



DARE COUNTY AIRPORT AUTHORITY

**Dare County Regional Airport**

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**DARE COUNTY AIRPORT AUTHORITY  
MINUTES of the  
October 25, 2023 MEETING**

- Members Present:** Fred Newberry, Joe Blakaitis, George Henderson, Wally Overman, Pete Burkheimer
- Members Absent:** Charlie Davidson, Jim Kenny
- Also Attending:** Robert Hobbs, Hornthal, Riley, Ellis & Maland; Stacy Ambrose, Airport Director; Margaret Stauffer, Clerk to the Board; John Massey, Talbert & Bright
- Public Attending:** Brady Lozsaw, OBXA

Vice Chairman Newberry called the October 25, 2023 meeting of the Dare County Airport Authority to order at approximately 4:26 pm.

**ITEM 1 – Public Comments:**

No Comments submitted prior to the meeting.

**ITEM 2 – Engineer's Report:**

- **Airport Layout Plan** - NCODA have provided comments on the final facility requirements and alternatives chapters that were submitted in July. TBI is working on responses to NCDOA comments along with working to finalize the Airport Layout Plan drawings.
- **Runway Approach Clearing** - TBI has completed the design documents for the clearing work to be performed in the approaches to Runway 17 and 23 to address the penetrating trees on airport property identified by Jon Walker (FAA Flight Procedures) and those identified as part of the 18B Survey. The project has been advertised for bids. The prebid meeting is scheduled for Thursday November 2<sup>nd</sup>. The bid opening is scheduled for November 20, 2023.

- **Airfield Lighting System Rehabilitation, PAPI, Generator and Apron Lighting** - At the September NCDOT Board of Transportation meeting, award of a State Aid grant was made to Dare County Regional Airport for the Airfield Lighting System Rehabilitation project. The project has been advertised for bids. The prebid meeting is scheduled for Thursday November 2<sup>nd</sup>. The bid opening is scheduled for November 20, 2023.

**ITEM 3 - Attorney's Report:**

- Abandoned RV – NCDOT sent a final notice letter in September to the owner. NCDOT requires 30 days from the notice date grace from the date of the letter. Should the notice be undeliverable or delivered and the owner doesn't request a hearing, then the airport can file a petition and the airport can purchase it.
- Potential Land Purchase – The basic part of the contract has been approved, the final negotiations are about the money. The final offer will be brought back to the board to be approved.

**TEM 4 - Chair Report:**

Vice Chairman Newberry reports the following:

- The 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Event was cancelled due to weather. Tony Bruno, Chairman Davidson and Director Ambrose have met and discussed the possibility of rescheduling to event to November 18, 2023, 10-3pm.

**MOTION:** Joe Blakaitis motioned to reschedule the 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Airport to November 18, 2023.  
**SECOND:** Pete Burkheimer  
**DISCUSSION:** None  
**OPPOSED:** None  
**OUTCOME:** Carried

**ITEM 5 - Director's Report**

Director Ambrose reports the following:

- Grave relocation project – The Legacy Research Company has completed the survey and reported that there are 24 anomalies detected; which could be anything from a rock to remains. Steve Ward is the licensed contractor for the removal stage. There were some concerns raised regarding the broken headstones and relocating them. All the headstones are already broken in some way and it would be a difficult task.

Attorney Hobbs added that to ask the Wescott family and see if they want the existent headstones or new ones that the airport will provide. Invite the family to come during the process.

Wally Overman shared that maybe the Wescott and families might like the remains moved to the airports cemetery and a really nice memorial to near the terminal building.

Director Ambrose stated that after talking with the Airport Engineers the grassy area near the water is just west of the current site. This will give easier access for the families to visit.

The board members were in agreement that Director Ambrose met with the Wescott family and discuss the options. The Legacy group will process with the notifications to the families.

- NC Airport Association Annual Conference - Will be held in Asheville, NC in April 2024. There are rooms booked already.
- Cemetery vandalism – Photos provided to show the area of trash beside the mausoleum. There are signs of someone living in the bushes with beer cans everywhere. The police were notified and made record. A contractor is hired to clear out the bushes and some trees to help prevent this happening again. We have also received pricing for some fencing to with these issues.
- Beacon is back in service.
- OBXA hangar lease – The letter was received and gave a 30 day notice to be out by October 31, 2023. The board needs to approve to extend the lease to a particular date, as the attorney will prepare a RFQ.

**MOTION:** Pete Burkheimer motioned to have the Airport Attorney to prepare an amended hangar lease to OBXA to end on June 30, 2024.  
**SECOND:** Joe Blakaitis  
**DISCUSSION:** None  
**OPPOSED:** None  
**OUTCOME:** Carried

#### **ITEM 6 – Consent Agenda**

Review/Approve DCAA minutes for September 27, 2023 as presented.

**MOTION:** Joe Blakaitis motioned to approve the Consent Agenda minutes for the September 27, 2023 as presented.  
**SECOND:** George Henderson  
**DISCUSSION:** None  
**OPPOSED:** None  
**OUTCOME:** Carried

#### **ITEM 7 - Committee Reports:**

No reports.

**ITEM 8 - Comments from the Authority Members:**

None

**ITEM 9 - Adjourn**

**MOTION:** Wally Overman motioned to adjourn.  
**SECOND:** Joe Blakaitis  
**DISCUSSION:** None  
**OPPOSED:** None  
**OUTCOME:** Carried

The meeting was adjourned at 5:15 PM ET

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Margaret Stauffer, Clerk to the Board  
Dare County Airport Authority