

LAWTON METROPOLITAN AREA AIRPORT AUTHORITY
AIRPORT AUTHORITY SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES
June 12, 2026

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. by the Chair, Allan Hampton .

The agenda along with the time and place of the meeting was posted in accordance with State Law.

ROLL CALL:

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Allan Hampton
George Gill
Clarence Fortney
Clay Zelbst
Mark Henry
Nate Slate

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Dustin Hilliary
Jennifer Ellis
Matt Tranquill

The roll call confirmed that a quorum was present.

OTHERS ALSO PRESENT:

Barbara McNally, Airport Director
Blake Dutcher, Attorney

Pat Hurley, Executive Asst.
Bill Pierson, FISTA

Hampton stated that he had a conflict of interest because he serves on both the FISTA and Airport boards, and he had been advised to recuse himself from both discussion and voting. Clarence Fortney noted that he also serves on both boards, and Nate Slate indicated he had a conflict as well.

Hampton then asked Clay Zelbst to chair the meeting.

Dutcher explained that, unfortunately, this situation likely renders the purpose of the meeting moot. With six members present and three recused, the board cannot take action. He noted that the bylaws clearly require five affirmative votes to approve any item.

1. DISCUSS REASSIGNMENT OF LAND – Zelbst said that FISTA has a shovel ready project for the 80 acres that was leased from the Oklahoma School Land Commission by the Airport Authority in 2007. That land was earmarked for an Arrival Departure Air Control Group (ADACG) facility for the Department of Defense, which has not materialized.

Zelbst said this item was considered at the Leasing Committee meeting. Gill asked what the committee heard and recommended. Zelbst said several sites were considered on airport property, the best options were located on the south 80 acres. McNally said the land was leased with funds from the Oklahoma Strategic Military Planning Commission. Zelbst said the request was for us to assign the lease to FISTA so the land could be developed. Zelbst said he doesn't think we should give it away for nothing.

Zelbst said the CLO would have to approve the assignment and have already put together an agreement.

Henry said he is a great supporter of FISTA, however the airport as an asset that is paid for and is costing the airport nothing for the next 37 years, it belongs to use. Henry said he doesn't think that we can or should give away an asset.

Henry said we have to decide what we can do for FISTA and works for the airport. Henry suggested subleasing the land to FISTA.

Slate indicated that the Integrated Fires Protection system—often referred to as the Golden Dome—is being relocated from Huntsville, Alabama to Lawton–Fort Sill, along with three additional missions currently under contract. The challenge is that all these capabilities must be fully operational by September 2027.

Henry thanked Slate and acknowledged the importance of the issue, but emphasized that the airport is facing rising maintenance and overhead costs without any corresponding increase in revenue. He added that the area is expected to become a TIF district that will generate new income, and he believes FISTA should share that future profit.

Dutcher said there is a constitutional prohibition against us giving away property, even to a public trust of the city. Dutcher clarified that there has to be consideration given, not necessarily monetary but it has to be measurable, quantifiable and have built in accountability to meet benchmarks. Dutcher said we can not assign or lease that 80 acres to FISTA without that.

Dutcher said FISTA will need to come back with a proposal that meets those benchmarks. Henry suggested 50,000.00 annually for the remainder of the thirty-seven-year lease, with the first two years free.

The meeting was adjourned.

2. 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.



Clay Zelbst, Vice Chair