



METROPOLITAN TOPEKA AIRPORT AUTHORITY
 TOPEKA REGIONAL | BILLARD AIRPORT
 AIRPORT & BUSINESS CENTER

Board of Directors

**Metropolitan Topeka Airport Authority
 February 24, 2026**

Regular Monthly Meeting.....2:30 PM

Chairman Sam Sutton brought the regular monthly meeting of the MTAA Board of Directors to order at 2:30 PM with the following other board members present: Brian Armstrong, Carlos Cortez, and Mike Munson. Mr. Odupitan was not present. Also, in attendance were:

- Sam Stallbaumer, WSP USA, Inc.
- Eric Johnson, MTAA President
- Curtis Sneden, MTAA Director of Development
- Laura Hartley, MTAA Director of Administration & Finance
- Tim Resner of Frieden & Forbes, LP, Legal Counsel to the Board
- Deana Prescott, MTAA (Administrative Office)
- Terry Poley, MTAA Director of Maintenance
- Chief John Ross, MTAA Police and Fire
- Tommi Poley, via Teams MTAA (Administrative Office)
- Carol Marple, Public
- Linda Urton, via Teams MTAA (Administrative Office)
- Scott Uhl, WSP USA, Inc. via TEAMS
- Joseph Ledbetter, Public
- Don Loyd, MTAA TOP Fuel Manager
- Deric Marr-Andrews, Columbia Capital
- Jack Penning, Volaire Aviation
- Terri Roberts, Public
- Donnie Hanson, Century Business Tech
- Kevin Cowan, Gilmore & Bell, P.C.
- Rod Wadel, R&R Pallet
- Wes Wadel, R&R Pallet
- Lindsey Leiker, R&R Pallet
- Kenny Hartter, Crossland Construction
- Kyle Rohr, Million Air
- Jeff White, Columbia Capital via TEAMS
- Diane Hofer, Olsson via TEAMS

Item 1. Notice.

Notifications were sent to everyone who requested them.

Item 2. Approve Minutes.

Chairman Sutton asked the Board to review the minutes of the Regularly Scheduled Board Meeting of January 20, 2026. **Mr. Munson made the motion to approve the minutes of the Regularly Scheduled Board Meeting of January 20, 2026. Mr. Cortez seconded the motion. Motion carried.**

Chairman Sutton asked the Board to review the minutes of the Special Board Meeting of February 10, 2026. **Mr. Cortez made the motion to approve the minutes of the Special Board Meeting of February 10, 2026. Mr. Munson seconded the motion. Motion Carried.**

Item 3. Public Comment.

Chairman Sutton inquired if there was anyone registered to speak during Public Comment. Ms. Roberts had registered to speak. Mr. Ledbetter and Ms. Marple asked if they could be allowed to speak due to late emails. Chairman Sutton agreed to allow them time to speak.

Ms. Roberts thanked Ms. Hartley for her efforts in getting the audit and past minutes posted to the website. She also stated her approval for a strategic plan getting implemented, she would like to see consideration of a "lean six" as well. Ms. Roberts further stated she would like to see an order for a Fire Tanker placed soon due to delivery delays.

Ms. Marple brought copies of an article on the Manhattan Airport for the Board on passenger records. She also told the Board that the \$1.8 million judgement that was served to MTAA upset her.

Mr. Ledbetter would like to have the microphones in the Board Room fixed and a timer at the podium. He feels there were grant opportunities missed, and he also is in favor of a maintenance shop at Billard, as well as a strategic plan but believes it must include input from the public. He stated that Olsson has a good reputation in strategic planning. He also stated that he is opposed to bonds.

Item 4. Adopt the Agenda.

Chairman Sutton asked to change the agenda to allow for Item 7a. Executive Session at 3:30 PM. **Mr. Munson made the motion to adopt the agenda with changes made by Chairman Sutton to add Item 7a, Executive Session at 3:30 PM. Mr. Cortez seconded the motion. Motion carried.**

Discussion Items:

Item 5. Maintenance Shop at Billard

Bids were opened on February 3, 2026, at 10:00 am. The bids ranged in price from \$399,115.00 to \$1,859,097.36. Staff proposed an alternative to keep the lowest cost possible by acting as General Contractor and coordinating with an engineer. **Mr. Armstrong made the motion to reject all bids received. Mr. Cortez seconded the motion. Motion carried.**

Item 6. Air Service Presentation

Mr. Jack Penning with Volaire Aviation stated that Mr. Johnson was doing a good job on developing interest with airlines, including seven (7) more meetings scheduled in the next few months. Mr. Penning explained to the Board three (3) key things in airline planning. The best routes, the best time, and the best airplane. He stated that airlines also look at the market performance and that the Kansas City market has decreased. Airlines are chasing 1st Class ticket sales in metro areas versus filling the economy seats and that Topeka is not currently a target city. Small communities have Federal funding if they meet the criteria and Topeka does not qualify for those monies. Mr. Penning suggested not sitting on revenue guarantees, but to keep increasing funds to attract an airline. More money equals more interest, apply for community grants, and to be aggressive with airline carriers in trying to convince them to come to Topeka. The Board asked additional questions and discussion ensued.

