

AIRPORT PUBLIC ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Special Meeting

Tuesday – July 26, 2022

District #1: Brad Ketcher

Business: Jeff Northgraves

Environmental: Linda Garat

District #2: Roger Peabody

Owls Head: Adam Philbrook

Commercial Pilot: Aladar Nessar

District #3: Dick Witherspoon

Flying Club: TJ Copeland

STH: Jan Gaudio

Airport Business: Bill Packard

Members present: Bill Packard, Dick Witherspoon, Roger Peabody, Jeff Northgraves, Aladar Nesser, Linda Garat, and TJ Copeland.

Non-members present: Jeremy Shaw (Manager),

CALLED TO ORDER: Chair Bill Packard called the meeting to order @ 5:00PM.

RECOGNIZED GUESTS/PUBLIC COMMENTS/QUESTIONS: Amie Gray (Stantec) and Roland Lussier (Com Labs).

AN ACT TO REVIEW AND RECOMMEND TO THE KNOX COUNTY COMMISSION THE AWARD FOR SOLAR DEVELOPMENT SERVICES FOR A SOLAR ENERGY GENERATION FACILITY AT THE KNOX COUNTY AIRPORT: Bill Packard briefed the group that at the July 11th meeting, the County had not received enough proposals for the solar project to be eligible for federal funding. A minimum of 3 proposals needed to be received to be eligible. Having not satisfied that requirement, the County immediately published another Request for Proposals and received 4 proposals. The members were given tabulation sheets and 15 minutes to work through the proposals. At the conclusion of the tabulation period, Chair Packard gave Roland Lussier (Comlabs) a chance to introduce himself and his company. Roland thanked the committee for the opportunity to speak, and pointed out that he is an airport neighbor, and his company specializes in government contracts, and has done so for 35 years. Bill Packard asked the group for comments on Revision Energy's proposal. There were no comments. Chair Packard then asked for DP Porter's proposal. Jeff Northgraves noted that DP Porter had added more company background information to their proposal. Chair Packard then asked for comments about Pine Tree Solar's proposal. There were no questions or comments. Chair Packard then asked if there were any questions or comments about the Comlabs proposal. Jeff Northgraves mentioned that he rated Comlabs higher than Pine Tree Solar, but marked them lower because it appeared like they were new to the solar industry. TJ Copeland asked Roland Lussier about how Comlabs would address staffing where their company is based in Florida. Lussier responded that Hedstrum Electric would do most of the electrical subcontracting for Comlabs, JBI would do any earthwork, and they are both local. Lussier wasn't sure who he would use as a fencing subcontractor. Roger Peabody stated that if there were enough members for a quorum, he would like to abstain from voting because he doesn't believe he had enough time to dig deep enough into the proposals to give a fair assessment. Chair Packard accepted his abstention. Amie Gray read the tabulations out loud. Revision Energy received 88.75% of 100. DP Porter received 68.75% of 100, Pine Tree Solar received 71% of 100, and Comlabs received 68.25% of 100. Jeff Northgraves made a motion to recommend Revision Energy for Solar Development Services to the Knox County Commission. Aladar Nesser seconded the motion. The vote was 6-0 in support of the motion, with Roger Peabody abstaining.

MEETING ADJOURNED: Linda Garat made a motion to adjourn. Roger Peabody seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 5:51pm.

NEXT MEETING: September 12th, 2022, at 5pm.