

HABERSHAM COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

SUBJECT: Airport Ground Lease Agreement – Higgins Construction

DATE: January 7, 2026

☒ **RECOMMENDATION**

☐ **POLICY DISCUSSION**

BUDGET INFORMATION:

☐ **STATUS REPORT**

~~ANNUAL-~~

☐ **OTHER**

~~CAPITAL-~~

PRESENTED BY: Bill Harden

COMMISSION ACTION REQUESTED ON: January 20, 2026

PURPOSE: To seek approval of a ground lease agreement for a 60x60 box hangar at the Habersham County Airport.

BACKGROUND / HISTORY:

- 1) Habersham County advertised an RFP to construct and lease a hangar facility at the Habersham County Airport in April of 2024.
 - 2) Higgins Construction was awarded the RFP submission at the December 16, 2024 Board of Commissioners meeting to build a 60x60 box hangar.
 - 3) The ground lease template was approved by the Board of Commissioners at their October 20, 2025 meeting.
 - 4) The ground lease rate will be \$360.00 per month, for a term of 30 years.
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FACTS AND ISSUES:

- 1) Habersham County advertised an RFP to construct and lease a hangar facility at the Habersham County Airport in April of 2024.
 - 2) Higgins Construction was awarded the RFP submission at the December 16, 2024 Board of Commissioners meeting to build a 60x60 box hangar.
 - 3) The ground lease template was approved by the Board of Commissioners at their October 20, 2025 meeting.
 - 4) The ground lease rate will be \$360.00 per month, for a term of 30 years.
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OPTIONS:

- 1) Approve recommendation
 - 2) Deny recommendation
 - 3) Commission defined alternative
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RECOMMENDED SAMPLE MOTION: Motion to approve the ground lease agreement for Higgins Construction to construct a 60x60 box hangar at the Habersham County Airport.

DEPARTMENT:

Prepared by: Patti McLarty

Director: Bill Harden

**ADMINISTRATIVE
COMMENTS:** _____

_____ **DATE:** _____

County Manager

STATE OF GEORGIA
COUNTY OF HABERSHAM

AIRPORT GROUND LEASE AGREEMENT

THIS AIRPORT GROUND LEASE AGREEMENT ("Agreement") is made and entered into this _____ day of _____, 2025, by and between the **HABERSHAM COUNTY**, a political subdivision of the State of Georgia ("Lessor" or "County"), and **HIGGINS CONSTRUCTION COMPANY**, a Georgia corporation ("Tenant"), for ground space at the Habersham County Airport located at 1112 Airport Road (off Hwy 441 Bypass), Cornelia, Habersham County, Georgia (the "Airport").

In consideration of the mutual terms and conditions contained in this Agreement and other good and valuable consideration, the sufficiency of which is hereby acknowledged, the parties hereto do hereby agree as follows:

1. Leased Premises.

A. **Agreement to Lease Premises.** Lessor hereby leases to Tenant and Tenant hereby leases from Lessor the **3,600** square feet Airport hangar site depicted as **LOT B** on the attached Exhibit A (the "Premises") for the purposes set forth in this Agreement. Tenant agrees to accept the Premises "as is," and Lessor makes no warranty as to the condition of the Premises or its suitability for any particular purpose.

B. **Purpose of Agreement.** Tenant agrees that it shall use the Premises only for the following purposes (and for no other purposes): construction of a hangar building for Tenant's Aircraft (as defined below) together with storage, operations, and maintenance related thereto, all consistent with Federal Aviation Administration ("FAA") standards. An "Aircraft" shall be any aircraft that Tenant owns or leases (or that is subject to an authorized sublease) when approved in writing in advance by Lessor. Tenant shall provide proof of the ownership or lease of any Aircraft upon Lessor's request. The Aircraft identified at Exhibit B are the Aircraft approved by Lessor upon entering this Agreement, and Tenant shall provide the same information to Lessor in writing when requesting approval for any subsequent Aircraft. The Tenant may store additional aircraft not owned or leased by Tenant upon approval by the Lessor and providing adequate Hangar-Keeper's liability insurance. Tenant is prohibited from selling fuel to other Users of the Airport and shall not engage in any competitive practices that are held exclusively by the Airport's Fixed Base Operator ("FBO").

C. **Access.** Lessor agrees that if Tenant is not in breach of this Agreement, Tenant and Tenant's employees, officers, directors, subtenants (that are approved by Lessor pursuant to this Agreement), contractors, subcontractors, suppliers, agents, invitees, and other representatives ("Tenant's Associates") are authorized to ingress and egress across the common areas of the Airport (in the areas designated by Lessor, for the purposes for which they were designed, and as permitted by applicable Laws and Regulations as defined in Section 5.A) on a non-exclusive basis and to the extent reasonably necessary for Tenant's use, occupancy, and operations at the Premises.

D. **Right of Flight and Other Reserved Rights.** This Agreement conveys only a leasehold interest in the Premises on the terms and for the purposes provided herein, and it conveys no other rights, title, or interests of any kind. Among the rights reserved to Lessor, Lessor reserves in the Premises a right of flight for the passage of aircraft in the air, a right to cause such noise as may at any time be inherent in the operation of aircraft, and all other rights, including, but not limited to, water, minerals, oil, and gas.

2. Rent and Payment.

A. **Amount Due.** Tenant covenants to pay monthly base rent to Lessor for Tenant's lease of the Premises in the amount of **Three Hundred and Sixty Dollars and 00/100 Cents (\$360.00)** commencing on the Commencement Date (as defined in 3.A below). Lessor and Tenant agree that Tenant's rent shall increase each year on the anniversary of the Commencement Date when this Agreement is in effect, and the amount of such increase shall be three percent (3%) of the rent amount paid during the previous year.

B. **When Due.** Monthly rent payments shall be payable in advance and due on or before the first day of each month during the term of this Agreement.

C. **Additional Rent.** Any sum (other than the rent required in 2.A) that Tenant is obligated to pay to Lessor arising from or relating to this Agreement or Tenant's use, occupancy, or operations at the Airport constitutes additional rent, which may include, but is not limited to, fees, fuel flowage fees for self-fueling activities (see below), fines, civil penalties, damages, claims, interest, charges, and utility charges.

D. **Past Due Amounts.** If Tenant fails to pay when due any amount required to be paid by Tenant under this Agreement, such unpaid amount shall bear interest at the rate of eighteen percent (18%) per annum from the due date of such amount to the date of payment in full, with interest. In addition, Lessor may also charge a sum of ten percent (10%) of such unpaid amount as a service fee, which the parties agree is a reasonable estimate of and liquidated damages for Lessor's additional costs for billing and collection arising

from Tenant's failure to make payment in a timely manner.

E. **Payment.** Any amount due in connection with this Agreement or the use of the Airport shall be due without prior notice or demand, except when notice is necessary to make Tenant aware of an amount due, and shall be paid without offset, abatement, or deduction. Lessor shall first apply any sum paid to past due rent (beginning with the most recent amount due). No statement on any check or elsewhere shall be deemed to create an accord and satisfaction. Lessor may accept any payment (including, but not limited to, past due amounts and related charges) without prejudice to Lessor's rights to recover any sum or pursue other remedies provided by this Agreement or by law and without waiving any default under this Agreement. If any check paid on behalf of Tenant is dishonored by a bank, Tenant shall pay all charges that the bank may assess to Lessor plus a service charge of Fifty Dollars (\$50.00) per occurrence. If Lessor pays any amount on behalf of Tenant (including, but not limited to, civil penalties assessed in connection with Tenant's use of the Airport), such amount shall constitute an advance by Lessor to Tenant and Tenant shall promptly reimburse Lessor upon demand by Lessor. Lessor has the right to apply any sum paid by Tenant to any obligation that Tenant owes to Lessor (whether or not in connection with this Agreement). Tenant shall make payments to Lessor at the following address (or such other address as Lessor may designate in writing from time to time):

Habersham County Airport
1112 Airport Road
Cornelia, Georgia 30531

3. **Term.**

A. **Term.** The term of this Agreement shall be for a period of thirty (30) years, commencing on the ____ day of _____, 2025 (the "Commencement Date"), and continuing through the ____ day of _____, 2055 (the "Termination Date"), unless earlier terminated under the provisions of this Agreement (the "Term").

B. **Expiration Date.** The date on which this Agreement expires under the terms above may also be referred to herein as the "Expiration Date."

C. **Termination for Convenience for Sale of Hangar.** Tenant may sell all of Tenant's interests in the improvements that Tenant owns on the Premises to a third party who is approved by Lessor (in Lessor's sole discretion, which approval shall not be unreasonably withheld) and who enters a lease agreement with Lessor on terms offered by Lessor, which shall be consistent with the terms and conditions hereof, and this Agreement shall automatically terminate at the time when such third party's lease for the Premises

commences.

