

METROPOLITAN KNOXVILLE AIRPORT AUTHORITY

Minutes of the Board of Commissioners

Date: February 18, 2026

Place: Henrietta Grant Board Room
McGhee Tyson Airport

The Board of Commissioners of the Metropolitan Knoxville Airport Authority (MCAA) met pursuant to notice at 4:17 p.m. on Wednesday, February 18, 2026, in the Henrietta Grant Board Room at McGhee Tyson Airport (TYS) with the Board Chairman, Howard Vogel, presiding.

Roll call developed that Board members present, in addition to Chairman Vogel, were Ursula Bailey, Markus Chady, Joe Dawson, Caryn Hawthorne, Maribel Koella, Allison Page, and Wes Stowers. Also present were Patrick Wilson, President of the Airport Authority, and members of his staff; Mark Mamantov, legal counsel; and other visitors.

BUSINESS AGENDA

I. Announcements. Chairman Vogel reminded those in attendance that a sign-up sheet was available for members of the audience who would like to address the Board of Commissioners as to an item on the agenda or speak during the public forum at the conclusion of the meeting.

II. Minutes. The minutes of the regular meeting of January 21, 2026, had been distributed with the agenda materials. Upon motions duly seconded, the minutes were approved as presented by a unanimous voice vote.

III. President's Report and Financial Report. President Wilson provided the Board with highlights of the activity report, the project report, and financial information that were included with the agenda materials.

He then reported that Senator Marsha Blackburn visited TYS on February 17, 2026, to learn about the airport and ongoing projects.

Mr. Wilson next introduced Mike Gillock, Regional Manager of Airport Affairs for Southwest Airlines, who expressed Southwest's excitement about beginning operations at TYS on March 5 and conveyed appreciation for the proposed incentives package.

Mr. Wilson also introduced Mr. Sammy Shaffer, the new Director of Public Safety at the Airport Authority. At Mr. Wilson's request, Mr. Mamantov administered an oath of office.

At President Wilson's further request, Mr. Mamantov introduced Stephanie O'Hara, an attorney with Bass, Berry & Sims PLC who will be dedicated to the Airport Authority's work. He noted that Ms. O'Hara will be assuming responsibilities previously handled by Alex Samber and recognized Ms. Samber for her more than seven years of service to the Airport Authority.

Mr. Wilson then congratulated Aaron Flake, the Director of Parking and Ground Transportation at the Airport Authority, on being selected as President-Elect of the Airport Ground Transportation Association.

He also announced that Jeff Perry, the Chief Operations Officer at the Airport Authority, has accepted the position of Chief Operations Officer at Charlotte Douglas International Airport and will transition to his new role in early March.

In closing, President Wilson informed the Board that a workshop on concessions will be held prior to the March Board meeting.

IV. Report from Colonel Ron Selvidge on the KC-46 Aircraft. President Wilson recognized Colonel Ron Selvidge, the Wing Commander of the 134th Air Refueling Wing at the TYS National Guard Base, for being selected by the Department of the Air Force for the KC-46 Pegasus. Col. Selvidge thanked Mr. Wilson for the Airport Authority's support in the process. Col. Selvidge announced that the expected delivery date for the KC-46 Pegasus is 2031.

V. Report of Aviation Operations and Services Committee. Commissioner Bailey, Chair of the Aviation Operations and Services Committee, advised the Board that the Committee had met prior to the Board meeting to discuss the existing leases for box hangars at the Knoxville Downtown Island Airport (DKX). Ms. Bailey noted that leases for eight of the sixteen box hangars expire in April 2026. Ms. Bailey moved on behalf of the committee that Mr. Wilson be authorized (i) to notify R Squared Construction and its assignees that the Airport Authority is not in agreement to extend the term of the lease with R Squared Construction as is permitted pursuant to the extension provisions in that lease; and (ii) pursuant to Mr. Wilson's existing authority, to offer a lease extension based upon existing financial terms of up to one year on a month-to-month basis under the same obligations of the tenant's current lease with R Squared Construction, a motion which required no second. Commissioner Stowers recused himself from the vote due to a conflict of interest. Following discussion, the remaining Commissioners unanimously approved the motion by a voice vote.

VI. Report of Capital Development Committee. Commissioner Koella, Chair of the Capital Development Committee, advised the Board that the Committee had met prior to the Board meeting and were presented with the Airport Capital Improvement Program (ACIP) for TYS and DKX for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2027. The report was informational only to be voted on at the next Committee meeting.

VII. New Business.

A. Consideration of Resolution No. 26-02: A Resolution Declaring the Intent of the Metropolitan Knoxville Airport Authority to Reimburse Itself for Certain Anticipated Capital Expenditures with the Proceeds of Bonds or Other Debt Obligations to be Issued by the Airport Authority. Susan Gennoe, the Vice President of Finance at the Airport Authority, explained that the Airport Authority plans to issue bonds or other debt obligations to finance the costs associated with the acquisition, construction and/or improvement of airport facilities, including airport terminal and apron improvements, roadway and parking facilities, and land and building acquisitions. The proposed resolution will permit the Airport Authority to reimburse itself as necessary for these expenditures from proceeds of the bonds or other debt obligations. The proposed resolution does not require the Airport Authority to undertake such reimbursement, nor does this resolution commit the Airport Authority to issue bonds or other debt obligations. It was moved by Mr. Dawson, seconded by Ms. Koella, that Resolution No. 26-02 be adopted as presented. The motion was approved by a unanimous voice vote.

