



**OKLAHOMA AEROSPACE AND AERONAUTICS COMMISSION MEETING  
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 6, 2024, AT 10 AM  
OKLAHOMA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
FIRST FLOOR COMMISSION ROOM  
200 NE 21ST STREET, OKLAHOMA CITY, OK**

NOTE: The Oklahoma Aerospace and Aeronautics Commission may discuss, vote to approve, vote to disapprove, vote to table, decide not to discuss, or change the order of any item on the agenda. Any conflicts of interest must be disclosed prior to discussion, and the conflicted Commissioner must recuse from all discussion and votes pertaining to that item.”

**MINUTES**

**1. ANNOUNCEMENT OF COMPLIANCE WITH THE OPEN MEETING ACT, FILING OF MEETING NOTICE, AND POSTING OF THE AGENDA — Chairman Charles Ortega and Chris Wadsworth, Chief of Staff**

Pursuant to the Oklahoma Open Meeting Act, this meeting shall be held at the Oklahoma Department of Transportation (ODOT) First Floor Commission Room, 200 NE 21<sup>st</sup> Street in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

The Oklahoma Aerospace and Aeronautics Commission Meeting is open to the general public, but it is also available to watch through the link listed below:

**To watch:**

Public access meeting link: <https://video.ibm.com/channel/CKEfwftDGHZ>

Make sure the volume on your PC (or other device) and the Ustream volume are turned up.

The meeting will be electronically recorded and audio livestreamed from 200 NE 21st St., Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73105.

**Public Access to complete Commission Packet:** <https://oklahoma.gov/aerospace>

**2. CALL TO ORDER AND RECORDING OF MEMBERS PRESENT AND ABSENT — Vice Chairman Raney and Michelle Bouziden, Senior Project and Grants Manager**

Michelle Bouziden called roll and recorded the following Commissioners present and absent:

<b>Present</b>	Seth Phillips	Commissioner (District 1)
	Blake Raney	Vice Chair (District 5)
	Jim Putnam	Commissioner (At-Large)
	Jerry Hunter	Commissioner (At-Large)

**Absent**

	Kevin Potter	Secretary (District 2)
	Charles Ortega	Chairman (District 3)
	Lindy Ritz	Commissioner (District 4)

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m. with 4 of 7 Commissioners present.

**3. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE OKLAHOMA AEROSPACE AND AERONAUTICS COMMISSION MEETING ON DECEMBER 13, 2023 — Chairman Ortega**  
(Action Required)

Commissioner Hunter made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Commissioner Phillips seconded the motion. Vice Chairman Raney called for the vote, and the votes were recorded as follows:

Ayes - Commissioner Hunter  
Commissioner Raney

Nays - None

Abstain - Commissioner Phillips  
Commissioner Putnam

The motion fails 2-2.

**4. AVIATION ART CONTEST – Sandra Shelton, Director of Government Affairs, Industry Development and Communications**

Commissioners were briefed on the 2024 State Aviation Art Contest. This year's contest theme was "Air Sports For A Peaceful World". Contest judging occurred February 22, 2024. Student winners were recognized by age group.

**5. FINANCIAL REPORT — Chris Wadsworth, Chief of Staff** (Information Only)

The Commission was briefed on current financial figures.

Mr. Wadsworth briefed the Commission on current financial figures and gave a general projection of future revenue levels.

**6. LEGISLATIVE, CONGRESSIONAL AND REGULATORY UPDATE — Director Ardies and Sandra Shelton**

The Commission was briefed on the current status of the Department's legislative initiatives for the 2024 Legislative session.

Information Only

**7. REVIEW OF UPCOMING AVIATION AND AEROSPACE EVENTS — Sandra Shelton**

Commissioners were briefed on upcoming events throughout the state.