4. Tenant's Improvements.

A. **Authorized Improvements.** Subject to the terms of this Agreement, Tenant has the right to construct or maintain on or more hangars and other aviation-related improvements on the Premises. Tenant shall not make or cause to be made to the Premises any alteration or improvement without Lessor's prior written consent (in Lessor's sole discretion). All construction shall comply with the requirements of Exhibit C. Tenant shall not alter or improve any area of the Airport that is not leased by Tenant.

B. **Title to Improvements.** During the term of this Agreement, all portions of the hangar and any other improvements that are constructed or acquired by Tenant shall be and remain the personal property of the Tenant. At the expiration of this Agreement, any improvements constructed on the Premises will transfer, free and clear, to the County.

5. Tenant's Uses and Privileges.

A. **Comply with All Laws.** Tenant and Tenant's Associates shall comply at all times, at Tenant's sole cost, with any and all laws and regulations (as amended or otherwise modified from time to time) that are applicable to Tenant's use, occupancy, or operations at the Premises or the Airport (the "Laws and Regulations"), which include, but are not limited to, all laws, statutes, ordinances, regulations, rules, orders, writs, judgments, decrees, injunctions, directives, rulings, guidelines, standards, codes, policies, common law, and other pronouncements of any kind having the effect of law including, but not limited to, the Airport Rules and Regulations, Habersham County zoning codes, and all Laws and Regulations pertaining to the environment (the "Environmental Laws"); any and all plans and programs developed in compliance with such requirements (including, but not limited to, any Airport Security Plan); and all lawful, reasonable, and nondiscriminatory Airport policies and other requirements. Upon a written request by Lessor, Tenant will verify, within a reasonable time frame, compliance with any Laws and Regulations.

B. **No Unauthorized Use.** Tenant and Tenant's Associates shall use the Premises and the Airport only for purposes that are expressly authorized by this Agreement and shall not engage in any unauthorized use of the same. Unauthorized uses include, but are not limited to, damaging, interfering with, or altering any improvement; restricting access on any road or other area that Tenant does not lease; placing waste materials on the Airport or disposing of such materials in violation of any Laws and Regulations; any use that would constitute a public or private nuisance or a disturbance or annoyance to other Airport users; any commercial activity; driving a motor vehicle in a prohibited Airport location; the use of automobile parking areas in a manner not authorized by Lessor; the storage of fuel in excess of twenty (20) gallons (except that Tenant may store fuel on the Premises in engine-

driven equipment with regular built-in fuel tanks such as aircraft fuel tanks or automobile fuel tanks); any use that would interfere with any operation at the Airport or decrease the Airport's effectiveness (as determined by Lessor in its sole discretion); and any use that would be prohibited by or would impair coverage under either party's insurance policies.

C. **Permits and Licenses.** Tenant shall obtain and maintain in current status all permits and licenses that are required under any Laws and Regulations in connection with Tenant's use, occupancy, or operations at the Premises or the Airport. In the event that Tenant receives notice from any governmental entity that Tenant lacks, or is in violation of, any such permit or license, Tenant shall provide Lessor with timely written notice of the same.

D. **Taxes and Liens.** Tenant shall pay (before their respective due dates) all taxes, fees, assessments, and levies that relate to Tenant's use, occupancy, or operations at the Premises or the Airport and all other obligations for which a lien may be created relating thereto (including, but not limited to, utility charges and work for any improvements). Within thirty (30) days, Tenant shall remove any such lien that may be created or commence a protest of such lien by depositing with Lessor cash or other security acceptable to Lessor in an amount sufficient to cover the cost of removing such lien. When contracting for any work in connection with the Premises, Tenant shall include in such contract a provision prohibiting the contractor or any subcontractor or supplier from filing a lien or asserting a claim against Lessor's real property or any interest therein.

Tenant acknowledges that pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 48-5-16(e)(2), "Any person who owns tangible personal property in the form of an aircraft which has its primary home base in a county in this state other than the county in which such person maintains a permanent legal residence shall return such property for taxation to the tax commissioner or tax receiver of the county in which such primary home base is located. Such aircraft which does not have a primary home base in a county of this state other than the county in which the owner maintains a permanent legal residence shall be returned for taxation in the manner provided for in O.C.G.A. § 48-5-11.

E. **Damage to Property and Notice of Harm.** In addition to Tenant's indemnification obligations set forth in this Agreement, Tenant, at Tenant's sole cost, shall repair or replace (to Lessor's reasonable satisfaction) any damaged property that belongs to Lessor or Lessor's other tenants to the extent that such damage arises from or relates to an act or omission of Tenant or Tenant's Associates. Tenant shall promptly notify Lessor of any such property damage. If Tenant discovers any other potential claims or losses that may affect Lessor, Tenant shall promptly notify Lessor of the same.

F. **Signage and Advertising.** Tenant is not authorized to install or operate any signage outside of enclosed structures on the Premises (other than a hangar number), or at

the Airport, except with the prior written approval of Lessor (which may be given or withheld in Lessor's sole discretion). Any approved signage shall be at Tenant's expense and shall comply with Laws and Regulations (including, but not limited to, Airport signage policies and standards). Tenant shall not advertise or permit others to advertise at the Airport by any means, whether or not such advertising is for profit.

G. **Security.** Tenant is responsible to comply (at Tenant's sole cost) with all security measures that Lessor, the United States Transportation Security Administration, or any other governmental entity having jurisdiction may require in connection with the Airport, including, but not limited to, any access credential requirements, any decision to remove Tenant's access credentials, and any civil penalty obligations and other costs arising from a breach of security requirements caused or permitted by Tenant or Tenant's Associates. Tenant agrees that Airport access credentials are the property of Lessor and may be suspended or revoked by Lessor in its sole discretion at any time. Tenant shall pay all fees associated with such credentials, and Tenant shall immediately report to the Airport Manager any lost credentials or credentials that Tenant removes from any employee or any of Tenant's Associates. Tenant shall protect and preserve security at the Airport.

H. **Removal of Disabled Aircraft.** When consistent with Laws and Regulations, Tenant shall promptly remove or cause to be removed from any portion of the Airport not leased by Tenant the Aircraft or any other aircraft that Tenant owns or controls if it becomes disabled. Tenant may store such aircraft within Tenant's enclosed improvements or, with Lessor's prior written consent, elsewhere at the Airport on terms and conditions established by Lessor. If Tenant fails to comply with this requirement after a written request by Lessor to comply, Lessor may (but is not required to) cause the removal of any such aircraft at Tenant's expense by any means that Lessor determines, in its sole discretion, to be in Lessor's best interests.

I. **Maintenance, Repair, Utilities, and Storage.** Tenant's use, occupancy, and operations at the Premises shall be without cost or expense to Lessor. Tenant shall be solely responsible to design and construct all improvements and to maintain, repair, reconstruct, and operate the Premises and all improvements at Tenant's sole cost and expense, including, but not limited to, all charges for utility services (and their installation and maintenance), janitorial services, waste disposal, and ramp repair. Tenant shall at all times maintain the Premises and all improvements in a condition that is equal to the level of maintenance by Lessor in comparable areas and that is clean, free of debris, safe, sanitary, and in good repair. Tenant shall perform all work in accordance with Laws and Regulations and in a good and workmanlike manner. Tenant shall promptly remedy any condition that fails to meet this standard. Without limiting the foregoing obligations, Tenant shall not store on the Premises any inoperable equipment, discarded or unsightly materials, or materials likely to create a hazard; shall not use areas outside of enclosed buildings for storage; and shall store trash in covered metal receptacles. Any substance or material that is regulated by any

Environmental Law ("Hazardous Materials") shall be governed by Section 8.

J. **Operations and Personnel.** Tenant shall occupy the Premises at all times and shall operate in a manner that promotes effective airport operations. Among other things, Tenant shall use its best efforts to immediately notify the Airport Manager of any condition that Tenant observes at the Airport that may create a hazard or disruption, shall promptly remedy deficiencies in Tenant's operations, and shall promptly respond to Lessor's complaints, requests for information, and requests for reasonable assistance in connection with planning and other operational matters at the Airport. Tenant shall refrain from annoying, disturbing, or impairing Airport customers, tenants, or employees, and Tenant shall control the conduct, demeanor, and appearance of Tenant's employees and Tenant's Associates to prevent them from doing so. If Lessor, for good and sufficient cause, deems any of Tenant's employees or Tenant's associates to be objectionable, Tenant shall take all steps necessary to remove such persons from the Airport. Tenant's employees shall possess adequate training and qualifications to carry out their assigned duties. If Lessor determines for any reason that emergency conditions exist at the Airport, Tenant shall participate in any emergency response as directed by Lessor or other agency in charge and shall operate in a manner that protects safety and the interests of the public. Lessor may, but is not obligated to, stop Tenant's operations if safety Laws and Regulations or other safe work practices are not being observed. Tenant shall participate in and cooperate with the lawful, reasonable, and nondiscriminatory programs implemented by Lessor, including, but not limited to, programs addressing common areas; services provided for use by multiple tenants; programs to implement cost efficiencies and economies of scale; and security-related measures.

