



"Your Aviation Gateway"

## Griffin Spalding Airport

1035 South Hill Street  
Griffin, GA 30224

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### Minutes of Airport Authority Meeting 14 October, 2013 6:00PM

#### Attendees:

Cmr. Dick Morrow (C)  
Cmr. Raymond Ray  
Mr. Ron Alexander

Cmr. Joanne Todd (Sec)  
Mr. Carl Pruett

Cmr. Bart Miller  
Mr. Larry Johnson

#### Also in Attendance:

Mr. Mike Reiter (Michael Baker / LPA)  
Mr. Robert Mohl (Airport Director)  
Mr. Alvin Huff (Citizen Engagement Specialist)  
Mr. Ray Lightner (Griffin Daily News)  
Mr. Fred Gordon (Tenant)

#### **I. Call to Order:**

At 6:03PM with a quorum present the Chairman, Cmr. Morrow, called the meeting to order.

- II. Adopt Minutes:** The Chairman noted the amended agenda including adding the Civil Air Patrol Request under "New Business" and adding Item 8 "Executive Session" to discuss pending litigation. The Chairman requested a motion be made to accept the amended agenda, Cmr. Todd made a motion to approve the amended agenda, Cmr. Ray seconded and the motion was approved (7-0). The Chairman noted a couple of grammatical errors and corrected the name from "Springs 1888" to that of "1888 Mills" in paragraph (3), AD stated he would correct. The Chairman requested a motion to accept the minutes from the Airport Authority Meeting held on 09 September 2013. Cmr. Ray motioned to approve the minutes, Mr. Alexander seconded. The motion was approved (7-0).

- III. Audience Comments:** None

#### **IV. Old Business:**

**a. Property Acquisition Update** (Current Airfield): AD updated the Authority on the status of the McLendon Property acquisition effort. AD stated that the Phase II Environmental survey has been completed, that there was no soil contamination found as a result of the discovery of the underground storage tank located on the adjacent property. The consultants have met with the owner obtained his permission to do a site survey and are preparing the report that will be presented to the Authority in December.

**b. SPLOST:** Mr. Alexander recapped the meeting of the Budget Committee identifying several items that will require non-FAA funding over the next few years (see attached). AD illustrated several of the items and researched costs collected from consultants and vendors for the Authority to consider.

**c. IWANA & Facebook Update:** AD updated the Board on the inclusion of the latest power-point presentations and map of the proposed new airport displayed on the IWANA page of the Airport's website. Additionally, AD displayed the current airport's new Facebook page.

**V. New Business:**

**a. Civil Air Patrol Request:** Captain John Burkett, new Commander of the Griffin Composite Squadron made a request of the Airport Authority to utilize the obstacle course commonly referred to as the “Dawg Dash Course” for the purpose of raising funds to effect repairs to the CAP building (see attached). Mr. Alexander made a motion to allow the use of the obstacle course, Mr. Pruett seconded and the motion passed (7-0)

**VI. Report of Committees:**

- a.** Budget & Finance – report provided in item IV. b – SPLOST (see attached Budget Committee minutes)
- b.** Legal & Insurance – AD commented that he had met with Mr. Lavender and are reviewing the current code regarding the GS-Airport, a recommendation will be brought to the Authority pending the outcome of the review. AD stated the code changes will also address issue that happened the proceeding Wednesday (09 October, 2013). Mr. Alexander asked the AD to elaborate on the incident (see attached AD’s MFR & GPD Police Report 13-23259).
- c.** Personnel – No report at this time..
- d.** Property & Assets – No report at this time.
- e.** Transition – No report at this time

**VII. Airport Director’s Report:** AD provided monthly data reports regarding airfield expenditure, revenues and trends for the month of September 2013 (see attached).

**VIII. Executive Session:** The Chairman stated that he would entertain a motion to go into Executive Session. Cmr. Todd made a motion to go into Executive Session, Mr. Alexander seconded and the motion was approved (7-0). Cmr. Todd made a motion to come out of Executive Session, Mr. Pruett seconded, the motion passed (7-0). The Chair entertained a motion as per the discussion in Executive Session. Cmr. Ray motioned and Mr. Johnson seconded to allow the City Attorney and the Airport Director to do all that is necessary to collect a debt (as specified by the discussion in ES) by any and all legal means. The motion passed (5-0-2) Mr. Ron Alexander and Cmr. Bart Miller abstained.

**IX. Authority Board Member Comments:** Cmr. Morrow made a statement indicating that the New Airport project is tabled due to the inability to reach a decision regarding the up-front funding necessary to meet the FAA / GDOT requirement for bringing the land to the table.

Cmr. Todd objected to tabling as this body (the Airport Authority) was developed for the purpose of securing funding and operating the new airport and that we have put in so much money (\$600,000.00 plus dollars) and time that we should continue to strive to accomplish this task as it would put the City & County in the best possible position to bring in industry to create jobs and get the airport in a self sustaining business operation.

Mr. Pruett indicated that he thinks there may be some other avenues to research and would like to explore those options. He agreed with Cmr. Todd that we should not table this. Cmr. Morrow fought a good hard fight and ran into a brick wall, as described by Mr. Pruett.

Mr. Larry Johnson stated that he knows there are a few people opposed to the new airport but that everyone he speaks with, the majority of them are for the project, they are concerned about our community, they are committed to growth for the business and the jobs that this will provide our folks.

Cmr. Morrow stated that he misspoke that he is not seeking to “Table” the new airport project, but that he has exhausted all he can do to bring a deal forward. Therefore, unless there is a change we will proceed with the transition and finish the transfer of operations to the Airport Authority.

Cmr. Ray stated that we are coming up against a time limit in which we must determine which airport we will support and support fully with all the resources and determination to make this operation self sustaining.

Mr. Alexander reiterated that due to our indecision on the new airport it has been allowed to deteriorate, over the last few years we have been putting our efforts and money into trying to get a new airport. Recognizing that this is a great effort and would do well for the community however, at some point we need to draw a line and say we cannot proceed, then, let us fully support the current one, finding ways to reduce the operating deficit. Cmr. Todd asked the AD how are we letting the current airport deteriorate? AD responded that we have been focusing on maintaining the safety items only. Any capital development aimed at reducing the deficit has not been addressed. FAA / GDOT has resisted major repairs putting in only the minimal items necessary to maintain safety standards until we make a decision on which airport we will put our efforts into.

Cmr. Morrow read into the record the profit/loss of all utilities and fees paid to the City of Griffin and what additionally the City provides above and beyond the money received (see attached).

**X. Next Airport Authority Board Meeting : 11 November, 2013 6PM**  
**Location : One Griffin Center**

**XI. Adjournment:** At 7:36 PM The Chair entertained a motion to adjourn, **Cmr. Raymond Ray** motioned to adjourn & **Mr. Larry Johnson** seconded, the motion was unanimously passed, (7-0).

Respectfully Submitted:

Joanne Todd  
Secretary,  
Griffin-Spalding Airport Authority

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