

Griffin Spalding Airport

" Your Aviation Gateway"

1035 South Hill Street Griffin, GA 30224 www.gsairport.com

Telephone (770) 227-2928 Fax (770) 229-2346

Minutes of Airport Authority Meeting

10 December, 2012 6:00PM

Attendees:

Cmr. Dick Morrow (C) Cmr. Joanne Todd Cmr. Raymond Ray Cmr. Eddie Freeman Mr. Ron Alexander Mr. Keith Smith Mr. Larry Johnson Mr. Carl Pruett

Also in Attendance:

Mr. Taurus Freeman (Director, Planning & Development)

Mr. Robert Mohl (Airport Director)

Mr. Mike Reiter (LPA / Michael Baker Consultants)

I. Call to Order:

At 6:00PM with a quorum present the Chairman, Cmr. Morrow, called the meeting to order.

- **II. Adopt Minutes:** The Chairman made a request to entertain a motion to accept the minutes from the Airport Authority Meeting held on 12 November 2012. Mr. Carl Pruett motioned to approve the minutes, Mr. Keith Smith seconded. The motion was approved with one abstention (Cmr. Morrow as he was not in attendance at the 12 Nov 2012 meeting). (7-0-1).
- III. **Audience Comments:** Mr. Burt Newsome of 237 Sapelo Road, Griffin, GA. addressed the Airport Authority. Mr. Newsome expressed his frustration of not knowing what to do with his property due to not knowing if his property is to be purchased for the new airport and when this will eventually occur. People in the affected area are waiting as the process drags out. He briefly described that the loss of Interstate 75 & the loss of Gordon College resulted in missed opportunities that the county can no longer afford to ignore, he commented that folks cannot absorb any new tax increases that we must attract new businesses. He offered the suggestion that we get with a commuter airline (he proposed Atlanta Southeast Airlines ASA or the like) and let them know of our project to see if they can help with a potential investment deal. Commissioner Morrow agreed with Mr. Newsome adding that if taxpayers were aware that expanded business aviation service would increase tax revenues to the City & County, if they understood the economics of an airport, they would be supporting the new airport project. Cmr. Morrow reiterated revenue statements from the 2011 Georgia Department of Transportation Economic Impact Study, these are the types of opportunities Mr. Newsome spoke about and we need people to learn & understand. Mr. Newsome stated that when we find the money he does not want to be the last, he wants to be one of the first he is "ready to go". Cmr. Morrow stated that he and his family went through a land acquisition process and he recognizes the frustration and uncertainty.

IV. Old Business:

a. Support Request Letter: Cmr. Morrow reviewed and informed the Board on the Aviation Development Plan that Taurus Freeman (Director, Planning & Development) & Robert Mohl (Airport Director) are working on. Cmr. Morrow stated that once this ADP is completed he will include it in a Support Request Package that will be sent out in January. Mr. Taurus Freeman presented the Aviation Development Plan for Board review. He stated that this is a hybrid marketing / information document that can be used when trying to inform the public and or marketing to businesses that may be interested in the future. A discussion between Mr. Keith Smith and Cmr. Morrow on looking for the data in the ADP that shows what a single typical corporate jet would mean if based at the new airport. Cmr. Morrow replied that he had calculated based on our (City & County & School Board milage rates) for one 10 million dollar jet the community would receive \$160,000.00. AD stated that he had a similar slide in a different power point presentation that he would send to Taurus for inclusion into the ADP.

Old Business: continued...