6. **Lessor's Authority.**

A. **Nature of Lessor.** Lessor is a governmental entity and the proprietor of the Airport, and Lessor has all lawful rights, powers, and privileges to act in those capacities.

B. **Access to Premises.** Lessor for itself and its employees, officers, directors, agents, contractors, subcontractors, suppliers, invitees, volunteers and other representatives ("Lessor's Associates") reserves the right to enter the Premises as provided in this Section 6.B, and the same does not constitute a trespass upon the Premises or a violation of any rights. Lessor and Lessor's Associates shall have the right to enter the Premises (except the interior of any building) at any time and without prior notice. Lessor and Lessor's Associates shall have the right to enter the interior of any building on the Premises at any time and without prior notice for any purpose relating to any emergency, security, or safety concern, or to investigate or remediate potential threats or hazards. Lessor and Lessor's Associates shall have right to enter the interior of any building on the Premises for any other purpose relating to the Airport (including, but not limited to, in order to conduct any inspections, determine compliance with this Agreement, and conduct Airport work) upon

providing reasonable notice to Tenant. Tenant agrees that Lessor may discuss with Tenant's employees any matters pertinent to Tenant's use, occupancy, or operations at the Premises and the Airport.

C. **Lessor's Right to Work Within, Alter, or Recover Premises.** Lessor has the right at the Airport to perform or cause to be performed any work (including, but not limited to, constructing improvements, surveying, performing environmental testing, removing any hazard or obstruction, and implementing any plan, program, or action), that Lessor (in its sole discretion) determines to be in Lessor's best interests, including, but not limited to, within the Premises. Lessor has the right to recover all or any portion of the Premises from Tenant in connection with any such work as Lessor may determine in its sole discretion. If Lessor determines to recover all or any portion of the Premises, Lessor shall provide Tenant with ninety (90) days prior written notice specifying what areas will be recovered. If any portion remaining after such recovery is not tenantable in light of the purposes of this Agreement (as determined by Lessor in its sole discretion), Lessor, in its sole discretion, shall either:

i. Purchase the Tenant-owned improvements on the Premises and terminate this Agreement for convenience. In connection with any such purchase and termination, Lessor shall pay only the following amount: the remaining value of such Tenant-owned improvements (so long as such improvements are not in breach of this Agreement), which shall be determined as provided in Section 12.A.ii. This Agreement shall terminate at the time specified by Lessor in writing. OR:

ii. Relocate such Tenant-owned improvements to another location on the Airport that is determined by Lessor. In connection with any such relocation, Lessor shall pay the reasonable costs to relocate such improvements (so long as they are not in breach of this Agreement), and the parties agree that they shall amend this Agreement to substitute such new location as the Premises herein.

Nothing under this Section 6.C shall be construed to waive Lessor's right to pursue any remedy for a breach of this Agreement arising from or relating to Tenant's use, occupancy, or operations at any portion of the Premises or at the Airport.

7. Indemnity, Insurance, and Letter of Credit.

A. **Indemnity by Tenant.** Tenant agrees to indemnify, hold harmless, and defend Lessor and its officers, agents, and employees from and against losses of every kind and character (including, but not limited to, liabilities, causes of action, losses, claims, costs, fees, attorney fees, expert fees, court or dispute resolution costs, investigation costs, environmental claims, mitigation costs, judgments, settlements, fines, demands, damages, charges, and expenses) that arise out of or relate to: (i) any use, occupancy, or operations at the Premises or the Airport by Tenant or Tenant's Associates; or (ii) any wrongful, reckless,

or negligent act or omission of Tenant or Tenant's Associates. Tenant shall use attorneys, experts, and professionals that are reasonably acceptable to Lessor in carrying out this obligation. The obligation stated in this Section 7.A shall survive the expiration or other termination of this Agreement with respect to matters arising before such expiration or other termination. These duties shall apply whether or not the allegations made are found to be true.

B. **Waiver.** Tenant assumes all risk of the use of the Premises and the Airport, and Tenant hereby knowingly, voluntarily, and intentionally waives any and all losses, liabilities, claims, and causes of action, of every kind and character, that may exist now or in the future (including, but not limited to, claims for business interruption and for damage to any aircraft) against Lessor and its officers, employees, and volunteers arising from or relating to Tenant's use, occupancy, or operations at the Premises or the Airport.

C. **Insurance.** At Tenant's cost, Tenant shall procure the following insurance coverage prior to entering the Premises, and Tenant shall maintain its insurance coverage in force at all times when this Agreement is in effect in compliance with and subject to Lessor's insurance requirements as they exist from time to time (including, but not limited to, the terms provided in Exhibit D):

i. Aviation Liability with Additional Coverage. Aviation liability insurance that includes premises liability, and, if applicable, mobile equipment coverage with a combined single limit for bodily injury and property damage of not less than two million dollars (\$2,000,000) per occurrence, including, but not limited to, contractual liability coverage for Tenant's performance of the indemnity agreement set forth in Section 7.A. If any such coverage is not available to Tenant in the form of an aircraft liability policy, Tenant shall obtain substantially similar coverage through a commercial general liability policy.

ii. Property. All risk property insurance coverage in an amount equal to the replacement cost (without deduction for depreciation) of the improvements constructed on the Premises. Tenant may purchase insurance for Tenant's personal property as Tenant may determine.

iii. Automobile. If Tenant drives any automobile other than in the roadways and automobile parking areas at the Airport (e.g. Aircraft Movement Area), comprehensive automobile liability coverage for claims and damage due to bodily injury or death of any person or property damage arising out of Tenant's ownership, maintenance, or use of any motor vehicles, whether owned, hired, or

non-owned, of not less than five hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000) single combined limit "per accident" for bodily injury and property damage.

iv. Pollution. Tenant is responsible for environmental losses. Any pollution legal liability insurance obtained by Tenant shall comply with the requirements for insurance that are stated in this Agreement. If Tenant engages in self-fueling, Tenant shall comply with Lessor's self-fueling requirements, including, but not limited to, any pollution legal liability insurance requirements.

v. Aircraft. Tenant is responsible for any damage or loss to the Aircraft. Tenant shall obtain insurance coverage for the Aircraft as Tenant may determine.

vi. Business Interruption. Tenant is responsible for all costs of business interruption, however incurred, and Tenant may purchase business interruption insurance as Tenant may determine.

D. **Performance Security**. Lessor reserves the right to require a performance security in a form and amount acceptable to Lessor upon any material default by Tenant under this Agreement.

8. Hazardous Materials

A. **No Violation of Environmental Laws**. Tenant shall not cause or permit any Hazardous Materials to be used, produced, stored, transported, brought upon, or released on, under, or about the Premises or the Airport by Tenant or Tenant's Associates in violation of applicable Environmental Laws. Tenant is responsible for any such violation as provided by Section 7.A of this Agreement.

B. **Response to Violations**. Tenant agrees that in the event of a release or threat of release of any Hazardous Material by Tenant or Tenant's Associates at the Airport, Tenant shall provide Lessor with prompt notice of the same. Tenant shall respond to any such release or threat of release in accordance with applicable Laws and Regulations. If Lessor has reasonable cause to believe that any such release or threat of release has occurred, Lessor may request, in writing, that Tenant conduct reasonable testing and analysis (using qualified independent experts acceptable to Lessor) to show that Tenant is complying with applicable Environmental Laws. Lessor may conduct the same at Tenant's expense if Tenant fails to respond in a reasonable manner. Tenant shall cease any or all of Tenant's activities as Lessor determines necessary, in its sole and absolute discretion, in connection with any investigation, cure, or remediation. If

Tenant or Tenant's Associates violate any Environmental Laws at the Airport (whether due to the release of a Hazardous Material or otherwise), Tenant, at Tenant's expense, shall have the following obligations, which shall survive any expiration or termination of this Agreement: (i) promptly remediate such violation in compliance with applicable Environmental Laws; (ii) submit to Lessor a written remediation plan, and Lessor reserves the right to approve such plan (which approval shall not be unreasonably withheld) and to review and inspect all work; (iii) work with Lessor and other governmental authorities having jurisdiction in connection with any violation; and (iv) promptly provide to Lessor copies of all documents pertaining to any environmental concern that are not subject to Tenant's attorney-client privilege.

