

# TEXARKANA AIRPORT AUTHORITY MINUTES

9:00 AM – Thursday, April 24<sup>th</sup>, 2025

A regularly scheduled meeting of the Texarkana Airport Authority Board was held in the Jim E. Yates Terminal Conference Room Suite 201., 2600 TXK Blvd, Texarkana, Arkansas.

## Call to Order/Roll Call

### TEXAS

Vice-Chair Mr. David Potter ✓  
Mr. Jason Thomson ✓  
Mr. Mike Mayo ✓  
Mr. David Baumgardner ✓

### ARKANSAS

Chair Mr. Adger Smith ✓  
Mr. Kyle Bass ✓  
Mr. Ray Abernathy ✓  
Mr. Ronald Bruce ✗

Mr. Rob Sitterley ✓  
Economic Representative

Mr. Paul Mehrlich  
Executive Director of Aviation

1. **Roll Call:** Adger Smith called the meeting to order. Angie Clinton called roll.

2. **Public Comments:** None

Mitch Rose  
Jordan Culver  
Clifford Logan 🗣️

Matt Vinyard  
Brandon Sanders  
Mark Stodola 🗣️

Bailey Yanik 🗣️  
Lora Davis

Jason Smith  
Michael Rayburn

3. **Consent Agenda:** Minutes of Meeting scheduled March 27, 2025- *Ray Abernathy made a motion to approve the Minutes of Meeting; Kyle Bass seconded the motion. It passed unanimously.*

4. **Staff Reports:**

- Financial Report - Period Ending March 31, 2025 – Shannon Elliott presented the financial report. She explained that the TXDot grant affects the O&M budget this year. *Mike Mayo made a motion to approve the financial report, and Ray Abernathy seconded it. All approved, and the motion passes.*
- Operations Report – Russell Henderson presented the operations report. He highlighted that there was a power outage on the tower side. He informed the Board that it was a planned outage by SWEPCO but that they did not notify us. He will contact them to notify us in the future when they plan this action. He mentioned that the generator worked great when this occurred.

Jet bridge #2 took a lightning strike during recent storms. Because of this, Mr. Henderson realized that although plans called for it, there is no lightning protection on either jet bridge. He is working with TKE & Nabholz to remedy this problem.

Mr. Henderson informed the Board that they storm drain works well, that there is now hot water in the pilots' lounge at the T-hangars and gave a brief update on the cleaning out of Don Ruggles' storage and Jeff Maneth's hangar. He updated on the work to be done by HIM church.

5. **Sub-Committee Reports:** Monitoring Committee – It was explained that the airfield striping was the biggest item to cause an over budget shift, but that this will be reimbursed by the TXDot grant. There is a slight overage on the budget for ARFF but it was explained that this is due to a one-time/year training. It was also suggested to dropping the line item for the Old Admin Bldg. utilities, and group those into a general line item for utilities. David Potter also asked about selling the old ARFF building. The Director explained the pros/cons of selling vs. leasing.

6. **Airport Director's Report:** The Director, Paul Mehrlich, presented the Director's Report. He informed the Board that Terminal Phases 2 and 3 are in the process of closing out. With regards to Phase 4 of the terminal, dead trees have been replaced and seeding of wildflowers will be done again. MCE added that regrating and reseeding have not been done yet but that these are punch items for Nabholz. He reiterated that the SARA would have no out of pocket expenses, that MCE is working on the FAA grant application.

With regards to the Apron, construction for Phase II will start in May 2025, and Phase III has a pre-bid meeting after the Board meeting and should start in September 2025 or early 2026.

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Mr. Mehrlich relayed the message that the bronze sculptures are scheduled to arrive in August.

A preconstruction meeting was held on 1/15/2025 and TEC has started construction on the general aviation apron expansion. However, due to recent severe weather, there has been a delay but should restart about May 18, 2025.

The runway 4/22 edge striping is complete and request for the cost has been submitted to TXDot for refund.

The Reimbursable Agreement with FAA has been signed for the Runway 4 500' extension.

The Director explained that the taxiway D widening project is on hold due to the federal government halt on budget spending. Congressman Moran's team will be resubmitting the Airport's request for FY 2026 FAA AIP Grant. They have agreed to increase the ask to \$11million.

Mr. Mehrlich gave an update on the vehicle service road. He stated that the AR Div of Aeronautics has awarded the Airport \$190,260 grant with a local match of \$21,140 for the design. He reminded the Board that this was approved in the Capital Budget. Construction will be funded with 95-5 BIL funds when the next FY begins in October. Garver Engineering has submitted a work order for the design for \$211,400 – there is no increase in the Budget, the Director explained. A motion is needed for consideration and approval. *See Resolutions below.*

There was a discussion on the MRO site. The architect firm working under MCE has provided estimated cost to build at \$190/ft<sup>2</sup>. It was suggested that we move toward writing the lease with the attorneys while the company is watching the interest rates.

For the self-serve fuel tank, a grant request has been submitted to ADA in the amount of \$300,000 with a local match of \$95,000. Garver has provided a work order for project administration, surveying services, design services, bidding services, construction phase services and project closeout services in the amount of \$84,000. Mr. Mehrlich explained that there is no increase in the budget and that there will be enough revenue from the fuel tank that it will pay for itself. A motion is needed for this action. *See Resolutions below.*

There was an update on the replacement of the ARFF truck. A project kickoff conference call is scheduled for April 29, 2025 @ 1:30 pm. The proposed funding for the project is a 95-5 FAA BIL grant for F?Y 26 due to funding shortfall in FY 25.

The Director announced that all documents for finalizing FAA CATEX documentation on the juvenile building have been submitted for release. However, there has been a mass exodus from FAA that is causing a delay in the process. He is waiting on an all clear from the FAA then will take the matter to the two cities.

In finalizing, the Director provided statistics on financials, fuel flowage, operations, rental cars, and other areas of revenue.

### 7. Resolutions:

- Consider and approve work order 2500666-1 with Garver for Vehicle Service Road design - \$211,400 – *David Potter made a motion; Mike Mayo seconded it. It passed unanimously.*
- Consider and approve work order 2500161-1 with Garver for Self-Serve Fuel Tank design and administration - \$84,000 – *Rob Sitterly made a motion; David Baumgardner seconded it. It passed unanimously.*

### 8. Old/New Business: David Baumgardner believes changes on any buildings on airport property - whether by the airport administration or tenants – need to be included in the Planning Committee.

Brandon Sanders gave a quick update on the Airshow that is scheduled for 6/27/2026. It was stated that this timing coincides with the new fuel tank so this would be good exposure.

David Potter asked about the yard mowing on the other side of the airfield from the terminal. Russ Henderson relayed the weekly mowing schedule for spring and summer months.

Mike Mayo announced that the Director, Paul Mehrlich, was nominated for an individual Wilbur Award.

**TEXARKANA AIRPORT AUTHORITY  
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The Director informed the Board that he was approached by a vendor for potentially having a hot food option for the sterile area upstairs. Michael Rayburn, who was in attendance, said he has vending items if we provide a microwave as an extension to what is currently offered: items such as pizza, breakfast items, etc. A coffee system could also be provided.

**9. Executive Session:** None.

**10. Adjourn:** Mike Mayo made a motion to adjourn the meeting. David Potter seconded the motion. It passed unanimously, and the meeting adjourned.

The next regularly scheduled meeting will be held on **May 22, 2025 @ 9:00 AM**  
**Jim E. Yates Terminal Conference Room**  
**2<sup>nd</sup> Floor**  
**2600 TXK Blvd, Texarkana AR**