



"Your Aviation Gateway"

## Griffin Spalding Airport

1035 South Hill Street  
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### Minutes of Airport Authority Meeting 13 January, 2014 6:00PM

#### Attendees:

Cmr. Dick Morrow (C)  
Mr. Carl Pruett

Cmr. Bart Miller  
Mr. Larry Johnson

Cmr. Raymond Ray  
Mr. Ron Alexander

#### Also in Attendance:

Mr. Kenny Smith (City Manager)  
Mr. William Wilson (County Manager)  
Mr. Markus Schwab (City Finance Director)  
Mr. Miles Neville (City HR Director)  
Mr. Robert Mohl (Airport Director)  
Mr. Ray Lightner (Griffin Daily News)

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

At 6:01PM with a quorum present the Chairman, Cmr. Morrow, called the meeting to order.

Cmr. Joanne Todd motioned to amend the agenda to move item d. "Authority Insurance Coverage – Carl Pruett" under Old Business up to number II (or next) on the agenda, so that Mrs. Howard of Millenium Insurance did not have to sit through the updates until it was her turn to present. Mr. Carl Pruett seconded, the motion was approved (6-0).

#### **II. Old Business:**

d. "Authority Insurance Coverage – Carl Pruett" Mr. Pruett introduced Mrs. Debra Howard ACSR of Millenium of Griffin Insurance Company, Mrs. Howard presented the Authority with a brief description of several options regarding coverage for officials, management & employment practices liability to insure the Authority members (see attached).

#### **III. Officer Elections:**

Mr. Larry Johnson nominated Dick Morrow for Authority Chairman, Cmr. Joanne Todd motioned to close nominations and accept by acclamation Cmr. Morrow for Chairman, Mr. Carl Pruett seconded, the motion was approved (6-0).

Cmr. Joanne Todd nominated Mr. Ron Alexander to serve as Authority Vice Chair, Cmr. Todd motioned to close nominations and accept by acclamation Mr. Alexander for Vice Chair, Mr. Carl Pruett seconded, the motion was approved (6-0).

Mr. Carl Pruett nominated Cmr. Joanne Todd to serve as the Authority's combine Treasure and Secretary, Mr. Ron Alexander motioned to close nominations and accept by acclamation Cmr. Todd as the Treasurer / Secretary, Mr. Carl Pruett seconded, the motion was approved (6-0).

#### **IV. Adopt Minutes:** The Chairman made a request to entertain a motion to accept the minutes from the Airport Authority Meeting held on 13 January 2014. Mr. Carl Pruett motioned to approve the minutes, Mr. Larry Johnson seconded. The motion was approved (6-0).

**V. Audience Comments:** Mr. John Sullivan, 129 Old Scout Rd., Jackson GA. 30233. Living in Northeast Lamar County states that he feels he may be affected by the traffic pattern of the proposed new airport. Mr. Sullivan asked for an update regarding the latest on the new airport initiative. Cmr. Morrow stated that he will provide an update on the new airport proposal later on in the agenda, if all your questions are not addressed after that brief please feel free to come back up and ask additional questions.

**VI. Old Business:**

- a. FAA / GDOT New Airport Proposal Review:** Cmr. Morrow briefed the Authority on the results of a meeting requested by GDOT in Atlanta. In attendance from the City & County were Cmr. Morrow, Mr. Kenny Smith, Mr. William Wilson, Mike Reiter of LPA, Mr. Robert Mohl. In attendance from GDOT were Ms. Carla Sands, Inetrim Aviation Director & Ms. Katie Eleam, Regional Program Manager. GDOT was briefed on our intentions with regard to identification of non-essential air service parcels on the current airport, detailed cost estimate and phasing plan of land parcels for new airport, agreement proposals regarding monies derived from the potential sale of identified non-essential air service parcels prior to new airport construction and current airport property after new airport construction. GDOT had several additional clarification points addressed by Airport Director & LPA. Current status: awaiting GDOT / FAA response.
- b. Authority Accounting & Finance Policy:** City Finance Director Mr. Markus Schwab addressed the proposed policy & agreement between the City of Griffin and the Airport Authority regarding provision of services provide for component units by the city of Griffin in support of the Griffin-Spalding County Airport operation (see attached). Cmr. Miller asked. "What was the cost to be paid by the Authority to the City?" Director Schwab outlined the budget process and the review & apporvals process for both the City & County. It is very similar to previous years, this agreement clarifies the exact procedures & methodology. Cmr. Morrow reiterated that this year will have the additional oversight & review of the Airport Authority Budget Committee & approval by the Authority prior to City & County review. Cmr. Joanne Todd motioned to accept the agreement and recommend to City Board of Commissioners for approval. Mr. Ron Alexander seconded, the motion was approved (6-0).
- c. City / County Personnel Agreement:** City HR Director Mr. Miles Neville addressed the proposed agreement between the City of Griffin and the Airport Authority regarding the status, disposition, reporting and organizational responsibilities governing the employees of the Griffin-Spalding County Airport (see attached). Mr. Ron Alexander motioned to accept the agreement and recommend to City Board of Commissioners for approval. Mr. Carl Pruett seconded, the motion was approved (6-0).

