

# RADIO CONTROLLED MODEL AIRCRAFT FLYING SITE DEVELOPMENT PROPOSAL

Coweta Radio Control Club



# PURPOSE

*To establish a working relationship to develop a site suitable for radio controlled model aircraft use.*



# BENEFITS

- ▶ It appeals to a wide range of individuals from varying socioeconomic groups
- ▶ Involves younger people in a technological hobby that encourages time spent outside (Neil Armstrong, the first man on the moon, began his career as an aero modeler)
- ▶ Supports local Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) programs and Boy Scout activities
- ▶ Learning the hobby requires a mentorship that strengthens interpersonal relationships
- ▶ Grows ties to “engineering-minded” individuals
  - ▶ Retired professionals and airline pilots
  - ▶ People who enjoy building model aircraft



## BENEFITS (CONTINUED)

- ▶ Aero modeling is a sport like golf or tennis. By supporting a radio controlled airfield, Coweta County would add a currently unavailable sport to the many traditionally supported sports such as soccer, baseball, football, and tennis
- ▶ Closed landfills, which otherwise might go unused, are utilized for RC flying sights across the country. There are three in the Atlanta area, Douglas County, Henry County, and Newton County, and several others in Georgia
- ▶ The community receives many benefits by allowing land to be used for worthy activities that promote family/community togetherness and friendly competition through a viable and respected sport





# PROPOSAL

- ▶ County land with oversight provided by the Coweta Radio Control Club (CRCC)
- ▶ CRCC would be the host club, offering liability insurance through their charter from the Academy of Model Aeronautics (AMA)
- ▶ Flying site would be open to members of CRCC with active AMA membership and guests with active AMA membership



# PROPOSAL (CONTINUED)

- ▶ Access to the site would be controlled via issued membership cards
- ▶ Yearly membership (all CRCC club members)
- ▶ Membership issued only to those holding current year AMA membership cards (proof of liability insurance)
- ▶ Membership cards offer a simple way to verify permission to use site/proof of liability insurance
- ▶ Guest pilots would be escorted by a club member and must be an AMA member



# PROPOSAL (CONTINUED)

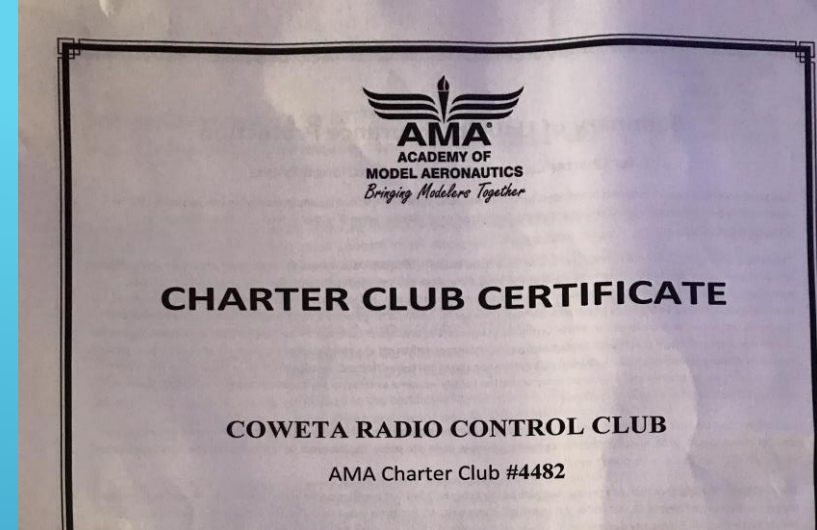
- ▶ CRCC would be allowed to make site improvements subject to County Approval
- ▶ With proper planning, execution, and support from the county and CRCC, the site could become a “destination” for model aviation enthusiasts, visitors, and tourists





# COWETA RADIO CONTROL CLUB

- ▶ Established in 2000
- ▶ The club is chartered and insured by the Academy of Model Aeronautics
- ▶ Diverse group averaging 50-60 members of all age ranges
- ▶ Membership is open to the public at large, however, members must be AMA members first
- ▶ Currently without a flying site after closing our site at Powers Crossroads
- ▶ Offers RC pilot instruction/training with emphasis on safety and responsibility
- ▶ CRCC members work with schools and other community organizations to promote aviation and to spark interest in science and technology education





# ACADEMY OF MODEL AERONAUTICS

- ▶ Official national body for model aviation in the United States was established in 1936
- ▶ Approximately 165,000 members and 2,400 clubs
- ▶ AMA estimates more than 1,000,000 modelers nationwide
- ▶ Provides membership liaison with –
  - ▶ Federal Aviation Administration (FAA)
  - ▶ Federal Communications Commission (FCC)
  - ▶ Transportation Safety Administration (TSA)
  - ▶ National, State, Local Governments/agencies



# ACADEMY OF MODEL AERONAUTICS

(CONTINUED)

- ▶ Provides \$2.5M of primary liability insurance for –
  - ▶ Flying site owners
  - ▶ Chartered clubs
  - ▶ Individual members
  - ▶ Coweta County named as “additional insured”



# PROPOSED SITE PLAN

- ▶ Grass runway (dirt may need to be added to low spots to smooth it out)
- ▶ A pit area to service the models
- ▶ Pilot stations with safety barriers
- ▶ Graveled parking area
- ▶ Sheds/sun protection – open-design with no walls or ability to trap gases inside
- ▶ No smoking on premises and signs stating such
- ▶ Fire extinguishers and first aid equipment on site during any activities



# PROPOSED SITE PLAN (CONTINUED)

- ▶ No digging on site without written permission from Coweta County and/or Georgia EPD
- ▶ Gated access to the site with a combination lock that club members will use
- ▶ All pilots will follow safety guidelines set forth by the AMA and the club
- ▶ Coweta Radio Control Club will serve as a security force for Coweta County and report problems directly to them immediately









