

***MINUTES OF AIRPORT COMMISSION SPECIAL MEETING***  
***TUESDAY – FEBRUARY 9, 2022***  
***FORT SMITH REGIONAL AIRPORT CONFERENCE ROOM***

The special meeting of the Fort Smith Airport Commission was called to order at 12:00 p.m. by Chairman McGhee, presiding (via phone). Commissioners Grimes, Hawkins, Kelly, Nordin, Pendergrass, and Ridgley were present. Also, present were Michael Griffin, airport director, and Kathy Boze, administration director.

Jaimin Patel, hotel developer, was in attendance.

**ITEMS OF BUSINESS**

1. Property Development Ground Lease- Airport staff has negotiated with Mr. Jaimin Patel for a ground lease to construct a hotel on airport property next to the Homewood Suites on Phoenix Avenue. The hotel will be in similar quality as the other hotels on airport property. The ground lease is virtually identical to the existing hotel property leases and is for a term of 50 years with options for extension. The special meeting was called to accommodate the Marriott franchise timeline.

Airport attorney, Mark Moll has reviewed the lease and staff recommends approving the lease.

Mr. Patel addressed the commission. He has several hotels, two in Van Buren and in other states, and this development will be a quality hotel with a Marriott franchise.

On motion by Commissioner Pendergrass and second by Commissioner Grimes, the commission approved the ground lease with Mr. Jaimin Patel for construction of the hotel.

**ADJOURNMENT**

On motion by Commissioner Nordin and second by Commissioner Hawkins, the meeting adjourned at 12:06 p.m. Voting aye: Grimes, McGhee, Nordin, Pendergrass, and Hawkins.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Griffin, A.A.E.  
Airport Director