

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 out and interviews will be on April 17th.

Airport Plans:

Provided is the draft copy of the new ALP (Airport Layout Plan) showing all the new hangars, construction, FEMA ramp, FBO's and the Drone facility. April 15th is the last submission to FAA. The Master Plan has been submitted and has provided the analysis, proposed construction, development and beginning stages of the EA (Environmental Assessment), so they have been able to review as we go along. The last piece to finalize is the ALP (Airport Layout Plan) document showing the airport's surfaces and proposed construction. This plan has provided all completed and in-progress construction. Once the ALP is submitted, the FAA is not allowing pen and ink changes after the approval. After the 15th (what month?) when the last document is submitted, the FAA expected to get back to SBY management 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 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 better inform the status to all tenants.

Wings & Wheels:

Wings and Wheels advertising will start in about a week. The Independent will do a large ad showcasing the event along with a few radio spots. Funding is being provided by the Salisbury Pilot's Association.

Senator Visit:

Dawn reached out to Senators Cardin, Van Hollen from Maryland 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 topics to 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 introduced a new tenant here at the SBY Airport, Nick Olmstead with Kilroy Aviation. Kilroy Aviation does Organizational Design (ODA) that includes after production modifications. Bill Penna made an announcement that as of April 1st, the ATCT (Control Tower) had turned 20 years old. Bill thanked 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 funding. 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 the FAA had been given the impression the D-Drone was for counter measures. It is going to be used for surveillance of the drones to be tracked beyond line-of-sight. The D-Drone system will provide a second layer of safety by setting up a second system of surveillance of drones when both testing and traveling between the SBY Airport and Wallops Island Airport.

Dawn shared that she had another good meeting with the prospective FBO Dawn is expecting to receive their letter of intent soon. SBY Airport currently does not have full service aircraft maintenance. The need for an aircraft maintenance facility in a full service Fixed Base Operator (FBO) has become necessary to grow the airport, attract corporate aircraft that results in additional larger hangar construction. Private/Public hangar construction has been lost specifically because there is no aircraft maintenance facility. Under normal conditions, a FBO is responsible for removing disabled aircraft from a runway. SBY Airport does not have that ability so the responsibility falls on the airport staff

Fuel Tanks to be removed:

Dawn has been talking to MDE while they have been working on the wetlands. Shell was out last summer and did a sight survey. Steel 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. Fuel tanks were ordered last summer prior to the steel tariffs resulting in a cost savings. Wayne Strausburg mentioned that the only other County owned underground fuel tank, services the Government Office Building. They have contracted to get that removed. He explained that Wicomico County can't be exposed to the potential environmental hazard liability. 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