- b. Spalding County Commission FLUM Amendment: Cmr. Morrow informed the Authority that he, Mr. Pruett, Mr. Johnson, & Mr. Smith attended the County Commission meeting in which the changes to the Future Land Use Map (FLUM) for the County was discussed. He reiterated at that meeting the need for the new airport and the jobs, revenue and tax revenues it would generate for the community. It passed 3 to 2. He further commended County Commissioner Flowers-Taylor on the speech she made regarding the FLUM amendment and the direction she would like to see the County move towards. She recognized that the counties around Spalding enjoyed the benefits of growth and development but could not understand why some citizens of Spalding County constantly criticize policy decisions and the lack of growth yet vocally oppose opportunities like the new airport to bring in jobs and opportunities they so desperately need. Cmr. Freeman, Mr. Pruett, Smith & Johnson reiterated their agreement & delight in Commissioner Flowers-Taylor bravery in the stand that she took. Mrs. Todd also expressed her gratitude for City Commissioner Ryan McLemore at the last City Commission meeting in which he expressed similar passionate statements and a desire to see this project get going, as he recognizes the importance of the opportunities it represents and the benefits to the community we could be afforded.
- V. New Business: Commissioner Morrow called for the Committee Chairs to meet on Monday the 7th of January to discuss the transition of the current airfield from City & County control over to Airport Authority Control.
- VI. Report of Committees:
- **a.** Budget & Finance no report at this time
- **b.** Legal & Insurance no report at this time
- c. Personnel no report at this time
- **d.** Property & Assets no report at this time
- VII. Airport Director's Report: AD report has been delayed until the January 2013 meeting.
- VIII. Authority Board Member Comments: A motion was made to present recommendation; Current Airport, Proposed Non-Essential Air Service Property Map to City & County Board of Commissioners for approval to request FAA declaration & release from grant assurances.

 Cmr. Raymond Ray, 2nd Cmr. Eddie Freeman. (8-0)
- IX. Executive Session:

Motion to go into Executive Session – Mrs. Joanne Todd, 2nd Mr. Keith Smith. (8-0) Motion to exit Executive Session – Mrs. Joanne Todd, 2nd Mr. Carl Pruett. (8-0)

- X. Next Airport Authority Board Meeting: 14 January, 2013 6PM Location: One Griffin Center
- **XI. Adjournment:** At 7:25PM The Chair entertained a motion to adjourn, **Mr. Keith Smith** motioned to adjourn & **Mrs. Joanne Todd** seconded, the motion was unanimously passed, (8-0).

Respectfully Submitted:

Joanne Todd Secretary, Griffin-Spalding Airport Authority

C: Griffin-Spalding Airport Authority Airport Advisory Board Kenny Smith, City Manager William Wilson, County Manager



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Mr. Robert Mohl (Airport Director)

Mr. Mike Reiter (LPA / Michael Baker Consultants)

Call to Order:

With a quorum present the Chairman, Cmr. Morrow, called the meeting to order.

Cmr. Morrow read a statement from State Law regarding Executive Session and the restrictions governing what would be deemed permissible discussion(s).

Cmr. Morrow started the discussion by recapping several meetings he attended over the past few weeks:

- a. Discussion regarding previous meeting with United Banks as a potential partner in obtaining the necessary funds required to purchase the land necessary to satisfy FAA / GDOT requirement to "bring the land to the table". United Bank requires a "check-list" type formal request to initiate its Board discussions.
- b. Discussion of potential request, through a long term contract, that the City & County will add an additional sum of money (each) to the airport annual budget in order to cover the interest on the potential loan, until such time that the authority receives its reimbursement from FAA in which will pay back the principle.
- c. Discussion regarding previous meeting with GDOT (Carol Comer & Carla Sands) to identify certain tracts of the current airfield, to be presented to the City & County Board of Commissioners for approval, to request that the FAA approve & declare the identified tracts as Non-Essential for Aviation Use so that the identified parcels may be:
 - 1. Used as collateral to secure loans to purchase land for the new airport.
 - 2. Sell identified tracts in order to obtain funds to purchase land for the new airport.
 - 3. Approach & discuss with The Griffin-Kiwanis Fair Association on the possibility for the organization to purchase the land currently leased. Kiwanis pays GSA approximately \$20,000.00 annually for the properties in both buildings & land leased.
 - 4. Approach & discuss with Spalding County the possibility of Spalding County purchasing the Airport Walking Track. Spalding County pays GSA approximately \$91,000.00 annually for the property.

Question raised: If we sell the land identified as Non-Essential for Aviation use, would we lose the revenue they generate? Should we not then keep ownership of /and use as collateral instead, therefore having both the benefit of the collateral, as well as continuing to receive the revenues collected for the land leased?

Respectfully Submitted:

Joanne Todd Secretary, Griffin-Spalding Airport Authority