C. Obligations Affecting Permits. To the extent that Tenant is a co-permittee with Lessor in connection with any permit relating to the environment at the Airport, or to the extent that any of Tenant's operations in connection with this Agreement or otherwise may impact Lessor's compliance with any such permit, Tenant shall work cooperatively with Lessor and other tenants and take all actions necessary to ensure permit compliance, and minimize the cost of such compliance, for the benefit of Airport operations.

D. Obligations upon Termination and Authorized Transfers. Upon any expiration or termination of this Agreement (and this obligation shall survive any such expiration or termination), and upon any change in possession of the Premises authorized by Lessor, Tenant shall demonstrate to Lessor's reasonable satisfaction that Tenant has removed any Hazardous Materials and is in compliance with applicable Environmental Laws. Such demonstration may include, but is not limited to, independent analysis and testing to the extent that facts and circumstances warrant analysis and testing, such as evidence of past violations or specific uses of the premises. The obligations of this Section 8 shall survive any termination of this Agreement.

9. Assignment and Subleasing.

A. Assignment by Tenant. Tenant shall not assign any of its rights under this Agreement, including, but not limited to, rights in any improvements, (whether such assignment is voluntarily or involuntarily, by merger, consolidation, dissolution, change in control, or any other manner), and shall not delegate any performance under this Agreement, except with the prior written consent of Lessor to any of the same. Lessor shall not unreasonably withhold such consent, and as a condition of obtaining such consent, the transferee receiving any such right shall be required to execute a new lease agreement provided by Lessor under the same terms and conditions hereof, and only for the remainder of the Term hereof. No assignment shall operate to extend the

original term of this Agreement. Regardless of Lessor's consent, Tenant shall not be released from any obligations for matters arising during the time when this Agreement was in effect. Any purported assignment or delegation of rights or delegation of performance in violation of this Section 9.A is void.

B. **Assignment by Lessor.** Lessor shall have the right, in Lessor's sole discretion, to assign any of its rights under this Agreement (and in connection therewith, shall be deemed to have delegate its duties), and upon any such assignment, Tenant agrees that Tenant shall perform its obligations under this Agreement in favor of such assignee.

C. **Encumbrances.** Tenant shall not encumber or permit the encumbrance of any real property at the Airport. Tenant shall not encumber or permit the encumbrance of any of Tenant's rights under this Agreement without Lessor's prior written consent, in Lessor's sole discretion. Tenant shall not record this Agreement or any document or interest relating thereto. Any purported encumbrance of rights in violation of this Section 9.C is void. In connection with Lessor's consent to any encumbrance, at a minimum the following shall apply: (i) such encumbrance shall only encumber Tenant's leasehold interest for the purpose of securing financing for Tenant's authorized improvements (no other encumbrance shall be permitted); (ii) such encumbrance shall be subordinate to Lessor's interests; (iii) the lienholder must agree to maintain current contact information with Lessor and provide Lessor with concurrent copies of any notices or communications regarding a default; (iv) the lienholder must certify to Lessor that it has reviewed this Agreement and accepted provisions that may affect the lienholder, and that no loan requirements conflict with or materially erode any provisions of this Agreement; (v) any default relating to such encumbrance shall be a default of this Agreement; (vi) the lienholder must agree that upon any default, Lessor shall have a lien with first priority on all Tenant-owned improvements and other property at the Premises; and (vii) such encumbrance shall terminate prior to the Expiration Date and the lienholder must agree to promptly remove such encumbrance when the obligation that it secures has been satisfied. If (while such encumbrance is in effect) Tenant defaults under such encumbrance or this Agreement, and if such lienholder is in compliance with the provisions set forth in this Section 9.C and cures Tenant's defaults of this Agreement within twenty (20) days after the first such default, Lessor will permit such lienholder to provide a substitute tenant (which must be acceptable to Lessor in its sole discretion) for a period of up to twelve (12) months after the date when such lienholder cured all defaults so long as such lienholder fully performs this Agreement during such period. If such lienholder fails to comply with any of the foregoing requirements, such failure shall be a default of this Agreement and Lessor may at any time (but is not required to) terminate this Agreement and exercise

any rights hereunder, including, but not limited to, those set forth at Section 12.A.i. Lessor shall have no obligation to provide any notices to any lienholder, and Lessor shall have no liability of any kind to any lienholder.

D. **Subleasing.** Upon obtaining Lessor's prior written consent, which Lessor may provide or withhold in Lessor's sole discretion, Tenant shall have the right to sublease portions of the Premises for the storage of Aircraft in the areas approved by and subject to the terms required by Lessor. Tenant shall impose on all approved subtenants the same terms set forth in this Agreement to provide for the rights and protections afforded to Lessor hereunder. Tenant shall reserve the right to amend Tenant's subleases to conform to the requirements of this Agreement, and all such subleases shall be consistent with and subordinate to this Agreement as it is amended from time to time. Such subleases shall include an agreement that the sublessees will attorn to and pay rent to Lessor if Tenant ceases to be a party to this Agreement. Lessor shall have the right to approve any sublease in Lessor's sole discretion, and Tenant shall provide to Lessor a copy of every sublease executed by Tenant (which shall include the make, model, and identification number of all Aircraft making use of such space). No sublease shall relieve Tenant of any obligation under this Agreement.

10. Damage, Destruction, and Condemnation.

A. **Damage or Destruction of Premises.** If any portion of the Premises or the improvements on the Premises is damaged in any manner, Tenant shall promptly remove from the Airport all debris and cause repairs to be made to restore the same to an orderly and safe condition. All work shall be performed in accordance with plans and specifications that are approved by Lessor as being consistent with or better than the original improvements. Tenant shall apply all proceeds that are made available from Tenant's insurance policies (or those of any subtenant or assignee) to performing such work. If Lessor performs such work pursuant to Section 11.B, such insurance proceeds shall be paid to Lessor. If the Premises or any improvement on the Premises are tenantable despite such damage, Tenant shall not receive any abatement of Tenant's rent obligations. To the extent that any portion is rendered untenable by such damage in light of the purposes of this Agreement (as determined by Lessor in its sole discretion), rent shall continue if Tenant has business interruption insurance, or if Tenant does not have such insurance, Lessor may abate Tenant's rent proportionately until repairs have been substantially completed (as determined by Lessor in its sole discretion).

B. **Condemnation.** In the event of any condemnation proceeding in which all or any part of the Premises is taken (by a condemnor other than Lessor), all compensation

from such proceeding shall be paid to Lessor, except that Tenant may pursue a claim against the condemnor for the value of the improvements on the Premises that are owned by Tenant and Tenant's leasehold interest, and any subtenants may pursue a claim against the condemnor for the value of their subtenancy interests. In the event of a partial taking, Lessor shall reduce the ground rent payable by Tenant on a pro rata basis for portions of the Premises so taken. If Lessor determines in its sole discretion that all or a material portion of the Premises will be (or has been) rendered untenable as a result of such taking, Lessor may terminate this Agreement by giving Tenant a written notice of termination, and this Agreement shall terminate at the time specified in the notice (which shall not be less than thirty (30) days after the date of such notice).

11. Default.

A. **Tenant's Default.** The occurrence of any of the following events shall constitute a default by Tenant under this Agreement unless cured within thirty (30) days following written notice of such violation from lessor: (i) Tenant fails to timely pay any installment of rent or any additional rent; (ii) Tenant violates any requirement under this Agreement (including, but not limited to, abandonment of the Premises); (iii) Tenant assigns or encumbers any right in this Agreement, delegates any performance hereunder, or subleases any part of the Premises (except as expressly permitted in this Agreement); (iv) Tenant files a petition in bankruptcy or has a petition filed against Tenant in bankruptcy, insolvency, or for reorganization or appointment of a receiver or trustee which is not dismissed within sixty (60) days; (v) Tenant petitions for or enters into an arrangement for the benefit of creditors, or suffers this Agreement to become subject to a writ of execution and such writ is not released within thirty (30) days; or (vi) Tenant defaults in constructing any improvements that are required to be constructed under this Agreement.