- AERO Oklahoma, April 3.
- Aero Week April 1-6.
- Student Flight Fest, April 11.
- Enid Student Flight Day, April 12.
- OK AeroConnect Networking Event, April 26.
- Tulsa's Girls in Aviation Day, April 27.
- AOPA Spring Training June 3-7.
- Women in Aviation Oklahoma, August 19.
- Thunderbird Drone Festival, Date TBD.
- Girls in Aviation Day, December 5-6.

Information Only

**8. AEROSPACE & AVIATION EDUCATION UPDATE – Paula Kedy, Statewide Aerospace STEM Education Manager**

The Commission was briefed on the following:

- A.** Update on the Bessie Coleman Aviation All-Star Program Kick-Off, February 21
- B.** UAS Drone Professional Development, March 1-2.
- C.** School Visits: Edmond Public Schools District-Wide Counselors Feb. 7, Watonga Public Schools/Watonga Airport Feb. 8, Okemah Public Schools Feb. 9, Kingston Public Schools Feb. 13, Oklahoma City Public Schools/Superintendent Feb. 23, Oklahoma Christian School Feb. 27, Perry Public Schools Feb. 27
- D.** Preparation for AOPA Summer Teacher Training

Information Only

**9. INTRODUCTION OF STAFF MEMBERS – Grayson Ardies, Executive Director of the Oklahoma Department of Aerospace and Aeronautics**

The Commission was informed of the Department’s new Executive Assistant, Antonja Ceballos, who started with the Department on February 5 and new Aerospace Education Coordinator, Stephanie Holt Lucas, who started on February 26.

Information Only

**10. AIRPORT CONSTRUCTION GRANT PROGRAM CONSENT DOCKET — Ben Naghavi, Airport Engineer**

Action Required

- A.** The Commission will consider approving a state grant for a project that is currently identified in the Commission’s approved Airport Construction Program at **Alva Regional Airport**. The project consists of constructing a new Jet A fuel system. Based on bids, the total project cost is \$652,972 and will be funded with \$300,000 of state grant funds and \$352,972 of sponsor matching funds. An approval is contingent upon the Department receiving an acceptable grant application.

The Commission heard from Steve Ford, Alva City Business Manager, who thanked the Commission for considering the grant and remarked how a new fuel system would enhance the operations and ability to serve the community.

- B.** The Commission will consider approving a state grant for a project that is currently identified in the Commission’s approved Airport Construction Program at **Bartlesville Municipal Airport**. The project consists of constructing a taxilane. Based on bids, the total project cost is \$2,026,125 and will be funded with \$737,000 of federal grant funds, \$1,187,818.75 of state grant funds and \$101,306.25 of sponsor matching funds. An approval is contingent upon the Department receiving an acceptable grant application.

The Commission heard from Mark Richardson, Bartlesville Airport Manager who thanked the commission for their favorable consideration and remarked on how this project will play a role in envisioning the Bartlesville Airport as a potential MRO Hub.

The Commission will consider approving a change order to state grant 1K4-24-S for reconstructing the taxilane at **David J Perry (Goldsby) Airport**. The change order will allow for subgrade stabilization due to unsuitable subgrade. The estimated additional cost will be \$184,973.20 and will be funded with \$175,724.54 of state grant funds and \$9,248.66 of sponsor matching funds.

Commissioner Putnam asked if any of these funds would be considered to assist with reconstruction of hangars that were destroyed by tornados. Director Ardies stated that this change order was to replace the damaged T hangars and to stabilize the subgrade to allow for proper pavement installation.

- C. The Commission will consider approving design costs for a project that is currently identified in the Commission's approved Airport Construction Program at **Durant Regional Airport**. The project consists of constructing a new access road and 75'x 75' hangar facility for the south hangar development area. The estimated design cost of the project is \$199,796.31 and will be funded with \$79,918.52 of state grant funds and \$119,877.79 of sponsor matching funds.
- D. The Commission will consider approving design costs for a project that is currently identified in the Commission's approved Airport Construction Program at **Robert S. Kerr (Poteau) Airport**. The project consists of rehabilitating the runway pavement. The estimated design cost of the project is \$189,400 and will be funded with \$170,460 of federal grant funds, \$9,470 of state grant funds and \$9,470 of sponsor matching funds.
- E. The Commission will consider approving a state grant for a project that is currently identified in the Commission's approved Airport Construction Program at **South Grand Lake Regional Airport**. The project consists of acquiring land. Based on negotiated land appraisals, the total project cost is \$205,500 and will be funded with \$195,225 of state grant funds and \$10,275 of sponsor matching funds. An approval is contingent upon the Department receiving an acceptable grant application.