B. Consideration of Approval to Accept a Grant from the Tennessee Department of Transportation (TDOT) Aeronautics Division for the Parking Garage Expansion at TYS. Bryan White, the Vice President of Planning and Development at the Airport Authority, explained that TDOT Aeronautics Division approved a grant to support the parking garage project in the amount of \$22,500,000. It was moved by Ms. Page, seconded by Ms. Bailey, that the grant from TDOT Aeronautics Division for the parking garage project be accepted. The motion was approved by a unanimous voice vote.

C. Consideration of Approval of a Purchase to Presidio for Network Computer and Phone Equipment and Supplies. Michael Giles, the Procurement Manager at the Airport Authority, explained that the proposed purchase includes the replacement of outdated network switches and phone equipment and

the related configuration services. Presidio, formerly Internetwork Engineering and the Airport Authority's network integrator, provided a quote of \$394,049. It was moved by Ms. Bailey, seconded by Ms. Page, that the purchase of equipment and related services from Presidio be approved as presented. The motion was approved by a unanimous voice vote.

D. Consideration of Approval of MKAA Air Service Incentives for New Southwest Airlines Nonstop Service between TYS and Baltimore/Washington International Thurgood Marshall Airport (BWI). Jim Evans, the Vice President of Marketing and Air Service Development at the Airport Authority, explained that the next five items of new business related to incentives under the Airport Authority's New Air Service Partnership Program. The Board agreed to vote on all five incentive packages together following the presentation of all five packages to the Board. Mr. Evans informed the Board that the first incentive package to be presented relates to daily flights to BWI by Southwest. The flights will start on March 5, 2026. The staff recommends providing \$100,000 of initial marketing assistance, \$1.00 per flown passenger in additional marketing assistance for twenty-four months, subject to the budgetary limitations set forth in the Incentive Agreement, and a waiver of gate area fees, ticket area fees, and landing fees associated with the new flights for twelve months. The proposed incentives are consistent with the Airport Authority's New Air Service Partnership Program.

E. Consideration of Approval of MKAA Air Service Incentives for New Southwest Airlines Nonstop Service between TYS and Dallas Love Field (DAL). Mr. Evans informed the Board that the proposed incentives relate to daily flights to DAL by Southwest. The flights will start on March 5, 2026. The staff recommends providing \$100,000 of initial marketing assistance, \$1.00 per flown passenger in additional marketing assistance for twenty-four months, subject to the budgetary limitations set forth in the Incentive Agreement, and a waiver of gate area fees, ticket area fees, and landing fees associated with the new flights for twelve months. The proposed incentives are consistent with the Airport Authority's New Air Service Partnership Program.

F. Consideration of Approval of MKAA Air Service Incentives for New Southwest Airlines Nonstop Service between TYS and Nashville International Airport (BNA). Mr. Evans informed the Board that the proposed incentives relate to twice-daily flights to BNA by Southwest. The flights will start on March 5, 2026. The staff recommends providing \$50,000 of initial marketing assistance, \$1.00 per flown passenger in additional marketing assistance for twenty-four months, subject to the budgetary limitations set forth in the Incentive Agreement, and a waiver of gate area fees, ticket area fees, and landing fees associated with the new flights for twelve months. The proposed incentives are consistent with the Airport Authority's New Air Service Partnership Program.

G. Consideration of Approval of MKAA Air Service Incentives for New Southwest Airlines Nonstop Service between TYS and Orlando International Airport (MCO). Mr. Evans informed the Board that the proposed incentives relate to daily flights to MCO by Southwest. The flights will start on March 5, 2026. The staff recommends providing \$100,000 of initial marketing assistance, \$1.00 per flown passenger in additional marketing assistance for twelve months, subject to the budgetary limitations set forth in the Incentive Agreement, and a waiver of gate area fees, ticket area fees, and landing fees associated with the new flights for twelve months. The proposed incentives are consistent with the Airport Authority's New Air Service Partnership Program.

H. Consideration of Approval of MKAA Air Service Incentives for New Southwest Airlines Nonstop Service between TYS and Denver International Airport (DEN). Mr. Evans informed the Board that the proposed incentives relate to flights to DEN by Southwest. The flights will begin twice weekly on April 11, 2026, increase to daily service on June 4, 2026. The staff recommends providing \$50,000 of initial marketing assistance, \$1.00 per flown passenger in additional marketing assistance for twelve months, subject to the budgetary limitations set forth in the Incentive Agreement, and a waiver of gate area fees, ticket area fees, and landing fees associated with the new flights for twelve months. The proposed incentives are consistent with the Airport Authority's New Air Service Partnership Program. It was moved by Mr.

Stowers, seconded by Mr. Dawson, that all five incentive packages be approved as presented. Following discussion, the motion was unanimously approved by a voice vote.

VIII. Staff Reports. Becky Huckaby, the Vice President of Public Relations at the Airport Authority, invited everyone to attend the Southwest Airlines celebration at the Sunsphere on March 4, 2026, and the press conference for Southwest Airlines' first flights at TYS on March 5, 2026.

IX. Public Forum. Chairman Vogel announced that the business agenda had been completed and that there were no requests by individuals wishing to address the Board.

X. Adjournment. Thereupon, upon motion duly seconded and unanimously approved, the meeting was adjourned at 5:10 p.m.

Asst. Secretary 