B. **Remedies.** Upon any default by Tenant under this Agreement, Lessor may (at any time) pursue any or all remedies available to Lessor, including, but not limited to, the following: (i) perform in Tenant's stead any obligation that Tenant has failed to perform, and Tenant shall promptly pay to Lessor all costs incurred by Lessor for such performance, together with interest and service fees for any past due amounts (as provided in Section 2.D) and an administrative charge equal to ten percent (10%) of the cost incurred by Lessor (which the parties agree is a reasonable estimate of and liquidated damages for Lessor's overhead expenses associated with such performance); (ii) terminate Tenant's rights under this Agreement upon delivering a written notice of termination; and (iii) re-enter and take possession of the Premises by any lawful means (with or without terminating this Agreement). Tenant shall pay all costs and damages arising out of Tenant's default, including, but not limited to, the cost of recovering possession of the Premises, the cost of improving and reletting the Premises (including, but not limited to, any real estate broker fees or marketing costs), and attorneys' fees and costs. Notwithstanding any termination or re-entry, Tenant shall remain liable to pay the rent and additional rent required under this

Agreement for the remaining term of this Agreement, and Tenant shall pay Lessor on demand for any deficiency in the same. No action by Lessor or Lessor's Associates shall be construed as an election by Lessor to terminate this Agreement or accept any surrender of the Premises unless Lessor provides Tenant with a written notice expressly stating that Lessor has terminated this Agreement or accepted a surrender of the Premises. Following a default by Tenant under this Agreement, Lessor shall exercise commercially reasonable, good faith efforts to mitigate its damages as required by applicable Georgia law.

C. **Default by Lessor.** Lessor shall not be in default under this Agreement unless Lessor fails to perform an obligation required of Lessor under this Agreement within thirty (30) days after written notice by Tenant to Lessor. If the nature of Lessor's obligation is such that more than thirty (30) days are reasonably required for performance or cure, Lessor shall not be in default if Lessor commences performance within such thirty (30) day period and thereafter diligently prosecutes the same to completion.

D. **Survival.** The provisions of this Section and the remedies and rights provided in Section 7 shall survive any expiration or termination of this Agreement.

12. Expiration or Termination of Agreement.

A. Disposition of Tenant's Improvements.

i. **Disposition If Agreement Terminates Due to Default.** If this Agreement terminates before the Expiration Date due to a default pursuant to Section 11.A, within ninety (90) days after such termination Lessor, in its sole discretion, may determine to accept title to all or any portion of the Tenant-owned improvements on the Premises. Upon Lessor accepting any such title, all of Tenant's rights, title, and interests in the same shall be terminated and title thereto shall vest in Lessor automatically. Tenant shall surrender such improvements and the Premises upon termination of the Agreement in accordance with Section 12.B and Exhibit E, Section E.13. If Lessor rejects any such title, or if such ninety-day period expires, Tenant shall (within sixty (60) days of such rejection or expiration) remove all improvements that were not accepted by Lessor at Tenant's sole expense in a manner acceptable to Lessor (and the obligations of Section 7.A shall apply to such removal). If Tenant fails to remove any such improvements, Lessor may do so in any manner acceptable to Lessor pursuant to Section 11.B.

ii. **Disposition Upon Expiration.** At the expiration of this Agreement, any improvements constructed on the Premises will transfer, free and clear, to the County. Tenant shall have a first right of refusal to lease the improvements from the County upon expiration of this Agreement, under terms and conditions as may be applicable to the County's lease of such area/improvements at that time.

B. Surrender of Premises. Upon any expiration or termination of this Agreement, Tenant, at Tenant's sole cost, shall (i) promptly and peaceably surrender to Lessor the Premises (and any improvements accepted by Lessor pursuant to Section 12.A) "broom clean," free of debris, and in good order and condition; (ii) repair in a good and workmanlike manner any damage to the Premises or the Airport (other than that which resulted from ordinary wear and tear during the term of the lease) that arises from or relates to Tenant's use, occupancy, or operations under this Agreement (including, but not limited to, while removing any property upon expiration or termination); (iii) deliver to Lessor all keys and access credentials relating to the Airport; (iv) perform Tenant's environmental obligations as provided in Section 8; and (v) remove all movable personal property and trade fixtures (including signage) that are not owned by Lessor, (except that Tenant must obtain Lessor's prior written consent to remove any such property if Tenant is in default under this Agreement or if such removal may impair the structure of any building). Upon any expiration or termination of this Agreement (which includes, but is not limited to, termination for abandonment of the Premises), all property that Tenant leaves on the Premises shall conclusively be deemed to have been abandoned and may be appropriated, sold, stored, destroyed, or otherwise disposed of by Lessor without notice to, and without any obligation to account to, Tenant or any other person (except that improvements owned by Tenant shall be as provided in Section 12.A). Tenant shall pay to Lessor all expenses incurred in connection with the disposition of such property in excess of any amount received by Lessor from such disposition. Tenant shall not be released from Tenant's obligations under this Agreement in connection with surrender of the Premises until Lessor has inspected the Premises and delivered to Tenant a written acceptance of such surrender.

C. Holding Over. If Tenant remains in possession of the Premises after any expiration or termination of this Agreement, such occupancy shall not waive any default under this Agreement and Lessor may terminate such occupancy as a tenancy at will in accordance with state law. During such occupancy, Tenant shall comply with all provisions of this Agreement that are applicable to an at-will tenancy, and Tenant shall pay the following rent: ground rent at the highest rate then charged at the Airport and rent for the improvements at fair market value based on Lessor's survey of rent for similarly situated facilities at the Airport and at other comparable southeastern U.S. airports (which Lessor shall determine in its sole discretion).

D. Survival. The provisions of this Section shall survive any expiration or termination of this Agreement.

13. General Provisions.

A. **General Provisions.** This Agreement is subject to the General Provisions set forth at Exhibit E.

B. **Notices.** Any notice, demand, written consent, or other communication required to be in writing under this Agreement shall be given in writing by personal delivery, express mail (postage prepaid), nationally recognized overnight courier with all fees prepaid (such as, by way of example, Federal Express or UPS), or certified mail (return receipt requested and postage prepaid) when addressed to the respective parties as follows:

If to Lessor:

Habersham County Airport
1112 Airport Road
Cornelia, Georgia 30531

If to Tenant:

Higgins Construction Company
115 Clarkesville Street
Cornelia, Georgia 30531

Either Lessor or Tenant may change its notice address by giving written notice (as provided herein) of such change to the other party. Any notice, demand, or written consent or communication shall be deemed to have been given, and shall be effective, upon compliance with this Section 13.B and delivery to the notice address then in effect for the party to which the notice is directed; provided, however, that such delivery shall not be defeated or delayed by any refusal to accept delivery or an inability to effect delivery because of an address change that was not properly communicated.

C. **Incorporation.** All exhibits referred to in this Agreement, as they may be amended from time to time, are incorporated in and are a part of this Agreement. Any proposal materials submitted by Tenant in response to a solicitation by Lessor, to the extent accepted by Lessor, shall also be incorporated in this Agreement. Tenant hereby acknowledges receiving Exhibits A – E to this Agreement.

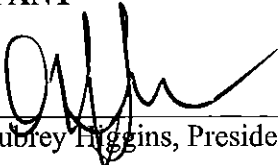
D. **Binding Obligation.** Tenant warrants and represents that it has the right, power, and legal capacity to enter into and perform its obligations under this Agreement as a legal, valid, and binding obligation of Tenant.

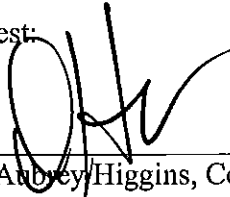
[signature page follows]

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Parties have executed this Agreement as of the day and year first above written.

