

North Little Rock Regional Airport Commission Minutes – March 19, 2026

The North Little Rock Airport Commission met on March 19, 2026, at 12:00 noon in the North Little Rock City Services Conference Room. Chairman Hughes called the meeting to order.

Commissioners present were Chairman Brad Hughes, Todd Adams, Tim Cummins, Will Gruber, Jake House, and Missie Smith. Commissioner Mark Bentley was absent. Also present were City Attorney Amy Fields, City Staff Attorney Alex Betton, Garver Engineer Jordan Culver and Airport Director, Virginia Young.

Minutes

Minutes for the February 19, 2026, meeting were presented. Commissioner House made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Adams, to accept the minutes of the February 19, 2026, meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

Financials

The financials are on track for the year. There were no extraordinary expenses for the month of February, and revenues were received as anticipated. Commissioner Adams made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Smith, to accept February Financials. The motion passed unanimously.

Old Business

City Attorney Amy Fields shared with the commissioners that she had met with Mr. Stuart, Chairman Hughes, and Virginia regarding 208 Aviation Way ground lease cost for non-aeronautical use. The identified square footage is 3,042. Attorney Fields recommends using the comparable of Central Arkansas Water (CAW), currently \$1.98 per square foot. She asked that the commission approve the proposed rate of \$1.98 and she will then prepare an addendum to Mr. Stuart's current contract. Previous discussions included a higher rate but were not comparable since this is a ground lease only. Mr. Stuart thanked the commission for their efforts to reach an agreement. Commissioner Adams made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Smith, to amend the current lease to include \$1.98 per square foot for the portion currently used for non-aviation. The motion passed five in favor and one opposed.

New Business

Chairman Hughes presented the proposed hangar construction request on Aviation Way, by Joey Lister. The address will be assigned by the city upon issuance of the building permit. The proposed structure is 4,992 square feet. The hangar will be for aviation use and Mr. Lister will not sign the contract until the structure is complete. Commissioner Adams made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Smith, to approve the building of a hangar on Aviation Way, by Joey Lister, subject to adhering to the rules and regulations of the City of North Little Rock and the North Little Rock Regional Airport. The motion passed unanimously.

Scott Kingsborough addressed the commissioners, representing North Little Rock Air. Mr. Kingsborough shared the growth of North Little Air and the future needs regarding space for structured training, Part 141. The school is currently operating under Part 61. Part 61 is a minimum of 40 hours. Part 61 students cannot receive financing. Part 141 has the potential to qualify for financing. The commission expressed appreciation for their current operation as well as their desire to grow the business. North Little Rock Air would like to double their current space. The commission is limited in grant opportunities.

The airport received a \$200,000 grant twenty years ago to update the building which allowed some updates. Mr. Kingsborough asked how the North Little Rock Jet Center was financed. Chairman Hughes stated that the funds were primarily from the City of North Little Rock. The project itself, from discussions to completion, was approximately twenty years. The commission will need to explore options and possibilities for funding. At some point, a bond issue could be possible. Chairman Hughes noted that when the lease was initiated in 2022, a jet fuel tank space currently occupied, is not on the lease and ask that it be reviewed.

At the February 19, 2026, meeting, the commission voted not to accept future payments and move forward to legally notifying the current tenant of the intent. Staff Attorney Betton requested that the item be held until next meeting where he plans to have more information.

Virginia Young requested that the commission consider the approval of a contract with David Repp, to coordinate the 2026 Airshow. Commissioner Cummins made a motion, seconded by Commissioner House, to approve a contract, not to exceed \$7,500, with David Repp to coordinate the 2026 Airshow, subject to contract approval by the legal department. The motion passed unanimously.

Commission Reports

Jordan Culver, Garver Engineering presented the following progress report: The FAA recently closed runway improvement grant for 17-35. The Arkansas Division of Aeronautics approved the 10 percent matching grant request in the amount of \$152,271. The 10 Bay Hangar construction is anticipated to begin in June. The roadway and parking lot reconstruction, funded by two state grants, is complete. The closeout process will begin soon. The runway extension planning study, SWAT analysis, is in process. The taxiway delta lighting rehabilitation should be advertised in April 2026. At this time, construction will be on edge lighting only and not the taxiway lighting. The Arkansas Division of Aeronautics approved a \$500,000 90/10 grant to replace an existing 6 bay hangar. The design is currently underway.

Young shared that interviews were conducted by the Human Resources Department to fill the position of maintenance worker because of Gary Erwin's retirement. A reception will be held for Gary next Thursday at 9:00.

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Commission House made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Adams, to adjourn. The meeting was adjourned.