. Discussion followed. It was noted that this vendor had been checked by Talbert & Bright and that they were properly bonded and insured.

Mr. Crumpton made a motion, seconded by Mr. Ables, approved 3 – 0 to award Bid #07-23 to BMCO Construction of Lumberton, NC in the amount of \$1,370,691.00 for runway 7-25 line of sight modifications contingent upon the FAA issuance of AIP Grant #17.

Mr. Crumpton along with the other Council members commended Mr. Surrett, Mr. Short & Ms. Dillard for their work on this project to ensure that the grant, work authorization and bid award were presented to Council in a timely manner; noting that a called meeting was appropriate for this issue.

Adjourn:

Mr. Ables motioned to adjourn the meeting at 9:15 a.m. The motion was approved unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted:

Elizabeth G. Hulse
Clerk to Council