

received, Mr. Bellmann presented three candidates for potential appointment as the new Executive Director of Forward McDuffie. The Committee, after reviewing the credentials of the three candidates, unanimously recommended Mike Carrington for consideration by the City and County bodies.

Under the Inter-Governmental Agreement adopted by the City and the County, it is the Executive Committee of Forward McDuffie that recommends the Director to the City and County. It is the Director's job to work with the Executive Committee in securing cultural events, expansion of industrial and commercial activities, and anything with the Chamber of Commerce. The salary recommendation was set at \$75,000 annually plus benefits to be equally shared with the City and the County. Mayor Knox briefly highlighted Mr. Carrington qualifications.

County Commissioner Frederick Favors asked for an explanation of the process followed by the Committee in arriving at their recommendation and for a recitation of the qualifications of the two other candidates.

Mayor Knox said the candidate from Augusta had experience but did not have strong references, the second candidate was not in the development authority business, lived in another state and was looking for something in State government. The Committee was seeking a candidate who had ties to this area, who was dedicated and who would be stable and remain in the City and County.

Following further discussion about the candidates, Councilmember John Smalley asked how two people could become finalist with the problems noted in their qualifications? Mayor Bob Knox and County Commission Chairman Charlie Newton explained that the finalist were selected from a field of candidates as the best potential candidates and further investigation revealed the weaknesses and strengths of all the candidates. After the comparisons, the committee felt Mr. Carrington would best serve the goals of the community.

Councilmember Kenneth Usry moved that Mike Carrington be nominated for the position of Executive Director of Forward McDuffie. Councilmember Mike Carrington recused himself from voting. Following a second by Councilmember J. T. Wiley, the councilmembers were polled: Councilmember John Smalley abstained from voting; Councilmember Alton Belton abstained from voting; Councilmember Kenneth Usry voted to approve the nomination; and Councilmember J.T. Wiley voted to approve the nomination; Mayor Bob Knox voted to approve the nomination and declared the motion approved.

County Commission Chairman Newton asked for a motion to approve Mike Carrington's nomination for the position. When no motion was forthcoming, Chairman Newton indicated that the Commission will hold further discussions on the matter.

Mayor Bob Knox, Jr. then called on Don Powers to explain a proposal before the group to construct apron and taxi-ways for four hangar buildings, and for the construction of two hangar buildings.

Don Powers explained the apron expansion project would be built using the FAA Entitlement for FY 2005, 2006, and 2007 totaling \$473,684. Bids were taken for apron project costs from: The total project cost for the apron and taxi way expansion based on bids received, was as follows:

Wiley Brothers	\$480,313.14 (low bidder for construction)
W.K. Dickson	\$ 60,000.00 (Engineering)
Rock Removal	\$ <u>30,000.00</u> (Rock Contingency)
	\$570,313.14
Minus funding sources apron and taxiway :	<u>-\$473,684.00</u>
	\$ 96,623.14
Plus Match Cash	<u>11,842.11</u>
Apron total needed from City/County	\$108,471.25

Mr. Powers indicated that two hangers will be constructed now and two in the future. Bids were solicited for the hangar buildings by W. K. Dickson

Bid for 9 bay Hangers: (low bidder was Two State Construction)	\$714,000.00
OneGeorgia Loan	<u>-\$500,000.00</u>
Total needed for hangers from City/County	\$214,000.00

Mr. Powers explained that the total of funds needed to complete the apron and hanger project is \$322,470.25. Half of this total equals \$161,235.12 for each of the entities to fund. After brief discussion, Mayor Knox entertained a motion from Councilmember Usry to approve the expansion of the Airport's Aprons and T-Hangers. Councilmember Smalley seconded the motion. The motion carried with all members voting in the affirmative.

The McDuffie County Commissioners then considered the project, and after discussion concerning the amount of local funds required to complete the project, voted to proceed with the project jointly.

There being no further business the joint meeting was adjourned at 6:15 p.m.

Dianne L. Landers
City Clerk