Commissioner Putnam made a motion to approve the Airport Construction Grant Program Consent Docket. Commissioner Phillips seconded the motion. Vice Chair Raney called for the vote, and the votes were recorded as follows:

Ayes - Commissioner Hunter  
Commissioner Raney  
Commissioner Putnam  
Commissioner Phillips

Nays - None

Abstain - None

The motion carried 4-0.

## 11. PROGRESSING RURAL ECONOMIC PROSPERITY (PREP) FUND PROJECT CONSTENT DOCKET – Director Ardies

Action Required

- A. The Commission will consider approving a project for new commercial air service development at the **Tulsa International Airport**. The grant award for this project will be used to assist in recruiting new, nonstop air service between Tulsa and one of the following destinations: San Francisco, Seattle, San Diego, Boston, or Cancun. Tulsa's grant request amount is \$2,000,000 from the state and they have committed to \$500,000 in matching funds for the project. An approval is contingent upon the Department receiving an acceptable final grant application based on a specific route that has been negotiated between an airline, Tulsa Community Foundation, and Tulsa International Airport.

Commissioner Hunter requested clarification on what the funds would be utilized for and how the process of awarding them will work. The Commission heard remarks from Andrew Pierini, Consultant at Avalon Pacific Aviation, regarding how the funds would be utilized. Director Ardies explained that the funds would be used to incentivize airlines to create more nonstop routes out of Oklahoma by providing minimum revenue guarantees.

- B.** The Commission will consider approving a state grant for a project that is currently identified in the Commission’s approved Airport Construction Program at **West Woodward Airport**. The project consists of acquiring a 110’ x 70’ hangar. Based on negotiated appraisals, the total project cost is \$316,500 and will be funded with \$316,500 of PREP funds. An approval is contingent upon the Department receiving an acceptable grant application.
- C.** The Commission will consider approving a state grant for a project that is currently identified in the Commission’s approved Airport Construction Program at **Will Rogers World Airport**. The project consists of constructing a new three-bay MRO hangar. Based on estimates, the total project cost is \$37,053,197 and will be funded with \$19,600,000 of PREP funds and \$17,453,197 of sponsor matching funds. An approval is contingent upon the Department receiving an acceptable grant application.  
The Commission heard remarks from Jeff Mulder, Director of Airports in Oklahoma City, and thanked the Commission for their support.

Commissioner Hunter made a motion to approve the PREP Fund Project Consent Docket. Commissioner Putnam seconded the motion. Vice Chair Raney called for the vote, and the votes were recorded as follows:

Ayes - Commissioner Hunter  
Commissioner Raney  
Commissioner Putnam  
Commissioner Phillips

Nays - None

Abstain - None

The motion carried 4-0.

## **12. PROGRESSING RURAL ECONOMIC PROSPERITY (PREP) FUND UPDATE – Director Ardies**

The Commission will be briefed on PREP funds allocated for certain infrastructure projects at Oklahoma airports.

Information Only

## **13. FY 2025-2029 FIVE-YEAR AIRPORT CONSTRUCTION PROGRAM – Nick Young**

Action Required

The Commission was briefed on the projects being recommended for inclusion in the Commission’s FY2025-2029 Airport Construction Program (ACP). The Commission’s ACP is the programming guide for federal, state, and local funds for airport development consistent with the Oklahoma Airport System Plan. Staff requested that the ACP move into the public comment phase. The ACP will be presented to the Commission for formal approval during the May Commission meeting.

