

**Westmoreland County Airport Authority
Regularly Scheduled Meeting
October 14, 2025**

Regular Meeting

The Regularly Scheduled May meeting of the Westmoreland County Airport Authority was held at 9 a.m. Tuesday, Oct. 14, 2025, at Arnold Palmer Regional Airport in Unity Township, Pennsylvania, in accordance with notice given.

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Whittaker, who led the Pledge of Allegiance and directed that the following members be recorded as present:

Paul Whittaker - Chairman
Donald Rossi
Gary Beck Sr.
Mark Gera
Richard Pologruto
Vincent Finoli

Also present were: Executive Director Gabe Monzo; attorney Amber Leechalk of Avolio Law, authority solicitor; Scott Kunselman of McFarland-Johnson, authority engineers; reporter Rich Cholodofsky of the Tribune Review; Abigail Hakas of the Latrobe Bulletin; Pilot Valetta Mowry; Anthony DeNunzio of DeNunzio's; Airport Manager Moe Haas, and Grants Director Dwayne Pickels.

Public Comments - None

Approval of Minutes

Upon the motion of Mr. Pologruto, seconded by Mr. Finoli, minutes of the Sept. 9, 2025, regular meeting were unanimously approved.

Arnold Palmer Regional Airport and Rostraver Treasurer's Reports -

Mr. Finoli reviewed treasurers reports for July and August, 2025 (copies attached).

Upon the motion of Mr. Rossi, seconded by Mr. Gera the September, 2025, treasurer's report for Arnold Palmer Regional Airport was unanimously approved.

Upon the motion of Mr. Rossi, seconded by Mr. Gera, the September, 2025, treasurer's report for Rostraver Airport was unanimously approved.

An Executive Session was held from 9:04 to 9:09 a.m. to real estate matters.

Rostraver Committee Report - Mr. Beck and Mr. Monzo reported that the airport's fuel tanks were painted to the satisfaction of the state Department of Environmental Protection for \$45,000 under the state Co-Stars program.

Mr. Monzo showed a graphic depiction of the proposed new sign for the airport that will be provided by the developers of the new Dunkin' store planned on airport property, next to the airport entrance.

Property Committee Report - Mr. Gera had no report and deferred to Mr. Kunselman.

Engineer's Update Report - by Scott Kunselman of McFarland-Johnson

ARNOLD PALMER REGIONAL AIRPORT

Relocate Taxiways D and E

This project is to remove and reconstruct two stub taxiways to meet current FAA safety guidance. Mr. Kunselman reported that Taxiway E is nearly complete.

Terminal Addition & Improvements/Apron Equipment Storage Building Design

This project is to design and bid an addition and improvements for the terminal. Construction of the first phase began in October, 2024. Bids were opened for PH II construction on April 17, 2025. Two grants have been offered by FAA and accepted for the second phase of the Terminal Addition. The proposed agreements have been sent out to the four prime contractors. A pre-construction meeting will be scheduled.

Snow Removal Vehicle and Equipment

This project was to acquire a 20 ft. broom, carrier vehicle, and equipment for snow removal through the Costars program using a BIL grant from the FAA to replace an existing obsolete vehicle. The vehicle was delivered on May 30, 2024. A final inspection was held with FAA on June 27, 2024. Punch list items have been addressed. It was determined that a dump hood is needed for the broom. A quote from M-B Companies, Inc. was received. Discussions with FAA have indicated that it should be eligible for grant funding if Federal Contract provisions are complied with. Awaiting confirmation from the supplier.

ARFF Vehicle and Equipment

This project is to acquire a new B-IV Airport Rescue & Fire Fighting vehicle and equipment. The existing vehicle was acquired in 2010 and is deemed obsolete by NFPA and FAA Part 139. Bids were opened on April 17, 2025, for a new vehicle and replacement equipment. A grant has been offered by FAA and accepted. The agreement has been executed with the supplier (Oshkosh) and a pre-construction meeting was held on Oct. 9, 2025. No responsive bids were received for the ARFF equipment. The engineer is proceeding with exploring purchasing the equipment through eligible Co-Stars suppliers or rebidding for next grant season.

ATCT Improvements PH II

This project consisted of habitability and accessibility improvements of the Air Traffic Control Tower, which was originally built in 1981. The project is 100% FAA funded, Mr. Kunselman said. Final inspection for Phase I was held on June 27, 2024, with all punch list items addressed. Phase II construction began Oct. 7. Final inspection with FAA was held June 24, 2025, and all punch list items have been addressed. Contractor is addressing some maintenance issues.

