



Minutes
City of Hartsville South Carolina
Airport Advisory Board Meeting
Monday, November 13, 2023 – 5:30pm
Hartsville Regional Airport
1083 Airport Road

PURSUANT TO FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT SC CODE 30-4-80: WRITTEN NOTICE WAS DELIVERED TO THE PRESS BY EMAIL ON THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 2023 AND DULY POSTED AT THE HARTSVILLE REGIONAL AIRPORT AT 1083 HARTSVILLE AIRPORT ROAD AND ON HARTSVILLESC.GOV. HARTSVILLE REGIONAL AIRPORT IS AN ACCESSIBLE FACILITY, FOR ASSISTANCE CALL 843-383-3018.

Members Present: Dr. Lee Gardner (Chair), Veda Jones, Curry Dawkins
Members Absent: Bryan Drayton, Wayne Guttery
Guest(s): Paul Werts
Staff: City Airport Staffer Brandon Brown, FBO Manager Mark DeFields
Council Ex-Officio: Robert Braddock

Call to Order

Board Chair Gardner called the meeting to order at 5:34pm, welcomed those in attendance.

Vote on minutes from September 11, 2023 meeting: Motion by Jones. Second by Dawkins. Passed with all ayes.

FBO Report for July and August 2023 – Mark DeFields – refer to reports to City Council.

- Status of Flight Training, Aircraft, Flight School Numbers
- Number of flights for July and August
- Fuel Sales for July and August
- Shade Hangar occupancy, rental receipts
- Enclosed T-hangar occupancy, rental receipts
- Fuel truck status, single point fueling availability
 - Waiting on Rebel Services to provide a quote. It could be more expensive than obtaining a used fuel truck.

Report from the City Airport Manager – Brandon Brown

- Close out of Grant 15-16
 - No update. No feedback from the FAA.
- Recap of HVS terminal naming ceremony
 - All signage is up. Senator Malloy was very appreciative.
 - Gardner thanked city staff for putting on a great event.
- HVS Pavement Evaluation Report
 - Apron and taxiway need most attention as they received a grade of “failed”. These as well as runway and taxiway are currently in the CIP to be addressed.
- Report on FAA Southern Region Airport Conference
 - Attended most sessions relating to grants.
 - 2023 appropriations through 11/17/23. FAA authorization through 12/31/23
 - High bids and no bids are getting more common. Consider bidding alternatives. Recommended to bid projects for 120 days.
 - Must maintain at least \$750,000 on CIP to get \$150,000 in entitlement funds.
 - Revenue producing projects – FAA will only pay for once. Expectation is that enough money will be made to pay for next project.
 - Jones asked if other airports were encountering the same issues we are with funding. Brown stated yes. Larger airports get the most money. Also, FAA stated we should plan a gap year between design and construction projects.
 - Brown will email the most recent airport economic impact report from SC Aeronautics



Report from Talbert & Bright – Paul Werts

- Bidding on runway construction should take place around May
- Lights on runway need to be repaired. Get with SC Aeronautics as the state has a contractor that will provide discounted rates.
- Vegetation around airport property needs to be addressed. Areas of erosion also need to be addressed. Brown stated that he will get with public service to provide assistance with vegetation.
- Fence line needs to be addressed.
 - Holes and digging by animals leading to wildlife on airport grounds.

- SCAA Conference will take place the second week of February. It is wise to attend this conference as this can help with advocating for projects and receiving grant funds.

- DeFields asked about airport priorities moving forward. Bringing in corporate aviation will help sustain the airport in the long term. Werts was asked about airport priorities. He stated that even with the new building, other areas of the airport need to be addressed as they have depreciated over time. Key priorities should be:
 - Apron expansion – currently house 7 small planes however one jet could take up the entire apron.
 - Lighting – safety issue
 - Braddock stated the group need to come up with a plan of what needs to be fixed.
 - Group acknowledges the limited funding resources needed to make improvements. The group discussed coming up with a list of priorities to present to the city manager and Sen. Malloy to try and obtain funding.
 - Werts stated that the state has funding for grants. Maintenance grant match 25%, other grants 40% match.
 - Dawkins asked about the potential of obtaining funds from Darlington Count. Braddock and Gardner both acknowledged that this would be difficult to do.

Adjournment

Without objection, the meeting was adjourned at 6:55 pm.

Dr. Lee Gardner, Board Chair

Date