TENANT:

**HIGGINS CONSTRUCTION
COMPANY**

By: 
D. Aubrey Higgins, President

Attest: 
D. Aubrey Higgins, Corporate Secretary

[Corporate Seal]

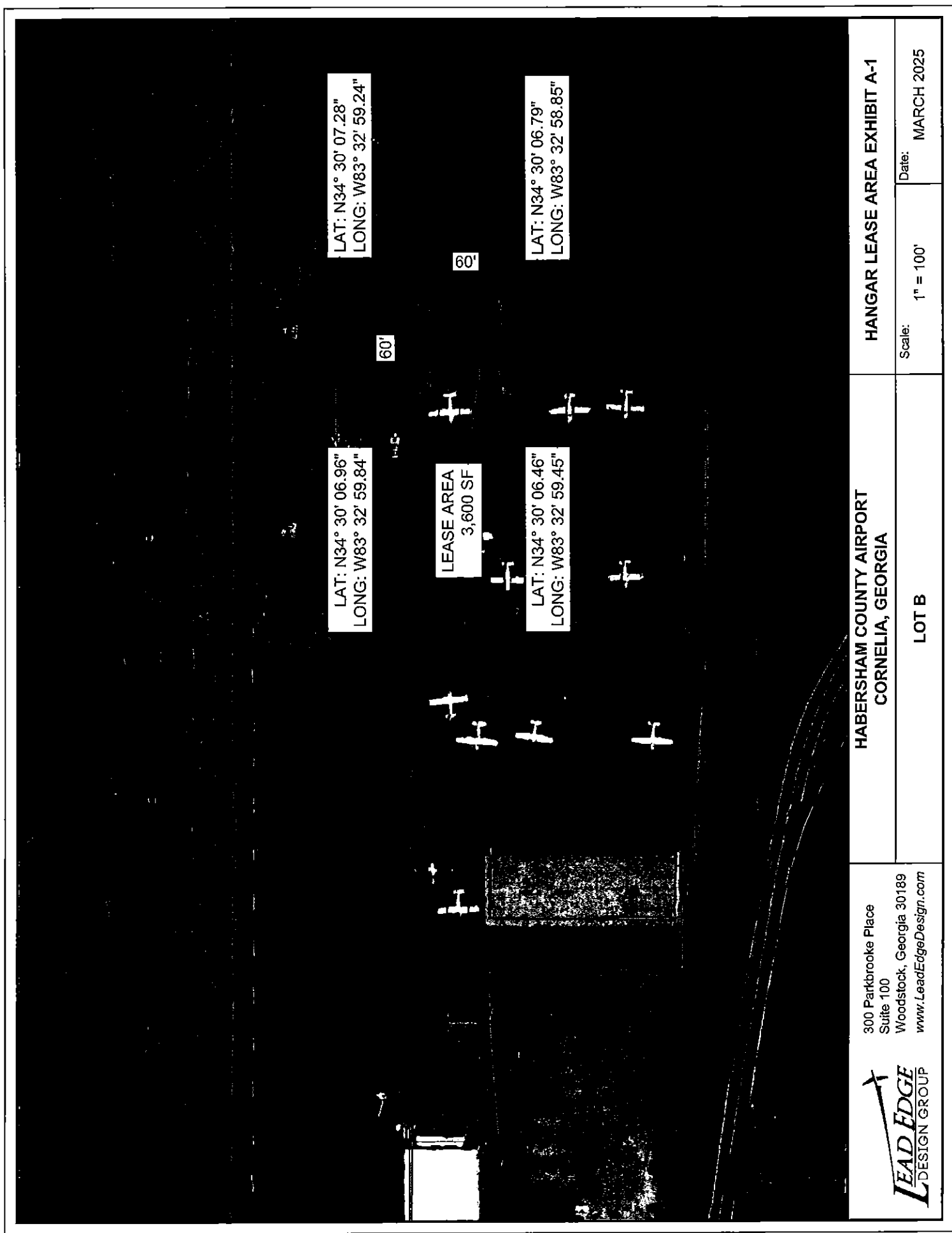
LESSOR:

HABERSHAM COUNTY, GEORGIA

By: _____
Jimmy Tench, Chairman

Attest: _____
Brandalin Carnes, County Clerk

[County Seal]



HABERSHAM COUNTY AIRPORT
CORNELIA, GEORGIA

HANGAR LEASE AREA EXHIBIT A-1

300 Parkbrooke Place
Suite 100
Woodstock, Georgia 30189
www.LeadEdgeDesign.com



Scale: 1" = 100'

Date: MARCH 2025

Point Table		
Point #	LAT	LONG
1	N34° 30' 07.62"	W83° 33' 00.37"
2	N34° 30' 07.95"	W83° 32' 59.76"
3	N34° 30' 07.13"	W83° 32' 59.97"
4	N34° 30' 07.45"	W83° 32' 59.37"
5	N34° 30' 06.96"	W83° 32' 59.84"
6	N34° 30' 07.28"	W83° 32' 59.24"
7	N34° 30' 06.46"	W83° 32' 59.45"
8	N34° 30' 06.79"	W83° 32' 58.85"
9	N34° 30' 06.30"	W83° 32' 59.32"
10	N34° 30' 06.62"	W83° 32' 58.72"
11	N34° 30' 05.80"	W83° 32' 58.93"
12	N34° 30' 06.12"	W83° 32' 58.33"
13	N34° 30' 05.63"	W83° 32' 58.80"
14	N34° 30' 05.96"	W83° 32' 58.20"
15	N34° 30' 05.14"	W83° 32' 58.41"
16	N34° 30' 05.46"	W83° 32' 57.81"

LEASE AREA
3,600 SF

LEASE AREA
3,600 SF

LEASE AREA
3,600 SF

LEASE AREA
3,600 SF

LOT A

LOT B

LOT C

LOT D

300 Parkbrooke Place
Suite 100
Woodstock, Georgia 30189
www.LeadEdgeDesign.com



HABERSHAM COUNTY AIRPORT

HANGAR LEASE AREA EXHIBIT A-2

CORNELIA, GEORGIA

Scale: 1" = 50'

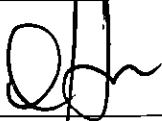
Date: AUGUST 2025

EXHIBIT B

APPROVED AIRCRAFT

Tenant hereby certifies that the Aircraft hereon will be stored on the Premises that have been leased from the Lessor at the Habersham County Airport and that the Tenant will notify the Lessor of any change in the status of said Aircraft.

TENANT



Signature

PO Box 169
Co.

Address

Cornelia GA 30531

City/State/Zip

706-499-2680

Telephone

AIRCRAFT

AC NO N 325HC

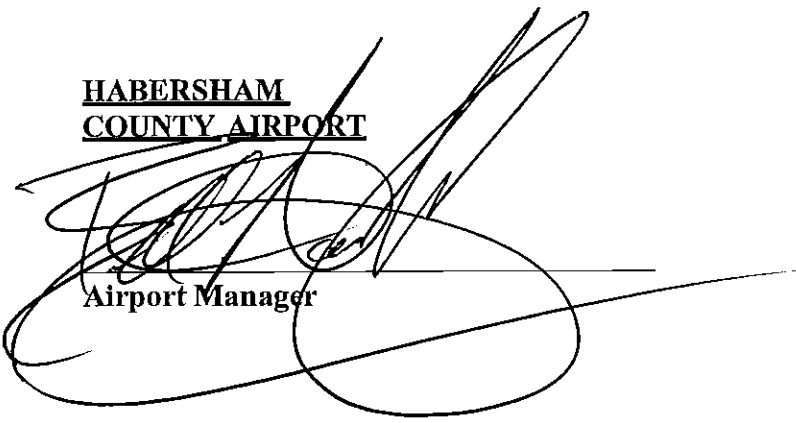
MAKE CIRRUS

MODEL SR20

YEAR 2017

ATTACH COPY OF A/C
REGISTRATION

HABERSHAM
COUNTY AIRPORT



Airport Manager

EXHIBIT C

TENANT CONSTRUCTION REQUIREMENTS

C.1 Authorization. Tenant shall not commence any construction on the Premises without Lessor's prior written consent for all work to be conducted. Tenant shall submit plans, a schedule, and a budget to Lessor when making any request to construct improvements. Lessor may request any information, request modifications, consent to, or deny Tenant's request in Lessor's sole discretion. For any authorized project, Tenant shall provide Lessor with copies of all plans, specifications, and construction documents during the progress of the work, and the matters contained therein shall be subject to Lessor's consent. Tenant shall make no changes to the work without Lessor's prior written consent.

C.2 Required Construction Standards and Permits. All work shall be performed in a good and workmanlike manner, and shall be equal to or greater than the quality of the original materials, workmanship, and appearance of similar work performed by Tenant, or by Lessor elsewhere at the Airport. Work shall be performed by qualified and properly licensed personnel. All work shall conform to Laws and Regulations, including, but not limited to, the Uniform Building Code, Uniform Fire Code, and other codes, standards, permits, and plan check requirements as the same may be adopted by Habersham County, as well as any applicable federal or state laws (or Airport standards) relating to airport improvements. Tenant shall not commence construction for a hangar or other authorized improvement without first obtaining a Habersham County building permit and, if required, an FAA determination pursuant to FAA Form 7460-1 that is acceptable to FAA and Lessor. Work shall be performed in a safe manner, and Lessor shall have the right, but not the duty, to stop any work until safety conditions can be investigated and implemented. The work site shall be secured consistent with industry standards at Airports during the performance of the work.

C.3 Coordination. Tenant shall coordinate all work with Airport activities, and shall minimize any disruption to Airport activities, tenants, and users. Lessor shall have the right, but not the duty, to direct that Tenant and Tenant's Associates cease activities or revise work plans to avoid disruption. Tenant and Tenant's Associates shall meet with Lessor as requested by Lessor as the work progresses and provide Lessor with information as Lessor may require. Lessor may require Tenant to comply with other measures that are in Lessor's interests in connection with any construction activities.

