

**AIRPORT AUTHORITY  
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES  
September 8, 2020**

9/8/2020 - Minutes

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Chair called the meeting to order at 5:33 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL

**Members Present:** Chuck Clegg, Robert Ohlinger, Clarke Gerard, Barbara Pelisek, John Lodge, Herb Gillis

**Ex-officio:** - Commissioner Curtis Gibson

**Staff Present:** Amanda Raabe, Airport Manager; Jennifer Nanek, City Clerk

3. Minutes - August 3, 2020

The minutes of the August 3, 2020 were reviewed. Herb Gillis made a motion to approve the minutes. The motion was seconded and unanimously approved.

4. COMMUNICATIONS AND PETITIONS

5. AIRPORT UPDATES

Amanda Raabe said the East Apron design is almost complete. Construction will begin next year.

The Master Plan update committee meetings will begin in a few weeks. Chuck Clegg asked if any Airport Authority Members will be on the Committee. Ms. Raabe said yes, Herb Gillis and Clarke Gerard, will be on the committee. There will also be engineers, a skydiving representative, an Aviator representative and others. These will be open to the public. They will be open to public comment. There will be four meetings over the course of the next year. Barbara Pelisek asked why Herb Gillis and Clark Gerard were picked to be on the Committee. Ms. Raabe said they were asked based on recommendations from the engineer as to who should be on the committee.

The Wildlife Hazard Assessment is progressing. The guy has been out at random times observing. Some issues have already been identified and addressed. The process will take a year.

Regarding the septic tank removal, Ms. Raabe reported that project will begin this week. The whole hill will be removed and the Airport will be tied to City sewer. The project will take 75-90 days. There will be 15-20 days where portables must be used.

Ms. Raabe said that after that is complete the boundary survey for corporate hangars can be done, SEMCO can do the topographical survey and construction on those can begin.

Ms. Raabe said Sean is her new maintenance staff member. He is detail oriented but not too much. So far he seems to be working out.

The AWOS system needs repair as she has to constantly reset it. There were delays due to pandemic. It will be repaired soon.

6. AIRPORT ACTIVITIES MONTHLY REPORT

Amanda Raabe reviewed the report that is attached to these minutes. She said the skydivers will begin

solely buying Jet A gas from us and nowhere else once they sign their new ground lease. Aviator has not been at the Airport for over a month so the only PPGs are not students. The take-offs and landings will be more accurate until after October.

Barbara Pelisek asked why Aviator's rent isn't listed as Jump Florida's is? Ms. Raabe said its grouped together with hangar rents.

## 7. BOARD MEMBER UPDATES

Ms. Pelisek said she noted that the Sun 'n Fun campground will be open year round now. Will our revamped campground also be open year round? Ms. Raabe said yes but just for temporary stays for training not long term. Ms. Pelisek recommended conferring with Sun 'n Fun staff on their procedures. Ms. Raabe said she has been in communication with them and can investigate what their new procedures are. The chair confirmed that the procedures would be the same just longer and just during Sun n' Fun. Ms. Raabe said she would forward what information she gets from them to the Authority members for their review.

Chuck Clegg said he noted that one of their duties in the ordinance is to provide advice on any aviation matters and asked Ms. Raabe if she needed advice on anything. Ms. Raabe said not at the moment but will think on it. Mr. Clegg recommended that she keeps this in mind for future meeting. Ms. Raabe said she would.

John Lodge noted in the minutes that Ms. Raabe said that the patterns are a waste of time. Ms. Raabe clarified that creating patterns now and recreating them later with rules and regulations was a waste of time. But as the patterns are a matter of safety and are never a waste of time.

John Lodge expressed concern that the Birdtower monitoring system is costly at \$6000 a year and asked if this is worth it. Ms. Raabe says it monitors everything from who comes and goes which can improve security and improve funding. Mr. Lodge asked how Wauchula likes theirs. Ms. Raabe said they love it as they learned they got more traffic than they realized. She explained that she researched the system extensively before agreeing to move forward. She said she will provide reports to the Authority every month. Ms. Pelisek said she doesn't think this system will make things safer for her or others.

## 8. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned. Next Meeting is October 5

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Chair

ATTEST:

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City Clerk