**VII. New Business:**

- a. Transfer Real-Estate (Airport Physical Land & Structures) Discussion.**  
Consensus of the Authority is to wait to hear from the FAA regarding our proposal on the new airport land purchase funding & phasing plan before proceeding with negotiating with City & County to transfer title & physical property to the Authority.

**VI. Report of Committees:**

- a. Budget & Finance** – Mr. Alexander reported on Budget Committee Meeting of 08 Jan 2014
- b. Legal & Insurance** – Cmr. Morrww appointed Mr. Carl Pruett the new Chair of the Legal & Insurance Committee.
- c. Personnel** – Mr. Johnson reported on discussions with City Manager and Airport Director, City Policy format.
- d. Property & Assets** – Chair to meet with AD to review data & plan on property transfer.
- 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 December 2013 (see attached).

**VIII. Authority Board Member Comments:**

Cmr. Bart Miller asked. "Why do we not put the new airport on the ballot, rather than ramming it down people's throats?" "As a County Commissioner I do not feel that I have the Authority to spend 60 million dollars to cost the taxpayers over the next 10-15 years. If it passes then it passes, if not then we need to forget it and think about the old airport and do something with SPLOST money or something to upgrade and to keep it off the taxpayers to operate it, not to operate it but to keep it up to FAA standards".

Cmr. Morrow replied that he believes once we get the response or approval from FAA on what the rules are going to be, then we will send it to the City & County to approve. It will be approximately 3 million from the City & 3 million from the County (not 60 million) and let the Boards make the call.

Cmr. Todd stated that she believes it can go for a vote, but that several Commissioners from both the City & County were elected and / or re-elected who publically supported the new airport, I feel this is a validation from the voters. But I have always been an advocate by a vote from the people. However, if the FAA comes forward and says that we can do this thing then I think we're foolish if we do not help our community and build an airport and provide jobs and build an economy in Spalding County. I think that you are elected one of the biggest citizen complaints is that we don't bring jobs to the community, well this is one way we can. We have expanded business with Kroger & the hospital, we got more expansions coming, we are seeing some growth but if the FAA comes back and says yes then this is something I am for, bringing new jobs to Griffin.

Mr. Johnson stated that once we get our answer from FAA then we will know what direction to take. If we do not build a new airport then we are going to be faced with spending 4 or 5 million at the old airport just on infrastructure. 6 million to build a new one or 5 million on the old one. If we don't get the new one then we will work as hard as we can to make the current airport not costing our citizens but to be self-sufficient, and that will take investment.

Mr. Pruett. - Just like Larry said we're facing putting 4 or 5 million at the old airport. We may build some new hangers but we're not going to make any real money, we may get close to breaking even years from now. For 6 million we can build the new one and have the jobs associated with that. I can just about guarantee that if we do not build the new one, then we're going to ask for money to improve the old airport and folks will say, "Why are we putting taxpayer money into a failing airport?" then we'll be right where we've always been, subsidizing a just-get-by airport, we'll never gain any ground, we'll never stop the bleeding.

**IX. Next Airport Authority Board Meeting : 10 February, 2014 6PM**  
**Location : One Griffin Center**

**X. Adjournment:** At 7:47 PM The Chair entertained a motion to adjourn, **Cmr. Joanne Todd** motioned to adjourn & **Mr. Larry Johnson** seconded, the motion was unanimously passed, (6-0).

Respectfully Submitted:

Joanne Todd  
Secretary,  
Griffin-Spalding Airport Authority

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