



MINUTES
OCONEE COUNTY COUNCIL
WORKSHOP MEETING
with the Oconee County Aeronautics Commission
June 30, 2009

MEMBERS, OCONEE COUNTY COUNCIL

Mr. Reg Dexter, District V, Council Chairman
Mr. Joel Thrift, District IV, Vice Chairman
Mr. Mario Suarez, District III, Chairman Pro Tem
Mr. Wayne McCall, District II

Oconee County Council met for a workshop with the Oconee County Aeronautics Commission on Tuesday, June 30, 2009 at 7:00 PM at the Oconee County Airport, 365 Airport Road, Seneca, SC with all Council Members [except Mr. Suarez], Kendra Brown, Interim Administrator and Elizabeth G. Hulse, Clerk to Council present.

Press:

Pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act, notice of the meeting, date, time, place of meeting and agenda were posted on the bulletin board at the County Administrative Offices, 415 South Pine Street, Walhalla, SC, and the County Council website [www.oconeese.com/council]. In addition it was made available to the newspapers, radio stations, television stations and concerned citizens.

Members of the press present: Ray Chandler – Anderson Independent, Carlos Galarza - Daily Journal and Dick Mangrum – WGOG Radio.

Call to Order:

Mr. Dexter called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

General Aviation Airports, Economic Development & the Oconee County Airport [Presentation by Jay Talbert / Airport Engineering Consultant]:

Mr. Kevin Short, Airport Director, opened the meeting and introduced members of the Aeronautics Commission present to include: Mr. Tom Luke / Chairman, Mr. Dan Suddeth / Vice Chair and Mr. Wayne Rholetter.

Mr. Short next introduced Mr. Jay Talbert, Talbert & Bright, noting that he has been the airport engineering consultant for the past 25 years. Mr. Talbert provided the members with a copy of his presentation [filed with these minutes] which outlined several issues to include:

- Key Elements for Economic Development
- Corporate Pilot's Perspective
- Economic Impact Studies for Airport with <5,000' runway and with >5,000' runway
- Importance of the 5,000' runway
- Economic Impact Study
- Capital Improvement Plans [diagram]

Discussion followed.

Mr. Short next addressed the Committee and highlighted Capital Improvement projects utilizing a PowerPoint presentation [filed with these minutes]. He addressed key issues to include:

- Improving Revenues
 - Need for Additional Hangers – it was noted that at present there are 60 individuals waiting for hanger space at the airport.
 - Acquisition of Land for Future Development
 - Cooperative efforts with Corinth-Shiloh Fire Department
 - Ongoing Work with the FAA
- Discussion followed.

Mr. Dexter thanked Mr. Short & Mr. Talbert for their thoughtful presentations.

Mr. Short invited those interested Council members to go on a short tour of the airport to see first hand the existing facilities and areas for future development. Mr. Dexter noted that Council would participate in the tour and that it would take place after the adjournment of the meeting.

Adjourn:

Mr. Thrift made a motion, seconded by Mr. McCall, approved 3 – 0 to adjourn the meeting at 8:01 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Elizabeth G. Hulse
Clerk to Council