

The North Little Rock Airport Special Call Commission Meeting was held at 2 p.m. on Monday, February 11, 2013 in the NLR City Services Conference room A, with some members on conference call.

Chairman Mark Halter called the meeting to order.

The roll being called, the following Commissioners attended: Mark Halter, Brad Hughes, Matt Chandler, Jim Julian, Rick Ashley. Don Blakey was absent.

The special meeting is to discuss the bids received for the lighting rehab project.

Mr. Halter tells everyone who the bids were from, and the amounts. He announces that F&W contractors were the low bid. Mr. Rogers has Blake Roberson from Garver explain where we are in terms of our grant amount, and recaps what all happened with the old contractor Lubin. Mr. Roberson says right now, we have just under \$580,000 to do the project. He shows the anticipated costs that are \$783,000, giving a 204,000 dollar short fall. Mr. Roberson explains that part of the reason for the short fall is that this bid represents actual market values to complete the project, and Lubin's original bid was low. He says the F&W contractors are very experienced with runway lighting, and he feels very comfortable with them. Brad Kutchins, who is in on the conference call, talks about the four options we have. The first is trying to get an additional AIP grant from the FAA. Unfortunately with the way the FAA budget is, and the state of the federal government, the FAA doesn't have much flexibility. However, they do have some flexibility to amend our existing grants to allow for cost overrun up to 15% of the grant. Mr. Kutchins believes that is very possible, unfortunately, the FAA can't give us any assurances up front. He also thinks if we can find the money to finish the project, the FAA will view that favorably and be more likely to help us out. We'll have to request that after the project is completed. That would be about \$112,000, plus \$6,000 from the local match. The next option is to try to get an additional state grant. The last option would be using city funds to cover the project. That would be at least \$40,000 to cover the grant matches, but potentially up to \$200,000 to cover the whole project if we don't get any grant help. Mr. Kutchins says there are a couple places in the project where money could be cut back to lower that cost. Mr. Roberson says there are two phases in the bid. One phase includes the whole scope of work. The second phase, and the cheaper one, takes out the taxi way lights and only does runway lights. That reduces the cost by \$55,000. Mr. Halter wants to clarify with Mr. Kutchins that if we do the whole project, the FAA could still NOT give us the money and we'd have to pay for all of it. Mr. Kutchins acknowledges that is a possibility, but he feels the FAA would give us the cost overrun. Mr. Chandler asks if there is the possibility of large cost overruns or change orders that need to be made. Mr. Roberson says based on the job, there shouldn't be too much worry, except for possible rock problems. But he has included rock excavation in the project, so that shouldn't be an issue. In fact, it may come in less than that amount. Mr. Halter asks how long the bid is open for, Mr. Roberson says 60 days. Mr. Halter asks if there is a downside to getting a state grant. Mr. Roberson says you would just have to wait until the next year to do another project with state funds. Mr. Julian asks what sources do we have to pay for the project right now. Mr. Rogers says we have about 40,000 left over from last year, and 60,000 that was given to us from the city.

Those are options, but would make the rest of the year really tight. Mr. Julian asks if the city ever does bonds for us or other departments. Mr. Halter and Mr. Rogers aren't sure. Mr. Halter says we should proceed by talking to the mayor and to the state to see if there's any money we can get from them. Mr. Chandler agrees with that. Mr. Rogers says he and Mr. Roberson will go to the state, and would like a commissioner to go with them to show the commission's and city's commitment to the project and the airport. Mr. Halter says that is doable. Mr. Halter says there isn't anything to decide at this meeting, so he just wants Mr. Rogers to move forward, and report back at the regular meeting.

Mr. Chandler moves to adjourn. Mr. Hughes seconds. The vote carries unanimously.

Meeting adjourned.