



Moore County Airport Authority

February 11, 2026

Public Meeting – 09:00AM

The Moore County Airport Authority Meeting for Wednesday February 11th ,2026, was held in-person at the Moore County Airport Conference Room. A quorum was present.

Authority Members Present: Adam Kiker, Chairman
Dr. Mike Jones, Secretary
Ken Haenlein, Treasurer
Randy Saunders, Board Member

Authority Members Not Present: Gene Horne, Vice Chairman

Staff Present: Rick Cloutier, Airport Director
Eric Billowitz, Operations Manager
Marcuss Baker, FBO Manager
Keiko Brantley, Administrative Assistant

Guests Present: Peter Stillwell - Tarheel Communications
Robert Brown -RBPR (Zoom)
Tom Lee – Lawyer (Zoom)
John May – Lawyer
Elana Marsh – The Pilot
Lance Hufham – Public Member
Rick Hutchinson – Village of Whispering Pines

To Note: **Action Items**

CALLED TO ORDER: Chairman Adam Kiker called the meeting to order at 09:00 a.m.

A. Pledge of Allegiance

Chairman Kiker led the Pledge of Allegiance.

B. Public Comments

C. Request for Additional Agenda Items

D. Additional Agenda Item(s) Added:

E. Conflict of Interest

Chairman Kiker asked if there were any conflicts of interest. There were none.

F. Approval of Agenda

The Moore County Airport Authority Meeting Agenda for Wednesday February 11th 2026, was presented.

Chairman Kiker asked for a motion to approve the agenda.

M/- Saunders and S/-Haenlein

All voted in favor: Chairman Kiker, Treasurer Haenlein, Secretary Jones, and Board Member Saunders

G. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

Chairman Kiker asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the January 30, 2026, Moore County Airport Authority meeting, along with the special meeting minutes, to be approved in conjunction with the regular board meeting minutes.

M/- Jones and S/-Saunders

All voted in favor: Chairman Kiker, Treasurer Haenlein, Secretary Jones, and Board Member Saunders

H. Consent

None

I. Closed Session:

Pursuant to N.C.G.S. 143-318.11(a) (3), To consult with an attorney employed or retained by the public body in order to preserve the attorney-client privilege between the attorney and the

public body, which privilege is hereby acknowledged.

Chairman Kiker requested a motion to enter closed session to consult with legal counsel in order to preserve attorney-client privilege regarding consultation with an attorney in Florida related to Public Bonding matters.

M/- Saunders and S/-Haenlein

All voted in favor: Chairman Kiker, Treasurer Haenlein, Secretary Jones, and Board Member Saunders

The Board entered closed session at 9:03 a.m. Chairman Kiker then directed Rick to identify any staff who should remain present.

J. Public Meeting-

The Board entered open session at 9:36 a.m. and held a public meeting.

1. The Moore County Airport Authority will hold a public meeting to discuss: A proposed installment financing agreement to be entered into by the Moore County Airport Authority pursuant to Section 160A-20 of the General Statutes of North Carolina, as amended, in a principal amount does not exceed \$5Million.

The Board discussed the installment financing resolution related to the hangar project. Legal counsel advised that the previously held public hearing in August remains valid and that no new public hearing was required. The requested action before the Board was to adopt a revised resolution modifying the installment financing amount from \$7.5 million to \$5 million and clarifying that the project scope consists of two hangars rather than three.

The Chairman asked if there were any public comment or questions for staff or bond counsel.

Hearing none, Chairman Kiker requested a motion to adopt the revised installment financing resolution as presented.

M/- Haenlein and S/-Saunders

All voted in favor: Chairman Kiker, Treasurer Haenlein, Secretary Jones, and Board Member Saunders

K. New Business:

1. Review of Updated Personnel Policies:

The Airport Director presented updates to the Personnel Policy to better align with Moore County policy and reflect current staffing practices and organizational structure.

The primary changes included clarification of on-call and callback pay provisions, which were not previously defined. Compensation rates will be established annually by the Board during the budget process. Technology-related provisions were also added.

