



**Airport Commission
Minutes
March 11, 2026 – 12:00pm**

The Statesville Airport Commission met on Wednesday, March 11, 2026, for the Airport Commission meeting in the airport terminal.

Members Present: David Bullins, David Stamey, Mike Colyer, Martin Gottholm, Tip Nicholson

Staff Present: John Ferguson, Carissa Barnette, Ron Smith, Sherisha Hills

Others Present: Joseph Wilbourne, Jeff Kirby, Jon McCalmont, Parrish and Partners, Bob Thompson, Jonathon Moore, David Gagnon, Megan Beach, Sam Parks, Trey Robertson

Approval of Minutes.

Mr. Colyer approved the minutes of the February 11, 2026, meeting. Mr. Gottholm seconded. Motion was approved unanimously.

Staff Report- Operations

Operations- February sales are about even as compared to last February. Most of this is due to weather and holidays. Take-offs and landings are still strong.

Terminal building is in the final stages of completion. The contractor will be reviewing the building systems with the staff to include access controls, electrical, elevator, plumbing, etc. Ribbon cutting has been moved to March 26 due to the elevator not passing inspection. Carissa Barnette, Ivan Phillips, David Stamey and David Bullins will be attending the NCAA Conference in Charlotte. Ivan Phillips will be presented with his certificate as a North Carolina Airport Professional. Mr. Ferguson has given two tours of the airport. One with the Leadership Statesville and one with the Statesville Youth Leadership. FAA will host a FFAST safety meeting for local pilots on March 17 in our conference room. City Council has also conducted one of their winter retreat meetings in the conference room.

Project Updates – Mr. Wilbourne

- **Trees:** Mr. Thompson informed staff that the trees of concern are not on the Moose property, but on adjacent property and only involves 2-3 trees.
- **South Development Hangar Project-** Apparent low bidder is Country Boy Landscaping with a bid of \$8.2 million. There were 4 bidders with the highest bid being \$8.9 million. Project will be phased to minimize impact to Victory Air operations. Mr. Thompson asked several questions concerning the project scope and mentioned that he has talked to other consultants about this project. A discussion was conducted about other alternatives to the South Corporate Hangar project.
- **Consultant Contract-** It was mentioned in this meeting about the contract with Parrish and Partners. Their contract will come up for renewal in November. A consultant search, as required by the FAA, will be conducted in the fall prior to November 2026.
- **Water Main-** We have received a \$3.1 million grant for this project. We are currently working on easements. Certain landowners are currently not willing to allow the waterline to cross their property.
- **Hangar:** Plans have been returned from NCDOT Aviation Division. Our goal is to get the hangar cost around \$7 million. Any left-over funds from the SCIF and TARDF grants could be used for the Victory Air hangar.
- **Expand Terminal Apron:** Waiting on comments from NCDOT. Pending NCDOT funding.
- **Runway Safety Area-** Intent is to bid this project out in April 2026.
- **Bethlehem Road-** Right of Way appraisals have been completed. The city is moving forward with RoW land acquisition.
- **Southwest Parallel Taxiway-** Preliminary engineering and environmental work has begun on the Southwest parallel taxiway. FAA has sent letter of intent to fund this project in three phases.
- **West Star Hangar-** We have been approved for a \$3 million economic development grant to do the horizontal work for the future West Star hangar. This is a 100% grant, no local match.
- **Elizabeth City University-** Is still interested in establishing a flight school. They are waiting on the State budget to be passed.

Old Business

New Business

Mr. Bodell moved to adjourn and Ms. Lawton, seconded. Meeting ended at 1:00 PM.