Commissioner Putnam made a motion to approve the FY 2025-2029 Five Year Airport Construction Program. Commissioner Hunter seconded the motion. Vice Chair Raney called for the vote, and the votes were recorded as follows:

Ayes - Commissioner Hunter  
Commissioner Raney  
Commissioner Putnam  
Commissioner Phillips

Nays - None

Abstain - None

The motion carried 4-0.

**14. AEROSPACE EDUCATION CLASSROOM GRANT PROGRAM CONSENT DOCKET –  
Director Ardies**

Action Required

*Any Commissioner may request that any or all of these items be considered individually.*

The Commission will consider approving grant applications from six schools for the development and/or improvement of classroom laboratories for teaching aerospace and aviation programs.

- A. Ada Public Schools - \$20,000
- B. Atoka Public Schools - \$20,000
- C. Bartlesville Public Schools - \$20,000
- D. Newcastle Public Schools - \$22,500
- E. Rose State College - \$22,500
- F. Wyandotte Public Schools - \$20,000

The Commission heard from representatives of each school explaining how the funds will be used in impactful ways and thanked the Commission for their support and consideration.

Commissioner Phillips made a motion to approve the Aerospace Education Classroom Grant Program Consent Docket. Commissioner Putnam seconded the motion. Vice Chairman Raney called for the vote, and the votes were recorded as follows:

Ayes - Commissioner Hunter  
Commissioner Raney  
Commissioner Putnam  
Commissioner Phillips

Nays - None

Abstain - None

The motion carried 4-0.

**15. ADMINISTRATIVE RULES FOR THE OKLAHOMA DEPARTMENT OF AEROSPACE  
AND AERONAUTICS — Michelle Bouziden**

Action Required

The Commission will consider approving the recommended changes to the agency's administrative rules regarding Title 25. These changes incorporate the agency name

change per the requirements set forth in SB 782 and clarifies the operational difference of commission and department throughout the Title. Additional changes include updating airport construction program projects, funding information, clarifying fuel system project qualifications, updating airport sponsor assurances, adding airport compliance information and updates on when an APPPA permit is not required to be filed.

Commissioner Putnam made a motion to approve the Administrative Rules. Commissioner Hunter seconded the motion. Vice Chair Raney called for the vote, and the votes were recorded as follows:

Ayes - Commissioner Hunter  
Commissioner Raney  
Commissioner Putnam  
Commissioner Phillips

Nays - None

Abstain - None

The motion carried 4-0.

#### **16. DIRECTOR’S REPORT— Director Ardies**

- A. ODIA Legislative Reception – Feb. 5
- B. State Chamber Legislative Reception – Feb. 13
- C. Legislative meetings with AAR Corp – Feb. 20
- D. WDG Planning for Hangar Development – Feb. 22
- E. SW Airports Partnership Conference – Feb. 26 & 27
- F. NASAO Washington Legislative Conference; - Feb. 28 – Mar. 1.

Information Only

#### **17. CONCLUDING REMARKS REGARDING AGENDA ITEMS — Director Ardies and Commissioners**

Director Ardies apologized to the Commission for being late and explained that he was at the Capitol. Commissioner Raney commented on how he enjoyed seeing the artwork from the students presented. Commissioner Putnam commented on his excitement for the amount of STEM education being made available to students as well as the AOPA curriculum.

#### **18. ANNOUNCEMENT OF NEXT MEETING — Vice Chairman Raney**

Vice Chairman Raney announced that the next meeting will be at 10:00 a.m. on Wednesday, May 15, 2024, at the Oklahoma Department of Transportation First Floor Commission Room, 200 Northeast 21<sup>st</sup> Street in Oklahoma City.

#### **19. NEW BUSINESS (“any matter not known about or which could not be reasonably foreseen 24 hours before the meeting”)**

No new business.

#### **20. ADJOURNMENT**

Vice Chairman Raney requested a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Putnam made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Phillips seconded. Vice Chairman Raney declared the meeting adjourned at \_\_\_\_\_.