METROPOLITAN KNOXVILLE AIRPORT AUTHORITY

Minutes of the Board of Commissioners

Date: March 18, 2026 Place: Henrietta Grant Board Room
McGhee Tyson Airport

The Board of Commissioners of the Metropolitan Knoxville Airport Authority (MKAA) met pursuant to notice at 4:18 p.m. on Wednesday, March 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, Caryn Hawthorne, Maribel Koella, and Allison Page. 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.

Chairman Vogel recognized guests Lynne Harr, wife of Charlie Harr, and Laura Bolton, Business Partner of Charlie Harr, at Patriot Investment Management. Mr. Vogel expressed the Board's condolences for the loss of Charlie Harr and shared how the Board will miss Mr. Harr's presence on the Board.

II. Minutes. The minutes of the regular meeting of February 18, 2026, had been distributed with the agenda materials. Upon motion by Allison Page, seconded by Ursula Bailey, 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.

Mr. Wilson invited the Board to attend one of the training sessions on Navigating a Multi-Generational Workforce by Kristin Scroggin, which will be held on April 9 at the Airport Hilton.

IV. Resolution No. 26-03: A Resolution to Honor the Memory of Charles Russell Harr. Expressing its sincere appreciation and gratitude for Charlie Harr for over ten years of service to the Metropolitan Knoxville Airport Authority as a commissioner and officer, the Board of Commissioners offered its sympathy and condolences to the family and friends of Mr. Harr. Mr. Mamantov read Resolution No. 26-03, which was then unanimously adopted by a rising vote of the Board of Commissioners and will be incorporated into the Board's official minutes.

V. Appointment of Administration and Finance Committee Chair. Chairman Vogel explained that the Airport Authority's Bylaws require the Board Chair to make appointments of Committee chairpersons, subject to the Board's confirmation. Chairman Vogel requested that his appointment of Caryn Hawthorne as Chair of the Administration and Finance Committee be confirmed by the Board. The Commissioners unanimously approved the appointment of Ms. Hawthorne as Chair of the Administration and Finance Committee.

VI. Appointment of Nominating Committee for Secretary. Chairman Vogel shared that the vacancy in the office of Secretary needs to be filled. Chairman Vogel explained that the Airport Authority's Bylaws require that a Nominating Committee be formed to meet and present a slate of officers to the Board, including when a vacancy occurs. Chairman Vogel further shared that the Board Chair, subject to the Board's confirmation, appoints the Nominating Committee. Chairman Vogel stated that Mr. Mamantov had, for previous Nominating Committee appointments, solicited interested and willing members to serve on the Nominating Committee and present the names to the Chair. Chairman Vogel announced that Mr. Mamantov would serve in that capacity again for forming a Nominating Committee.

VII. Report of Administration and Finance Committee. Commissioner Hawthorne, Chair of the Administration and Finance Committee, advised the Board that the Committee had met prior to the Board meeting to discuss (i) Employee Health, Dental, Vision, Life AD&D, and Disability Insurance Policy Renewals, (ii) the FY 2027 MKAA Staffing Plan, and (iii) a FY 2026 MKAA Staffing Plan Revision.

For the first item, Ms. Hawthorne reported that the current employee healthcare insurance provider quoted an increase of 24% in premium cost for FY 2027, and another insurance provider had provided a quote on the day of the meeting with an increased cost of 10% and a $100,000 transition credit, which would effectively make the increase for this provider 7% over FY 2026. Ms. Hawthorne shared that the cost of the other types of insurance were not quoted with as high of an increase. Ms. Hawthorne explained that MKAA's staff and the insurance brokers were still working through details of plans and were requesting approval of the MKAA's staff selecting plans with an increased cost not to exceed a 24% increase over FY 2026. Ms. Hawthorne reported that the Committee recommended approval of the Employee Health, Dental, Vision, Life AD&D, and Disability Insurance Policy Renewals, effective June 1, 2026, with an increased cost not to exceed a 24% increase over FY 2026. The motion was unanimously approved by a voice vote.

For the second item, Ms. Hawthorne explained that the FY 2027 MKAA Staffing Plan discussion was a staff report only and would be considered with the FY 2027 Operating Budget.

For the third item, Ms. Hawthorne shared that MKAA's staff recommended approval of the following FY 2026 Staffing Plan revisions: (1) reclassify the Accounting Specialist position to Financial Analyst, with a grade change from 25 to 27 and a change to exempt status; (2) reclassify one Project Manager position in Planning and Development from Grade 27 to Grade 30, with a change to exempt status; and (3) add the Terminal Area Development Program Director position at a Grade 34. Ms. Hawthorne reported that the Committee recommended approval of the staff's recommendations as presented. The motion was unanimously approved by a voice vote.

VIII. New Business.

A. Consideration of Approval to Accept Two Federal Grants for the Runway 5R/23L Reconstruction Project at McGhee Tyson Airport. Eric Williamson, Director of Design and Construction, at the Airport Authority, explained that two grant applications were submitted in early January 2026 to the Federal Aviation Administration ("FAA") in support of the 5R/23L Runway Rehabilitation project. Mr. Williamson reported that the FAA requested that the Authority submit two applications to fund the design work separate from construction. The Airport Authority's staff expects to receive an Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act ("IIJA") grant in the amount of $5,099,903 for construction and a second IIJA grant in the amount of $564,043 for design work. The exact grant amounts will be determined by the FAA and may vary from MKAA's planning/request values. Mr. Williams stated that MKAA's staff recommends the acceptance of these two grants from the Federal Aviation Administration for the purposes described above and that the President be authorized to execute said grants consistent with such terms, subject to review by the Airport Authority's legal counsel. It was so moved by Ursula Bailey, seconded by Maribel Koella, that the FAA grants for the 5R/23L Runway Rehabilitation Project be accepted as presented. The motion was approved by a unanimous voice vote.

B. Consideration of Approval of Award to Messer Construction for the High Voltage Electrical Equipment Inspection and Generator Improvements at McGhee Tyson Airport. Eric Williamson, Director of Design and Construction at the Airport Authority, presented in the absence of Bryan White, the Vice President of Planning and Development at the Airport Authority. Mr. Williamson explained that the parking garage project requires electrical utility work as part of the construction. During a planned phase of the electrical utility work, a fault occurred which resulted in an electrical outage impacting the terminal building and other associated facilities. Messer Construction, which serves as the Parking Garage Construction Manager at Risk, will complete the final repairs associated with the outage. Additionally, the Airport Authority's staff and the design team are recommending further improvements to our existing electrical system to include metering generator loading, additional fault detection and equipment cleaning and re-torquing. Mr. Williamson stated that the proposed improvements would be implemented during a planned power shutdown for the final repairs. Due to current experience with the high voltage electrical work, knowledge of the additional scope and the need for continuity, the Airport Authority's staff recommended authorizing Messer Construction to provide the services for the additional items noted. Pursuant to Section 2.8C of the Procurement Policy, this would not be awarded through a competitive solicitation because the President has determined that acquiring the goods and/or services from a provider that is operating under an approved agreement with the Authority to provide such goods or services is essential for the Authority (i) to obtain constancy in the provision of services to the public and (ii) to maintain the same quality of the goods or services provided. Mr. Williamson stated that Airport Authority staff recommended funding for the recommended work be from general funds of the Airport Authority, not through the funds dedicated to the parking garage expansion project, and that the FY 2026 ACIP be amended to include this project. A funding plan was included in the agenda packet. Mr. Williamson stated that MKAA's staff recommends an award to Messer Construction in the amount of $207,616 for the improvements and that the President be authorized to execute a contract with Messer Construction consistent with such terms, subject to review by the Airport Authority's legal counsel. It was moved by Markus Chady, and duly seconded by Ursula Bailey, that the proposed contract with Messer Construction be approved as presented. The motion was approved by a unanimous voice vote.

C. Consideration of Approval Change Order Number 2 to Cleary Construction Company and Approval of Work Authorization Number 23-158F to CHA Consulting, Inc. in Support of the Runway 5R/23L Rehabilitation Project 2. Eric Williamson, Director of Design and Construction at the Airport Authority, explained that in October 2025, Cleary Construction, Inc. was awarded the contract for Runway 5R/23L Rehabilitation Project 2 in the amount of $28,769,807. At the time, the base bid award had a funding shortfall of $1,431,298. Therefore, an additive bid and the cost of construction administration services were not included in the award, but Cleary Construction Company agreed to hold its bid prices for the additional work with the anticipation this work will be funded and approved. Mr. Williamson further explained that an additional federal grant (AIP 90) has been received from the FAA and will provide the necessary funds for the remaining base bid, additive bid, and the cost of construction administration. The additive bid provides for the additional full depth rehabilitation of approximately 400 feet of runway pavement. Work Authorization Number 23-158F provides construction administration, design engineering support, resident project representative, quality assurance testing and quality assurance surveys, and project closeout.

Mr. Williamson stated that MKAA recommends the award of the Change Order 2 to Cleary Construction Company in the amount of $2,430,573 and Work Authorization Number 23-158F to CHA Consulting, Inc. in the amount of $1,815,370, in support of the overall project, be approved for the purposes described above and that the President be authorized to execute the contracts consistent with such terms, subject to review by the Airport Authority's legal counsel. It was moved by Markus Chady, and duly seconded by Caryn Hawthorne, that Change Order Number 2 to Cleary Construction Company and Work Authorization Number 23-158F to CHA Consulting, Inc. be approved as presented. The motion was approved by a unanimous voice vote.

D. Consideration of Approval of Purchasing Authority Increase for the Procurement Manager Position. Mr. Wilson explained that due to vacancy of the Chief Operating Officer (COO) position, he recommends temporarily setting the purchasing authority limit for the Procurement Manager as twenty thousand dollars ($20,000) for any single purchase. The approval will provide continued operational and safety needs to be maintained with purchasing requests until the position of COO has been filled. It was moved by Ursula Bailey, seconded by Maribel Koella, that the Procurement Manager's purchasing authority be temporarily increased to twenty thousand dollars ($20,000) for any single purchase until the position of COO is filled. The motion was approved by a unanimous voice vote.

IX. Staff Reports. Susan Gennoe, Vice President of Finance, updated the Board on financial reports through December 31, 2025.

X. 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.

XI. Adjournment. Thereupon, upon motion duly seconded and unanimously approved, the meeting was adjourned at 4:56 p.m.

Assistant Secretary

RESOLUTION NO. 26-03

A RESOLUTION TO HONOR THE MEMORY OF CHARLES RUSSELL HARR

WHEREAS, Charles Russell Harr, known to his friends and colleagues as Charlie, passed away on February 19, 2026; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Harr faithfully served as a member of the Board of Commissioners of the Metropolitan Knoxville Airport Authority since October 27, 2015; and

WHEREAS, during his tenure on the Board, Mr. Harr served on numerous committees, including as Chair of the Administration and Finance Committee, and he served as Secretary of the Airport Authority since June 14, 2017; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Harr was a veteran and honorably served our nation as an air force planner, operations officer, and wing commander of the United States Air Force, attaining the rank of Colonel; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Harr was a true American hero, having served in Vietnam and Desert Storm and having completed over 200 missions during his military service; and

WHEREAS, as a fighter pilot, Mr. Harr received numerous awards for his combat service, including the Legion of Merit, three Distinguished Flying Crosses, Bronze Star, twelve Air Medals, Vietnam Cross of Gallantry and the Kuwait Liberation Medal; and

WHEREAS, having flown for twenty-four years of his twenty-six-year military career, Mr. Harr was combat-ready for six military fighter jets, the F-100, A-7, A-10, F-117, F-4, and F-15, and also served as an instructor in the Air Force Top Gun School training the next generation of military pilots; and

WHEREAS, following his distinguished military career, Mr. Harr continued a lifetime of service through dedicated leadership to our community, including service on the boards of Honor Air Knoxville and the East Tennessee Veterans Memorial Association and service to his church, Middlebrook Pike United Methodist Church; and

WHEREAS, after his retirement from the Air Force in 1994, Mr. Harr became a financial planning expert and joined Patriot Investment Management, where he served his clients until his death; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Harr was married to his beloved wife, Lynne Harr, for 58 years and was deeply devoted to his family; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Harr's contributions significantly advanced the goals of the Airport Authority, and his extensive knowledge of aviation and finance was a tremendous asset to the Airport Authority; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners deems it appropriate to express its appreciation for Mr. Harr's dedicated and honorable service as a member of the Board of Commissioners for his unselfish devotion and attention to the business and the best interest of the Metropolitan Knoxville Airport Authority; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners desires to honor Mr. Harr's memory by recognizing his integrity, humility, and dedication to his country and community.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners of the Metropolitan Knoxville Airport Authority hereby expresses its sincere appreciation and gratitude to Charles Russell Harr for over ten years of service to the Metropolitan Knoxville Airport Authority as a commissioner and officer.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners of the Metropolitan Knoxville Airport Authority expresses our sympathy and offers our condolences to the family and friends of Mr. Harr.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Board of Commissioners of the Metropolitan Knoxville Airport Authority that the foregoing Resolution be adopted, that it be spread upon the records of the Board of Commissioners of the Metropolitan Knoxville Airport Authority, and that a framed copy of the Resolution be presented to Mr. Harr's family.

Adopted this 18th day of March 2026.

Joe Dawson, Assistant Secretary	Howard Vogel, Chairman