The Director confirmed that Moore County Human Resources continues to assist with recruitment, posting, onboarding, and related HR functions under the existing management agreement.

Chairman Kiker requested a motion to adopt the new Personnel Policy as presented.

M/- Jones and S/-Saunders

All voted in favor: Chairman Kiker, Treasurer Haenlein, Secretary Jones, and Board Member Saunders

L. Old Business:

M. Project Reports, Summaries, and Updates:

1. Project Updates:

Air Service

Mr. Robert Brown with Fitzpatrick Communications provided an update on the air service campaign. The goal remains to restore commercial air service to Moore County by 2027 and to raise \$3 million for the Minimum Revenue Guarantee (MRG) fund.

Mr. Brown outlined upcoming public engagement efforts, including:

- A digital media campaign launching later this month through April and May;
- Video testimonials;
- Printed collateral materials for local restaurants and businesses (coasters and 4x6 tent cards with QR codes directing users to the website);
- Targeted advertising on social media and regional online platforms;
- Outreach to major employers and community groups;
- Potential informational event in March for prospective supporters.

Board discussion emphasized the importance of clearly communicating that no county taxpayer dollars are being used for the MRG fund. Members expressed concern that public

misunderstanding regarding funding sources may be impacting support. The Board encouraged more direct and targeted messaging to clarify this point and to address past unsuccessful air service efforts and how current circumstances differ.

Mr. Brown acknowledged the feedback and indicated the campaign rollout will increase visibility in the coming weeks.

The Director reported current pledges total approximately \$1.3 million. Updates were also provided regarding:

- Potential state budget funding;
- The federal SCASDP grant application, which remains pending Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA);
- Scheduled meetings in Washington, D.C., contingent upon federal timing restrictions.

Public Relations:

Included within the air service campaign discussion. Emphasis will be placed on expanded messaging, targeted outreach, and increased visibility through digital and print media efforts.

Corporate Hangar Project:

The site development plan is currently under DEQ review for permitting, including stormwater requirements. The building shell permits will be submitted first to allow steel orders to proceed, with office build-out permits to follow separately.

Construction is projected to begin in May, with an estimated 4–6 month build timeframe and anticipated completion by year-end. Steel delivery time is currently approximately four months. Discussion included inquiry regarding stormwater permitting requirements and clarification that DEQ approvals are required.

Apron Rehabilitation/ Reconstruction

Project remains in permitting with the FAA and NCDOT Division of Aviation.

Hangar Taxi Lane / Hangar Pad Sites

Project remains in permitting phase with state and federal coordination ongoing.

ROFA / RSA

No significant changes since the last meeting; permitting and coordination continue.

Maintenance Building

Site work and pad preparation are complete. Concrete is scheduled to be poured this week, with vertical construction to begin immediately thereafter. Building completion is anticipated within approximately 30 days.

2. Financial and other Key Performance Indicators

The Director reviewed January financials.

Fuel sales were down during the month due to inclement weather and temporary closures; however, year-to-date totals remain positive overall. Approximately \$150,000 in grant

expenditures were paid in January and are pending reimbursement. The Airport has recently received partial reimbursements totaling approximately \$123,000. The new fuel management and billing system is operational, with minor transition adjustments ongoing. Investment account summaries were reviewed.

N. Announcements/Comments

- The Board's Strategic Planning Meeting is scheduled for April 8.
- Festival D'Avion has been postponed to March 21, 2026.
- Military participation updates were provided.

L. Adjournment

Chairman Kiker asked for a motion to adjourn.

M/-Saunders and S/- Jones

All voted in favor: Chairman Kiker, Treasurer Haenlein, Secretary Jones, and Board Member Saunders

Meeting adjourned at 10:18 AM.

The next MCA Authority Meeting will be held at **9:00AM on Wednesday March 11th 2026 at The Moore County Airport.**



Adam Kiker, Authority Chairman



Dr. Mike Jones, Authority Secretary