

On March 2, 2020 the City of Wauchula Airport Advisory Board met for its regular meeting at 1:30 p.m. in the Commission Chambers, Suite 105 of Historic City Hall located at 225 East Main Street, Wauchula, Florida.

Board members present were Chairman Lavon Cobb, Ward Grimes, Mike Wilkinson and Steve Johnson. Absent was member Vice-Chairman Michael Gillispie.

Also present were Assistant City Manager Olivia Minshew, City Clerk Holly Smith and Chief John Eason.

Cobb declared a quorum and called the meeting to order.

Elect Chair and Vice-Chair

Grimes motioned to appoint Cobb as Chair, seconded by Johnson.

Cobb called for all in favor, all responded aye.

For those opposed no response. Motion carried.

Johnson motioned to appoint Gillispie as Vice-Chair, seconded by Wilkinson.

Cobb called for all in favor, all responded aye.

For those opposed no response. Motion carried.

Approval of the Agenda

Johnson motioned to approve the agenda, seconded by Grimes

With no discussion, Cobb called for all in favor, all responded aye.

For those opposed no response. Motion carried.

Approval of the Minutes of November 5, 2018

Johnson motioned to approve the November 5th Minutes, seconded by Grimes.

With no discussion, Cobb called for all in favor, all responded aye.

For those opposed no response. Motion carried.

Automated Weather Observation System (AWOS) Plans Review

Russ Holliday with Avcon addressed the Board and presented them with the AWOS construction plans.

Johnson questioned whether Mosaic would allow their trees to be cut down and the possibility of a berm being built and interference with the signal. Holliday stated he had not thought of that and that could affect the sensors. Holliday noted the intent was to send Mosaic a letter asking for permission to clear the trees in that area. Johnson stated there was a County set back but was unsure of what it was. Johnson asked Holliday to check with the County and find out what the set back was. Holliday noted there was some flexibility with moving the AWOS laterally toward the runway. Holliday stated there was plenty of time because FAA wants to build the AWOS the same time as Taxiway Alfa Rehab Project. Holliday noted it would probably be a year and a half before the AWOS was constructed. Holliday stated he was trying to get the design completed and satisfy FDOT and to add these plans to the Taxiway Alfa Rehab Project and FDOT will participate on the construction portion.

Airport Update

Taxiway Rehab Alpha Project

Wilkinson explained he was new to the Board and asked Holliday to explain the taxiway project. Holliday stated the taxiway project was identified whenever the recent runway rehab was being done. The project will address the pavement conditioning index (PCI) which has fallen below a 65. Holliday noted the PCI was probably around 55 now. Holliday stated there were a couple of taxiway connectors that are leaning straight from the aprons to the runway and they were no longer allowed. The runway rehab will include a signage job and the AWOS project. Holliday also explained the paving process.

Cobb asked about t-hangar leases and vacancies. Minshew stated the hangars are full and there was still a waiting list. Minshew stated in the JACIP the construction of a set of ten hangars was not for another couple of years. Cobb asked about fuel sales. Minshew noted they were consistent and prices are also

being monitored for competitive pricing. Cobb asked if the number of landings were being tracked. Minshew stated technically we are not but some equipment had been located at the airport called Vertower. Minshew noted it was a virtual tower that could track operations at the airport. It tracks the tail number of the aircrafts and identifies who had been there and for what length of time. Grimes explained a company had installed an antenna a couple of months ago and it covers central Florida to southern Georgia. Grimes noted everything was not functional yet but the equipment was there. Grimes noted the company was getting the data but we had not received any of the data at this time but will have access to the numbers. Cobb asked the dates for Bensen Days. Grimes stated March 25th through March 28th. Cobb stated that use to come before the Board for review. Minshew stated now it was done at staff level.

Minshew gave a quick recap of what would be happening in the near future. 1. Closing the design for the AWOS project 2. Grant application would be submitted for design of the taxiway rehab in Summer 3. Receive grants from FDOT and hopefully FAA for the design of the taxiway project 4. Bid the construction for both projects together as one project to hopefully increase the amount of participation in bidding.

Minshew stated there would not be much activity at the airport for the next year because of designing.

Comments from the Public

There was no public present for comment.

With no further business to discuss, Cobb adjourned the meeting at 2:12 p.m.

Lavon Cobb, Chairman

City Clerk Holly Smith