

MINUTES OF AIRPORT COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING
TUESDAY – FEBRUARY 24, 2026
FORT SMITH REGIONAL AIRPORT CONFERENCE ROOM

The regular meeting of the Fort Smith Airport Commission was called to order at 5:30 p.m. by Chairman Voris, presiding. Commissioners Barr, Cooper, Hagy, and Ridgley were present. Also present were Lindsay Conley, Director of Finance and Administration and Reginald Evans, Operations Director. Director Meyer, Commissioner Kelly and Commissioners Pendergrass were absent.

ADOPTION OF MINUTES

On motion by Commissioner Ridgley and second by Commissioner Barr, the commission approved the minutes of the January 27, 2026 regular meeting. Voting aye: Barr, Cooper, Hagy, Ridgley and Voris. Voting nay: none. Motion carried.

TREASURERS' REPORT

Commission Treasurer Barr presented the January 2026 financial report. With 8.5% of the year complete, operating revenues reached 5.8% of the annual budget, while operating expenses reached 6.1%, resulting in a net operating loss of \$7,362. Director Conley noted that both revenues and expenses were lower than projected because the AJUA funding and related expenditures were included in the budget but have not yet been recognized, as the AJUA agreement is still pending. During the late-January snow event, eleven bags of deicer were used at a total cost \$26,781. In addition, the City of Fort Smith Law Enforcement Officer contract amount for January - totaling \$23,333 for security services – was accrued. Harrison Energy completed repairs to Air Handler 1, with total costs of \$6,004.

ITEMS OF BUSINESS

1. Air Force Report/Update – Lt. Col. Richard Lavery, Chief of Staff of the 188th Wing Air National Guard, provided an update on the Airport Joint Use Agreement (AJUA). He noted that the only update needed was the address for invoice submission, which he has now provided. The Air National Guard is currently working with the Air Education Training Command (AETC) to obtain the final signature.
2. Civil Air Patrol Facility Replacement – The Fort Smith Civil Air Patrol (CAP) currently uses Airport Building 1. The CAP has requested Commission approval to pursue planning, design, and funding options to renovate the existing building and hangar. Lt. Col. Peter Mudge, Commander of the Fort Smith Civil Air Patrol, provided an overview of the CAP's mission, which includes supporting communities through emergency response, aviation services, and ground operations. The facility is also used by the Fort Smith Flying Club, a nonprofit organization dedicated to promoting aviation. Lt. Col. Mudge noted that the CAP has outgrown the current 1,600-square-foot facility. In addition to being undersized, the building is in significant disrepair—the foundation is cracked and causes flooding throughout the rooms during rainfall, and the ceiling leaks. The STEM education space is inadequate, and there is no hangar to house the CAP aircraft. He emphasized that the CAP

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represents a strong community partnership, providing aerospace education, aviation development, world-class cadet programs, Air Force recruiting support, pilot training, and contributing to the future aviation workforce in Fort Smith. With improved facilities, the program could increase its community reach fourfold. The CAP is currently working with congressional delegates to pursue grant funding for the project.

A motion to approve the Civil Air Patrol to pursue planning, design and funding options to update the current building and hangar was made by Commissioner Cooper and seconded by Commissioner Barr. Voting aye: Barr, Cooper, Hagy, Ridgley and Voris. There was no further discussion.

3. OG&E Easement Request - HTeaO – OG&E has requested an easement from the Airport Commission to install a transformer that will support HTeaO as well as future development on adjacent properties. Approval of the easement will allow OG&E to proceed with design and installation. The proposed easement will be located along the east side of the HTeaO plat. Chairman Voris inquired whether the easement would impact planned road development behind HTeaO, and Director Conley confirmed that it would not.

A motion to approve the OG&E easement on the east side of the HTeaO plat was made by Commissioner Cooper and seconded by Commissioner Ridgley. Voting aye: Barr, Cooper, Hagy, Ridgley and Voris. Voting nay: none. Motion carried. There was no further discussion.

4. Director's Report

- Clear TSA PreCheck Enrollment Event – The airport hosted a TSA PreCheck® enrollment event on February 5, completing 71 enrollments. The next event is scheduled for March 5, 2026.
- Flight Data – In January, FSM had 4,362 enplanements and an average load factor of 71.8%. There were 94 flights scheduled, with 9 cancellations due to weather.
- PV Solar Array Bid – The construction bid opening for the Air National Guard (ANG) PV Solar Array project has been postponed to March, due to ANG electromagnetic concerns during armament loading.
- Runway 2/20 & Taxiway Echo Rehabilitation Project – The Safety Risk Management (SRM) review for the project was completed February 19.
- Upcoming Events
 - Director Meyer will attend the Mead & Hunt Air Service Conference March 24.

5. Chairman's Report - Chairman Voris is working with Lockheed Martin to obtain an F35 static display for the airport terminal entrance.

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NEXT COMMISSION MEETING

The next meeting of the Fort Smith Airport Commission was rescheduled to Tuesday, March 17, 2026, at 5:30 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

On motion by Commissioner Ridgley and second by Commissioner Barr, the meeting adjourned at 6:04 p.m. Voting aye: Barr, Cooper, Hagy, Ridgley and Voris. Voting Nay: none. Motion Carried.

Respectfully submitted,



Lindsay Conley
Director of Finance & Administration