C.4 Indemnification, Insurance, and Bonds. Tenant shall cause Tenant's Associates who are performing any work relating to constructing improvements to provide the following:

- a. Indemnity.** Tenant shall require such associates to indemnify Lessor in

connection with Lessor's interests consistent with the indemnity obligation of Section 7.A.

b. Insurance. Tenant shall provide or shall require such associates to provide builder's risk coverage to insure the improvements constructed on the Premises to the extent of not less than one hundred percent (100%) of such improvements' full insurable value using the all risk form of protection, as well as general liability, auto, and workers compensation insurance coverage as set forth in Section 7 to cover such work. Tenant shall also require design professionals to provide errors and omissions coverage in an amount not less than one million dollars (\$1,000,000). All such insurance shall comply with and be subject to Lessor's insurance requirements including, but not limited to, those set forth at Exhibit D.

c. Bonds. Tenant shall provide or shall require such associates to provide construction payment and performance bonds in amounts covering not less than one hundred percent (100%) of the contract price of such improvements and in a form acceptable to Lessor. All such bonds shall name Lessor as a co-obligee.

C.5 Agreement Applicable to Work. The provisions of this Agreement shall apply to all work pursued by Tenant to construct improvements, regardless of whether such work commences or concludes before the Commencement Date or after any expiration or termination of this Agreement (including, but not limited to, Tenant's indemnity, waiver, and insurance obligations under Section 7 and repair obligations under Section 5.E, provisions prohibiting liens, and provisions requiring compliance with all Laws and Regulations). Tenant shall provide for compliance with this Agreement's requirements by Tenant's Associates who are performing any work relating to constructing improvements.

C.7 Default for Failure to Complete. Tenant shall comply with the construction schedule approved by Lessor. If such construction is not completed materially within any times required by Tenant's approved schedule, or if for any reason Tenant fails to complete construction within forty-five (45) days of Tenant's approved date for substantial completion, Tenant shall be in default under this Agreement and Lessor shall have all of the rights set forth in Section 12.A.i regarding a forfeiture in addition to all other remedies. Upon any default, Tenant shall turn over to Lessor copies of all records associated with the work and shall work cooperatively with Lessor.

C.8 Final Submittals. Tenant shall submit the following to Lessor within ninety (90) days of beneficial occupancy:

a. Certified Financials. Tenant shall submit a statement of construction costs certifying the total construction cost of any improvement in a form reasonably required by Lessor.

b. Free of Liens. Tenant shall submit a statement that the Premises and Tenant's

improvements are free and clear of all liens, claims, or encumbrances (except when specifically authorized in the manner permitted under this Agreement).

c. As-Built Drawings. Tenant shall submit at its expense a complete set of accurate "as-built" plans and specifications for Tenant's improvements constructed at the Airport. Such plans and specifications shall include one set of bond paper "record" drawings and electronic drawings that conform to a format and to standards specified by Lessor.

C.9 Initial Tenant Improvements. Lessor has authorized and Tenant shall construct the initial improvements that are summarized at Exhibit C, Attachment 1, and such obligation includes, but is not limited to, the plans, schedule, and date for access to the Premises in connection with such improvements.

C.10 Release by Previous Tenants or Users. If Tenant was previously a tenant or user at the Airport, Tenant agrees that as of the Commencement Date, all agreements and other interests between Tenant and Lessor regarding the Airport shall terminate (if not terminated sooner); provided that Tenant shall remain liable to Lessor for any matter arising from or relating to Tenant's use, occupancy, or operations at the Airport prior to the Commencement Date. Tenant hereby releases, acquits, and forever discharges Lessor and its officers, employees, and agents from and against any and all losses, liabilities, claims, and causes of action, of every kind and character, that Tenant may have against Lessor arising from or relating to the Airport, whether the same are presently known or unknown and whether or not the same have been or could have been discovered as of the date of this Agreement.

EXHIBIT C

ATTACHMENT 1

REQUIRED TENANT IMPROVEMENTS

Tenant shall construct the improvements specified in this Exhibit C, Attachment 1. Tenant agrees to obtain the required building permit within thirty (30) days from the date when Tenant signs this Agreement, unless such time is otherwise extended by Lessor. Tenant also agrees to commence building within ninety (90) days from the date when Tenant signs this Agreement, unless otherwise extended by Lessor. The Tenant is responsible for securing the construction site to assure that it is safe for Tenants and visitors and does not obstruct or interfere with business activities at the Airport. Tenant shall remove all construction waste, debris, earth, or rocks from the construction site and the adjacent taxiway or aircraft movement area, on a daily basis during construction and upon completion of construction. Tenant shall asphalt all surfaces from the existing Airport taxiway to the front of Tenant's hangar and all adjoining improvements, as well as area required for vehicle parking, as required by Lessor. All improvements must obtain required approvals from Lessor prior to commencing construction.

Date for Tenant's Access to the Premises: Once approved by the BOC

Schedule for Construction:

Commencement of the Work: Within 90 days of BOC approval
Substantial Completion: 7 months construction time frame

Other schedule requirements shall be as approved by Lessor.

Tenant shall cause the construction of the plans and specifications for the improvements as submitted to Lessor, which may be summarized as follows:

[ENTER AND ATTACH PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT DETAIL HERE]

EXHIBIT D

INSURANCE REQUIREMENTS

D.1 General Requirements. At all times when this Agreement is in effect Tenant shall maintain in force all required insurance coverage and shall have on file with the Lessor Certificates of Insurance evidencing the same. Ratings for the financial strength of the companies providing Tenant's insurance policies shall be disclosed in such certificates and shall be "A-:IX" or stronger as published in the latest Best's Key Rating Guide (or a comparable rating from a comparable rating service). If a lower rating is proposed, Lessor may examine the financial strength of the insurance company proposed to provide coverage and may consent to a lower rating in the Lessor's sole and absolute discretion, and Lessor may also require additional assurances from Tenant. All certificates shall be signed by a person authorized by the insurer and licensed by the State of Georgia. All policies (except any policies required for workers' compensation or errors and omissions) and the certificates evidencing coverage shall name Lessor, and their officers, employees, and volunteers as additional insureds (or in the case of property coverage, Habersham County shall be named as a loss payee). Tenant shall provide for a renewal of all insurance coverage on a timely basis to prevent any lapse in coverage. Lessor retains the right to approve any deductibles, and Tenant shall notify Lessor of any material erosion of the aggregate limits of any policy. Tenant's policies shall be primary. Such policies shall extend insurance to cover Tenant's contractual obligations under this Agreement.

D.2 Minimum Requirements. Lessor's insurance requirements are minimum requirements, and Tenant is responsible to obtain adequate insurance coverage as Tenant may determine. Except as otherwise expressly set forth in this Agreement, Tenant assumes all risk under this Agreement (including, but not limited to, business interruption claims) whether or not insured.

D.3 Waiver of Subrogation. Notwithstanding any other provision contained in this Agreement, each of the parties hereby waives any rights of subrogation it may have against the other party for loss or damage from any risk that is covered by insurance (including, but not limited to, claims for business interruption). Each of the parties shall obtain a clause or endorsement providing for such waiver of subrogation in any policies of insurance required under this Agreement.

D.4 Terms Subject to Change. Lessor, in its sole and absolute discretion, reserves the right to review and adjust at any time Tenant's required insurance limits, types of coverage, and any other terms applicable to insurance to insure against any risk associated with this Agreement or Tenant's use, occupancy, or operations at the Airport. Among other things, Lessor may review any or all insurance coverage on a periodic basis and in connection with any specific activity or event associated with the Airport or proposed by Tenant.

D.5 Reimbursement for Increased Costs to Lessor. If any insurance carrier providing coverage to Lessor increases its charge of any policy of insurance carried by Lessor as a result of this Agreement or Tenant's use, occupancy, or operations at the Airport, Tenant shall pay the amount of such increase within ten (10) days after Lessor delivers to Tenant a certified statement from Lessor's insurance carrier stating the amount of the increase attributable to Tenant.

D.6 Stopping Operations. Among Lessor's remedies, if at any time Tenant's insurance coverage is not in effect as required herein, Lessor may (but is not required to) stop all or any portion of Tenant's operations without liability to Lessor until Tenant fully restores such coverage.

EXHIBIT E

GENERAL PROVISIONS

E.1 Governmental Provisions.

a. **Nondiscrimination Regarding USDOT Programs.** Tenant for itself, successors in interest, and assigns (to the extent successors and assigns are permitted by this Agreement), as a part of the consideration hereof, does hereby covenant and agree as a covenant running with the land that in the event facilities are constructed, maintained, or otherwise operated on the property described in this Agreement for a purpose for which a U.S. Department of Transportation program or activity is extended, or for another purpose involving the provision of similar services or benefits, Tenant shall maintain and operate such facilities and services in compliance with all other requirements imposed pursuant to 49 CFR Part 21, Nondiscrimination in Federally Assisted Programs of the Department of Transportation, and as said regulations may be amended.

b. **Nondiscrimination Regarding Facilities, Improvements, and Federally-Funded Activities.** Tenant for itself, successors in interest, and assigns (to the extent successors and assigns are permitted by this Agreement), as a part of the consideration hereof, does hereby covenant and agree as a covenant running with the land that: (1) no person on the grounds of race, color, national origin (including limited English proficiency), creed, sex (including sexual orientation and gender identity), age, or disability shall be excluded from participation in, denied the benefits of, or be otherwise subjected to discrimination in the use of said facilities or any activity conducted with or benefiting from Federal assistance, (2) that in the construction of any improvements on, over, or under such land and the furnishing of services thereon, no person on the grounds of race, color, or national origin (including limited English proficiency) shall be excluded from participation in, denied the benefits of, or otherwise be subjected to discrimination, (3) that Tenant shall use the Premises in compliance with all other requirements imposed by or pursuant to 49 CFR Part 21, Nondiscrimination in Federally Assisted Programs of the Department of Transportation, as said regulations may be amended, and other applicable Laws and Regulations, and shall obtain such compliance from any sublessees or other parties holding lower tier agreements (to the extent the same are permitted by this Agreement).

c. **No Exclusive Rights.** Nothing in this Agreement shall be construed to grant to Tenant any exclusive right or privilege for the conduct of any activity on the Airport (except to lease the Premises for Tenant's exclusive use as provided herein).

d. **Agreement Preserves County's Compliance.** This Agreement shall be interpreted to preserve Lessor's rights and powers to comply with Lessor's Federal and other governmental obligations.

e. **Subordination to County's Government Commitments.** This Agreement is subordinate to the provisions of any agreement between Lessor and the United States or other governmental authority (regardless of when made) that affects the Airport, including, but not limited to, agreements governing the expenditure of Federal funds for Airport improvements. In the event that the Federal Aviation Administration or other governmental authority requires any modification to this Agreement as a condition of Lessor entering any agreement or participating in any program applicable to the Airport (including, but not limited to, those providing funding), Tenant agrees to consent to any such modification. If a governmental authority determines that any act or omission of Tenant or Tenant's Associates has caused or will cause Lessor to be non-compliant with any of Lessor's government commitments (including, but not limited to, any assurances or covenants required of Lessor or obligations imposed by law), Tenant shall immediately take all actions that may be necessary to preserve Lessor's compliance with the same. Without liability to Lessor, Lessor shall have the right to terminate this Agreement and reenter and repossess any portion of the Premises if the U.S. Department of Transportation or other governmental authority having jurisdiction expressly requires any such action, subject to any review that may be afforded to Tenant by such authority.

E.2 Subordination to Financing and Matters of Record. This Agreement is subordinate to the provisions of any agreements or indentures entered by Lessor (regardless of when entered) in connection with any debt financing applicable to the Airport and is subordinate to any matter of record affecting the real property of the Airport.

E.3 Force Majeure. No act or event, whether foreseen or unforeseen, shall operate to excuse Tenant from the prompt payment of rent or any other amounts required to be paid under this Agreement. If Lessor (or Tenant in connection with obligations other than payment obligations) is delayed or hindered in any performance under this Agreement by a force majeure event, such performance shall be excused to the extent so delayed or hindered during the time when such force majeure event is in effect, and such performance shall promptly occur or resume thereafter at the expense of the party so delayed or hindered. A "force majeure event" is an act or event, whether foreseen or unforeseen, that prevents a party in whole or in part from performing as provided in this Agreement, that is beyond the reasonable control of and not the fault of such party, and that such party has been unable to avoid or overcome by exercising due diligence, and may include, but is not limited to, acts of nature, war, riots, strikes, accidents, fire, and changes in law.

E.4 Rights and Remedies. Except as expressly set forth in this Agreement, the rights and remedies set forth in this Agreement are not intended to be exhaustive and the exercise by either party of any right or remedy does not preclude the exercise of any other rights or remedies that may now or subsequently exist.

E.5 Attorneys' Fees. If any action is brought to recover any rent or other amount under this Agreement because of any default under this Agreement, to enforce or interpret any of

the provisions of this Agreement, or for recovery of possession of the Premises, the party prevailing in such action shall be entitled to recover from the other party reasonable attorneys' fees, court costs, the fees of experts and other professionals, and other costs arising from such action (including those incurred in connection with any appeal), the amount of which shall be fixed by the court and made a part of any judgment rendered. Tenant shall be responsible for all expenses, including, but not limited to, attorneys fees, incurred by Lessor in any case or proceeding involving Tenant or any permitted assignee of Tenant under or related to any bankruptcy or insolvency law. The provisions of this Section E.5 shall survive any expiration or termination of this Agreement.

E.6 Governing Law, Venue, and Waiver of Jury Trial. This Agreement and the respective rights and obligations of the parties shall be governed by, interpreted, and enforced in accordance with the laws of the State of Georgia. Venue for any action arising out of or related to this Agreement or actions contemplated hereby may be brought in the Habersham County Superior Court or the United States District Court for Georgia so long as one of such courts shall have subject matter jurisdiction over such action or proceeding, and each of the parties hereby irrevocably consents to the jurisdiction of the same and of the appropriate appellate courts there from. Process in any such action may be served on any party anywhere in the world. LESSOR AND TENANT EACH KNOWINGLY, VOLUNTARILY, AND INTENTIONALLY WAIVES ITS RIGHT TO TRIAL BY JURY IN ANY ACTION, PROCEEDING, OR COUNTERCLAIM BROUGHT BY EITHER OF THEM AGAINST THE OTHER FOR ALL MATTERS ARISING OUT OF OR RELATING TO THIS LEASE OR ANY USE, OCCUPANCY, OR OPERATIONS AT THE PREMISES OR THE AIRPORT. The provisions of this Section E.6 shall survive any expiration or termination of this Agreement.

E.7 Amendments and Waivers. No amendment to this Agreement shall be binding on Lessor or Tenant unless reduced to writing and signed by both parties. No provision of this Agreement may be waived, except pursuant to a writing executed by the party against whom the waiver is sought to be enforced.

E.8 Severability. If any provision of this Agreement is determined to be invalid, illegal, or unenforceable, the remaining provisions of this Agreement shall remain in full force and effect if both the economic and legal substance of the transactions that this Agreement contemplates are not affected in any manner materially adverse to any party. If any provision of this Agreement is held invalid, illegal, or unenforceable, the parties shall negotiate in good faith to modify this Agreement to fulfill as closely as possible the original intents and purposes of this Agreement.

E.9 Merger. This Agreement constitutes the final, complete, and exclusive agreement between the parties on the matters contained in this Agreement. All prior and contemporaneous negotiations and agreements between the parties on the matters contained in this Agreement are expressly merged into and superseded by this Agreement. In entering

into this Agreement, neither party has relied on any statement, representation, warranty, nor agreement of the other party except for those expressly contained in this Agreement.

E.10 Confidentiality. Tenant acknowledges that Lessor is subject to legal requirements regarding the public disclosure of records. Tenant shall comply with such laws in connection with making any request that Lessor maintain a record confidentially, and if Tenant complies with the same Tenant shall have the right to defend any such request for confidentiality at Tenant's expense.

E.11 Relationship of Parties. This Agreement does not create any partnership, joint venture, employment, or agency relationship between the parties. Nothing in this Agreement shall confer upon any other person or entity any right, benefit, or remedy of any nature.

E.12 Further Assurances. Each party shall execute any document or take any action that may be necessary or desirable to consummate and make effective a performance that is required under this Agreement.

E.13 Miscellaneous. The headings in this Agreement are provided for convenience only and do not affect this Agreement's construction or interpretation. All references to Sections are to Sections in this Agreement. Each provision to be performed by Tenant shall be construed as both a covenant and a condition. This Agreement shall be construed without regard to any presumption or rule requiring construction or interpretation against the drafting party. If Tenant consists of more than one individual or entity, the obligations of all such individuals and entities shall be joint and several. References in this Agreement to any period of days shall mean calendar days unless specifically stated otherwise.

E.14 Time of Essence. Time is of the essence of this Agreement.