Action Items:

Item 7. Consider Reimbursement of Major Tenant Renovations – R&R Pallet, Building #170

Lindsey Leiker, Rod Wadel, and Wes Wadel with R&R Pallet presented before the Board a request for reimbursement on renovations and equipment purchases that had been completed. The Board elected to table the discussion until the March 17, 2026, meeting and asked R&R Pallet for more information.

Item 7a. Executive Session

Chairman Sutton made the motion to recess the Regularly Scheduled Board Meeting to a closed session, justification being to discuss ongoing litigation. The Regularly Scheduled Meeting will be reconvened in the MTA Board Meeting Room and via Microsoft Teams at 4:05PM. Chairman Sutton invited Mr. Johnson to attend the first portion of the discussion. Mr. Munson seconded the motion. Motion carried. The Regularly Scheduled Board Meeting re-opened at 4:05PM with no formal action taken. Mr. Munson left for another meeting.

Item 8. Consider Strategic Plan Consulting Agreement with Olsson

Diane Hofer with Olsson presented to the Board the strategic plan proposal that had been compiled on MTA's behalf if accepted with a cost of \$83,100.00 to be completed in September 2026. Mr. Resner advised the Board on some legal language listed in the proposal and changes the Board might want to adopt before accepting the proposal. **Mr. Armstrong made the motion to approve the proposal subject to negotiating contract terms and approval by the President and Board Chair. Mr. Cortez seconded the motion. Motion carried.**

Item 9. Consider Purchase of Upgraded Centralized Domain for Network

Ms. Hartley addressed the Board with concerns and issues concerning office computers not communicating well with each other and other general IT issues happening within MTA offices. She stated that Century Business Technologies could update everything and be paid from the 2026 budget along with leftover encumbered funds that remain for office equipment. **Mr. Armstrong made the motion to accept upgrading the centralized domain for network, with Century Business Technologies, not to exceed \$15,000.00. Mr. Cortez seconded the motion. Motion carried.**

Item 10. Consider Approval of Winning Bond

Deric Marr-Andrews with Columbia Capital, addressed the Board with information on the MTA's bond rating from S&P at a "AA". He further stated that the winning bond bid came from Robert W. Baird & Co., Inc.

Item 11. Consider Approval of Bond Resolution

Kevin Cowan of Gilmore & Bell, P.C. explained the resolution to the Board and answered questions pertaining to the resolution. Mr. Resner approved the legal verbiage of the bond resolution. **Chairman Sutton made the motion to accept Bond Resolution # 26-313 authorizing and directing the issuance, sale and delivery of general obligation bonds, series 2026, of the Metropolitan Topeka Airport Authority; providing for the levy and collection of an annual tax for the purpose of paying the principal of and interest on said bonds as they become due; making certain covenants and agreements to provide for the payment and security thereof; and authorizing certain other documents and actions connected therewith. Mr. Armstrong seconded the motion. Motion carried three votes for, none against.**

Information Only Items:

Item 12. Monthly Reports

12.a. Project updates – Mr. Johnson

Taxiway Alpha has a change in scope and will be done in three (3) phases. The core samples show that mill and overlay will not work, there is too much damage to the concrete and asphalt. Reconstruction estimates are around \$12M total for the first phase.

12.b. Aviation-Related Issues & Air Service – Mr. Johnson

- Water line breaks in early February revealed that there are still cast iron pipes near the terminal that will need to be addressed in the future when determining accountability for future water needs.
- On January 23, 2026, capital improvement plans were submitted for both airports. This is an annual requirement.
- KAIP grants were submitted for taxiway rehab at Billard, a hangar at Billard, and terminal lighting at Forbes.
- Applying for a cost sharing grant with KDOT for Billard roads.

12.c. Maintenance Report – Mr. Johnson

The Maintenance Report for work completed by the MTAA Maintenance Department on the grounds, airfield, vehicles and buildings for the month of January 2026 through early February 2026 was presented to the Board for their information and review.

12.d. TOP Fuel Service Sales Report – Mr. Johnson

The Top Fuel Sales by Product Summary Report for the month of January 2026 was presented to the Board for their information and review.

12.e. Economic Development & Leasing Activity – Mr. Sneden

- Mr. Sneden reported on a kickoff meeting with Davcon held February 19 and 20, 2026, with a follow up meeting to be held March 2, 2026.
- A stakeholder meeting will be held February 27, 2026, in respects to Hangar 619.
- Looking at federal appropriation to help offset costs on the damaged runway.
- The tower at Police and Fire has been removed.

12.f. Financials Reports – Ms. Hartley

Ms. Hartley presented the delinquent accounts and cash reserves as of January 31, 2026 to the Board for their information and review. Ms. Hartley informed the Board of a repayment agreement that is in progress with #2 on the delinquent report, and asked the Board to consider a write off of the bad debt for #3 on the list to clear them from the statement balance sheet for year-end 2025. **Mr. Armstrong made the motion to write off \$124,000.00 of bad debt from the statement balance sheet for year-end 2025. Mr. Cortez seconded the motion. Motion carried.**

12.g. Director's Comments

- No comments were made.

Item 13. Executive Session

No Executive Session held.

Adjournment

Chairman Sutton called for a motion to adjourn. **Mr. Armstrong made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Cortez seconded the motion. Motion Carried. Meeting adjourned at 5:03 pm.**

These official minutes were approved by the Board of Directors on March 17, 2026.



Michael Odupitan, Secretary