

New Airport Manager Hired

Hickory City Manager Warren Wood hired Chad Hunsucker to serve as the City of Hickory's new Airport Manager.

Hunsucker took over the management of the Hickory Regional Airport on Jan. 2 following the retirement of longtime Hickory Airport Manager Terry Clark, who retired at the end of 2023 after more than 42 years of service.

"As the City of Hickory continues to grow, the Hickory Regional Airport and its surrounding areas have become a focal point for innovation and economic development," said Wood. "In our search for a new airport manager, Chad's proven leadership experience as a military veteran and expert knowledge of aviation operations immediately grabbed our attention and made him a strong match for this vacancy."



Chad Hunsucker
Hickory Regional Airport Manager

A Hickory native, Hunsucker spent 27 years in the military, serving his country as a Director of Aviation Operations and Program Manager in the U.S. Navy

from January 1991 to December 2017. During that time, he managed aviation operations and personnel at numerous military airfields in Hawaii, Mississippi, and Virginia.

Hunsucker most recently worked as an Air Traffic Control Specialist for Robinson Aviation (RVA), Inc. at Concord Regional Airport since February 2018.

"Chad brings a wealth of experience in aviation. We're excited to see how the Hickory Regional Airport continues to prosper and evolve under his leadership," added Wood.

When asked about his new role with the City of Hickory, Hunsucker stated, "I'm looking forward to this incredible opportunity to maximize the operational efficiency of the airport, work alongside city leaders during numerous ongoing airport construction projects, and work with our partners to advance the airport's economic impact within the Hickory region."

Hunsucker earned a Bachelor of Applied Science and Technology degree in Aviation/Airway Management and Operations from Thomas Edison State University. He is certified as a Control Tower Operator through the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) and holds a Lean Six Sigma Green Belt Certification from the U.S. Department of Defense Education Activity.

Outside of his professional experience, Hunsucker's community service and volunteer efforts have included organizing fundraising events for the American Heart Association since May 2001 and serving as a volunteer coordinator for Habitat for Humanity International from March 1997 to March 2002.

Hunsucker resides in Maiden with his wife, Carol. They have a daughter named Ceara, who is a senior at Liberty University.

ADDRESS

76 North Center Street

WEBSITE

HickoryNC.gov

PHONE

828-323-7400

ISSUE

February 2024

HICKORY CITY COUNCIL

Tuesday, March 5 & 19

6 p.m.

Julian G. Whitener

Municipal Building (City Hall)

HickoryNC.gov



HICKORY FARMERS MARKET

Saturdays only 10 a.m. - 1 p.m.

The Sails on the Square

HickoryFarmersMarket.com

BARBECUE

Feb. 23 - March 9

Hickory Community Theatre

HickoryTheatre.org

AN IRISH AFTERNOON IN COUNTY CATAWBA

Sunday, March 17

3 p.m.

First Baptist Church

(339 2nd Ave NW)

HickoryChoralSociety.org

MASTERWORKS:

SYMPHONIE FANTASTIQUE

Thursday, March 7

7:30 p.m.

P.E. Monroe Auditorium, LRU

WPSymphony.org

CROSSROADS:

KAIA STRING QUARTET

Thursday, March 21

7:30 p.m.

Drendel Auditorium, SALT Block

WPSymphony.org

VISITING WRITERS SERIES:

ROBERT HASS

Thursday, March 21

7 p.m.

Grace Chapel, LRU

LR.edu/VWS

ANNUAL CHILDREN'S

EASTER EGG HUNT

Saturday, March 23

Ages 2 & Under: 10 a.m.

Ages 3-4: 10:30 a.m.

Ages 5-6: 11 a.m.

Ages 7-12: 8:15 p.m.

Henry Fork River Park

GOOD FRIDAY

Friday, March 29

City Offices Closed

For more events, visit
HickoryEventsCalendar.com

Catawba County Offers Online Permitting

People who need to apply or pay for most permits in Catawba County may now skip the visit to the permit office and handle their business online. An online permitting system, ePermits, is now available for projects in Catawba County and several municipalities, including the City of Hickory. The online permitting



system may be accessed at epermits.catawbacountync.gov.

The new ePermits system helps streamline the application process by making most permit processes available online and eliminating the need to apply or pay in person. The ePermits system includes permits related to commercial and residential construction, well and septic installation or repair, food and lodging applications, planning and zoning, plan review, and more.

All users are required to set up an account to access the new system. Building and trade contractors who have done business with the Catawba County Permit Center within the past five years should start by contacting the Permit Center at permitapps@catawbacountync.gov or 828-465-8399 to receive their access code. This code will enable them to set up an online account on epermits.catawbacountync.gov that synchronizes with their existing information in the permitting system.

All other users will start by visiting epermits.catawbacountync.gov, where they will create a new account online by clicking on "Sign Up" in the top-right corner. An access code from the Permit Center will not be needed.

Once their account is established, users can log in to submit applications and make payments online. Payments can be made online by check, debit card, or credit card (Visa and MasterCard only). Users will also have access to a personalized dashboard, which will track the status of their applications, show any payments due, and enable them to request inspections, see upcoming scheduled inspections, and view inspection results for their projects. Online tutorials are available to assist users with navigating the new system.

Applications and payments may still be made in person. Please contact the City of Hickory Permit Center at 828-323-7410 with any questions regarding projects in Hickory, as some specific projects and permits may still require in-



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Government



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person visits.