

**CURRITUCK COUNTY
AIRPORT ADVISORY AUTHORITY
MINUTES OF MEETING OF
APRIL 21, 2004**

The regular monthly meeting of the CCAAA was held on April 21, 2004, at the Terminal Building Conference Room. Members Present: Tracy Eure, Chair, David Messina, Bob Kohler, Lewis Babb, Sr., Tom Brady, and Richard Turner. Absent: Jerry Old. Also present: Commissioner Paul Martin and County Manager Dan Scanlon. Guests: Martha Snowden, Jo Ann Snowden and John Snowden, III.

1. **Call to Order** – Chairman Eure called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM and called the roll.
2. **Additions or Deletions to the Agenda** – There were none.
3. **Approval of Minutes** – Mr. Kohler moved to approve the minutes of the March 17, 2004, meeting as submitted. Mr. Martin seconded the motion. The minutes were approved.
4. **Fuel Report** – Mr. Scanlon reviewed the reports. The decrease in Jet ‘A’ fuel could probably be attributed to the decreased length of the runway prohibiting some jets from utilizing the airport.
5. **Old Business**

➤ **Transfer of Airport Property to County**

Mr. Scanlon related that it would probably still be the summer before the transfer will come before the Council of State.

➤ **Runway Extension**

Mr. Scanlon reported that a variance from the FAA had been requested to go ahead and open the southern end of the runway until such time as the County takes ownership of the area between the Water Plant and US 158 where the trees are a height obstruction. The variance would stay in place until the land transfer, at which time the County would remove the trees. As a second option, the County has also asked the State to remove the trees. If this request is granted, the variance would not be necessary. It could take 30-60 days to receive a response from the FAA. Until one of those requests is granted, the south end cannot be opened. Steve Bright estimates a 90 day period before opening that end. On the north end, the purchase of the Taylor property was to close the following Friday. Negotiations on the remaining property were still in progress. Mr. Messina asked if, at the time the south end is opened, a permanent displaced threshold NOTAM could be issued. Mr. Scanlon indicated he would discuss that with Talbert & Bright who were scheduled to meet with him the following week to discuss the project as well as negotiations with the FBO.

➤ **NCAA Conference**

Mr. Scanlon indicated that Wayne Leary was making reservations for the Conference and those attending should contact Mr. Leary. The members requested that Mr. Leary also attend.

➤ **Sun & Fun**

Mr. Messina reported that the weather during the event had not been favorable enough to warrant maintaining a presence at the airport. If not for bad weather, he felt this would have been a good economic opportunity and possibly next year, things would work out better.

➤ **Jet “A” Fuel Timer**

Mr. Scanlon related that new software had been installed which extended the time for fueling from 120 seconds to 255 seconds. Mr. Brady expressed the fact that the software was much faster; however, the number of gallons also needed to be increased, at least to 250. Mr. Scanlon was to look into that.

➤ **AWOS**

Mr. Scanlon reported there was still a problem with the telephone dial up. Neither Sprint nor the installer could find a problem with their equipment so he is trying to set up a time for both to be on site together. Mr. Brady remarked that the signal strength is good.

➤ **Terminal Building End Gables**

Mr. Scanlon stated that the screening had been installed in the end gables.

➤ **SeaAir**

Mr. Babb asked about the status of SeaAir. Mr. Scanlon related that the rezoning for the Pine Island airstrip was approved by the Board of Commissioners as well as the Special Use Permit. They have executed a tie-down agreement with the County.

➤ **Tie-Downs**

Mr. Scanlon related that Steve Bright was designing an apron expansion and overlay to reconfigure tie-downs. He hoped to be able to mark the spaces and assign a particular number to those leasing them.

➤ **FBO**

Mr. Scanlon was to meet with the FBO and Steve Bright to put together a package to take to the Aeronautics Council.

➤ **Hangars**

Mr. Babb asked about more hangars. Mr. Scanlon related that the Board of Commissioners had discussed this during a work session with regard to land leases for building hangars as opposed to the County constructing additional hangars. There was the concern that land leases would take control away from the County. However, Mr. Scanlon had asked them to commit to one or the other since there is such a demand for hangar space. The Commissioners asked for more information on land leases to be brought back to them. The Commissioners are interested in protecting airport expansion when considering economic development.

➤ **FAA Request to Locate Electronic Equipment at the Airport**

Mr. Babb asked about the status of the request. Mr. Scanlon related that the County Attorney had reviewed the tower lease agreement and it would be sent to the State for approval. The FAA was fine with moving the tower further from the runway as recommended by Steve Bright.

6. New Business

➤ **Airport Staffing**

Chairman Eure stated that he had received calls concerning the need for staff at the airport. Discussion followed. Mr. Scanlon related that, since discussions were in progress with an FBO, when an agreement has been reached, he plans to request that they go ahead and place staff at the airport prior to the construction of their building. The majority of the Board of Commissioners does not support hiring staff. Hiring college students for temporary summer positions was mentioned. Mr. Scanlon reminded the members that the Board of Commissioners has committed to methodical progress.

➤ **Exit Gate**

Mr. Brady asked if a gate could be constructed with access to the parking lot, so passengers would not have to walk around the fence to get to vehicles. An exit-only gate was discussed; however, Mr. Scanlon stated that, when the terminal building is staffed, exit will be possible through the building. No gate was originally installed for security purposes.

7. Other Business

➤ **May Meeting**

Since the airport conference is in May, there was discussion on whether to hold the regularly scheduled meeting in May. It was agreed that the members would be notified if a meeting was to be held.

➤ **Concerns**

Chairman Eure recognized the guests. Martha Snowden expressed her dissatisfaction with the way airport decisions were implemented without input from the residential community surrounding the airport. She is disturbed by noise from low-flying aircraft and runway lighting. John Snowden, III, spoke on the same issues as well as accusations of conflicts of interest concerning advisory authority members. Jo Ann Snowden was also disturbed by aircraft noise at all hours as well as the proposed taking of her land by the County. Discussion followed. The advisory board members felt they had addressed the noise concerns insofar as it was in their power; however, military aircraft are out of their jurisdiction.

Adjourn

There being no further business, Mr. Scanlon moved to adjourn. Mr. Martin seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned.