

LAWTON METROPOLITAN AREA AIRPORT AUTHORITY
AIRPORT AUTHORITY MEETING MINUTES
May 26, 2026

1. The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. by the Chair, Allan Hampton.
2. The agenda along with the time and place of the meeting was posted in accordance with State Law.

3. ROLL CALL:

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Allan Hampton
George Gill
Clarence Fortney
Clay Zelbst
Jennifer Ellis
Matt Tranquill
Mark Henry
Nate Slate

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Dustin Hilliary

The roll call confirmed that a quorum was present.

OTHERS ALSO PRESENT:

Barbara McNally, Airport Director
Blake Dutcher, Attorney
Jared William, LFD

Pat Hurley, Executive Asst.
John Ratliff, City Manager
Mayor Stan Booker

4. PRESENTATION FROM MAYOR STAN BOOKER:

Mayor Booker explained that a coalition of local partners from Fort Sill and the City of Lawton has collaborated on a presentation for American Airlines. He noted that the airport's recent leakage study shows a significant amount of military travel is shifting to Oklahoma City each day. Based on his research, Mayor Booker stated that American Airlines could capture an estimated \$9 million in additional annual revenue if they aligned their military fares at Lawton with those offered in OKC.

He emphasized that Department of Defense policy requires service members to book the lowest available fare within a 100-mile radius of their duty station — a requirement that consistently directs Fort Sill travelers to OKC due to lower pricing.

Mayor Booker added that the group expects to have additional data and supporting information ready before the upcoming meeting with American Airlines.

5. REPORTS FROM AIRPORT BUSINESSES

- A. American Eagle (Michelle Ward, GM) – No report given.
- B. Fort Sill Transportation (Mr. Sprague) - No report given.
- C. Ft. Sill ARAC - (Chris Palacio) - No report given.

6. CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS: Members may request items be removed from the consent agenda for separate action:

- A. Minutes - Approval of the minutes of April 21, 2026, meeting.
- B. Financial Report - Director Financial Report, Purchase Orders, Accountant's Financial Statement and Bank Statements.

MOTION BY Ellis, SECOND By Gill, to approve the consent agenda as presented. **AYES: Hampton, Gill, Zelbst Fortney, Ellis, Henry, Slate, Tranquill. NAYES: None. MOTION CARRIED.**

7. DIRECTORS REPORT

- A. Distribution of Lawsuit Funds** – The final settlement for the fire station lawsuit was \$3,080,000.00. The board will need to approve the distribution of funds. (See Attachment 1).

McNally said the check should be ready any day. McNally said that once the final settlement is received, we will be reimbursing the City of Lawton \$ 265,000.00 and the Authority the legal fees paid leaving 1,684,202.16 for the actual work on the fire station.

John Ratliff addressed the group, he said he believed the number one priority needs to be, to fix the fire station before we discuss reimbursements. Since we did not know what the actual cost of the repairs were. Ratliff said that the city is not in a financial position to help if this project is underfunded.

Gill said he has been working on the repairs and cost. He said his recommendation was to proceed with plans and specs to get actual proposals which will cost \$ 40,000.00.

McNally said that the FAA has a Revenue Diversion Policy that is included in our grant assurances to the FAA. All funds that come to the airport, including legal settlements, must be retained by the airport for the benefit of the airport. Henry asked if we could reimburse the city, Dutcher said yes, it would be like paying a note.

MOTION BY Gills, SECOND By Fortney, to reimburse the City of Lawton the funds that were provided for the lawsuit **AYES: Hampton, Gill, Fortney, Ellis, Henry, Slate, Tranquill. NAYES: Zelbst. MOTION CARRIED.**

- B. Purchase of Vehicle and Equipment** – McNally said she has recommended replacing aged equipment. She said Maintenance is using 13-year-old zero turn mowers and need newer and larger mowers. Also, we have a tractor that needs to be paid off and the purchase of a ¾ truck to replace the Jeep that is unusable because of the transmission.

Tranquill asked which vendor the purchase would come from. McNally explained that all equipment purchases are made through the Oklahoma State Contract bid system, which ensures the lowest pricing without requiring the airport to conduct its own bid process. Tranquill then asked whether the purchase could be made locally. McNally stated that she has previously asked local companies if they could match the state contract pricing, and they indicated they could not.

Dutcher said if a local company would match the price we could purchase locally. Tranquil asked if we should be spending money if the City is asking for all of it. Zelbst said that is why he voted no, we do not have the money yet.

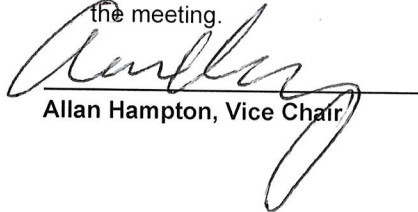
Ellis asked if we could move forward with the mowers purchases After some discussion, the board delayed purchasing the pickup and paying off that note and approved the mower purchase with existing funds.

MOTION BY Gills, SECOND By Fortney, to approve the purchase of zero turn mowers under the state bid contract in an amount not to exceed \$ 21,759.76. AYES: Hampton, Gill, Fortney, Ellis, Henry, Slate, Tranquill, Zelbst. NAYES: None. MOTION CARRIED.

8. NEW BUSINESS (Alan Hampton, Chair)

A. New Business- (as defined by 25 OS Supp. 1977, 311(9) "Any matter not known of which could not have been reasonably foreseen prior to the posting of the agenda" for this meeting.

B. Audience Participation - Comments from the public concerning items on the agenda. Zelbst adjourned the meeting.


Allan Hampton, Vice Chair