

**GREAT FALLS INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT AUTHORITY
2800 TERMINAL DRIVE, GREAT FALLS, MT 59404
BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

January 27, 2026

CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the Great Falls International Airport Authority Board convened Tuesday, January 27, 2026, at 1:00 PM in the Airport Board Room. Sean Hoven called the meeting to order. Roll call was taken.

Board Members Present: Debra Evans Rod Hall Sean Hoven
 David Smith Cameron Swathwood Terry Thompson
 Liz Whiting

Staff Present: Brian Cowles John Faulkner Chayleen Person
 Lara Tait

New board member, Debra Evans, was welcomed and sworn in by Sean Hoven.

CONSENT AGENDA:

A motion was made by Commissioner Thompson and seconded by Commissioner Hall to approve the Consent Agenda as follows:

Consent Agenda

- Consent Agenda:** The consent agenda is made up of routine day to day items that require Board action, but do not appear to have a significant public impact. Items may be pulled from the consent agenda for separate discussion/vote by any board member.
- a. Approval of Board Meeting Minutes from November 2025 & December 2025 & January Finance Committee
 - b. Payroll checks totaling \$110,493.91 for November 2025 & \$119,904.14 December 2025
 - c. Maintenance & Operations checks #29369 to #29429 totaling \$1,268,612.63 for November 2025 and checks #29430 to #29483 totaling \$1,071,824.22 for December 2025
 - d. Approve Passenger Facility Charge totaling \$548.53 for November 2025 and \$61,378.68 for December 2025
 - e. Financial Reports for November 2025 and December 2025

The motion passed unanimously.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

Director Faulkner reported on the following:

- The Airport ended at 380,700 passengers for the year due to the lost Minneapolis flights. Current air service was reviewed.
- The financials were reviewed.
- The Airport will likely face tower closures from 10PM to 5:45AM due to staffing. The airport is working with the tower manager to try to increase individuals going into the field and looking for opportunities

to ask for delegation support.

- A reply on Airport Avenue B was sent to the City. In the end, Airport Avenue B does not connect to the Airport Entry Road. And, the City doesn't claim nor does the right-of-way appear to exist from the Interstate to Airport Avenue B on the Airport Entry Road. Hopefully we will all be able to work together to find a solution for the \$2.5 Million in repairs that are needed and will be needed every 20 years.
- A construction update was given.

GENERAL BUSINESS:

1:38 Election of Board Officers

Nominations were opened for Chairman of the board. Commissioner Hoven nominated Commissioner Whiting with a second from Commissioner Thompson. A unanimous vote elected Commissioner Whiting to the Chairman position.

Nominations were opened for Vice-Chairman of the board. Commissioner Hoven nominated Commissioner Thompson with a second from Commissioner Whiting. A unanimous vote elected Commissioner Thompson to the Vice-Chairman position.

1:43 Acceptance of Final 2024-25 Audit

A motion was made by Commissioner Swathwood and seconded by Commissioner Hoven to Accept the Final 2024-25 Audit as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

1:51 Capital Project-Exit Lane Barrier System

A motion was made by Commissioner Hoven and seconded by Commissioner Hall to approve Capital Project-Exit Lane Barrier System as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

1:56 Task Order #22 - Terminal Exit Lane Barrier Improvements Engineering Services

A motion was made by Commissioner Swathwood and seconded by Commissioner Hall to approve Task Order #22 - Terminal Exit Lane Barrier Improvements Engineering Services as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

1:58 Capital Project –Phase 5 Terminal Roof Replacement-East Concourse

A motion was made by Commissioner Thompson and seconded by Commissioner Hoven to approve Capital Project –Phase 5 Terminal Roof Replacement-East Concourse not to exceed \$375,000.00 as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

2:05 Task Order #23 – East Concourse Roof Rehabilitation-Engineering and Architectural Services

A motion was made by Commissioner Hoven and seconded by Commissioner Evans to approve Task Order #23 – East Concourse Roof Rehabilitation-Engineering and Architectural Services as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

2:05 Task Order #24 - West Concourse AIP Discretionary Grant Management

A motion was made by Commissioner Hoven and seconded by Commissioner Swathwood to approve Task Order #24 - West Concourse AIP Discretionary Grant Management as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

2:08 Commissioners Evans, Thompson, and Swathwood were appointed to the Finance Committee.

2:15 Lease Agreement and Purchase Option Agreement

A motion was made by Commissioner Hoven and seconded by Commissioner Swathwood to approve the Lease Agreement and Purchase Option Agreement with Jeremiah Johnson Brewing Company as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

AIRPORT AUTHORITY BOARD COMMENTS:

- Commissioner Evans introduced herself and shared her background and previous experience with the Airport Board.
- Commissioner Hoven said it was a pleasure to be the chair and is looking forward to continuing to serve the Board.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

- None

Liz Whiting, Chair

John Faulkner, Secretary

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