GA Corporate Hangar Entrance

This project would include access and parking improvements to the corporate hangar area. Preliminary plans and renderings have been prepared and funding is being sought. Due to compliance issues with TSA regulations, it is proposed to move forward with modifications proposed by the Engineer in the near future with Authority funds to improve security and safety, and seeking reimbursement of those costs when the larger project is funded.

ROSTRAVER AIRPORT:

AWOS Replacement

The project is to replace the existing AWOS, which was installed in 2000 and is now obsolete, Mr. Kunselman said. Bids for a replacement system were opened April 17, 2025. A grant has been offered by FAA and accepted. The agreement has been executed with the the contractor (Bronder) and a pre-construction meeting was held on Oct. 9, 2025.

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REQUISITIONS - Mr. Pickels reviewed the requisitions for September, 2025

LBE

Latrobe 69-24 Terminal Addition PH I (FAA PH II) Requisition No. 11, totaling \$373,354.28 (Allegheny Constr.)

Latrobe 70-24 (Terminal Addition PH II, III) Req. No. 12, totaling \$156,744.16 (HRANEC/A-1 Electric/Wheels)

Latrobe 71-24 (Remove/Reconstruct TW D CA) Requisition No. 12, totaling \$354,340.51 (MJ/A. Liberoni)

Latrobe 72-24 (Remove/Reconstruct TW E CA) Requisition No. 11, totaling \$177,733.76 (MJ/A. Liberoni)

Latrobe 74-24 (Terminal Add & Improvements PH I) Req. No. 9, totaling \$25,965.08. (MJ)

Latrobe WCIDC Requisition No. 20, totaling \$375,883.06 (MJ/A-1/Allegheny/HRANEC/Wheels/)

Latrobe ESA-2024-1022-4615 Req. No. 2, totaling \$170,051.25 (MJ/Dabico/A-Bridge)

Special Projects Account 7110075814 Requisition No. 267, totaling \$94,820.24

Upon the motion of Mr. Rossi, seconded by Mr. Finoli, requisitions for September, 2025, were unanimously approved as presented.

Solicitor's Report - Amber Leechalk

Mrs. Leechalk reported that the law firm representing Dunkin' at Rostraver Airport is extending its project permitting period for one 45-day period, which shall now expire, which will now expire on December 5, 2025. "They are still working through everything," she said.

Executive Director's Report

Mr. Monzo reported that information for the airport's holiday family assistance program is available for review to any who wish to donate.

Mr. Monzo also reported that the Westmoreland Chamber of Commerce has named the airport authority as the Chamber Champion of the Month for November.

Mr. Monzo said Raena Lindemuth will be taking over engineering duties for Scott Kunselman with McFarland-Johnson

Mr. Monzo also reported that he has talked with Veregy, a company that could install parking canopies with solar panels on the roofs, which would provide multiple benefits, including energy generation. Further information will be provided to the property committee.

Upon the motion of Mr. Finoli, seconded by Mr. Pologruto, the board unanimously agreed to publish a request for qualifications for the service.

Mr. Monzo reported that he has spoken with a company (Vector Airport Systems) concerning collection of landing fees at LBE with anticipation of increasing revenues generated from transient landings that are currently being tabulated by airport staff. "We anticipate probably a 50% increase in landing fee revenue collections," Mr. Monzo said.

Upon the motion of Mr. Beck, seconded by Mr. Finoli, approval to proceed with a contract with Vector Aerospace was granted unanimously.

Next month's authority meeting will be followed by a Veterans Day ceremony and dedication of the Linda Brasile pavilion in the parking area.

Mr. Rossi asked the engineer if there was any development in obtaining radar in the air traffic control tower. Mr. Kunselman replied that there has been no movement.

Chairman's Report

Mr. Whittaker said that the bylaws committee will discuss changing the number of board members from nine members to seven.

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“That actually has to be changed at the Department of State level, so that would require a resolution from the authority and it also has to be approved by the county commissioners,” Ms. Leechalk noted.

“Well whatever we need to do to start that, because they don’t seem to fill these (positions), so that way we would have a full board again,” Mr. Whittaker added.

New Business:

Mr. Finoli made a motion seeking that the Property Committee evaluate a transit limitation on the paved asphalt parking area adjoining the new Jodaron/Vee Neal Hangar construction project that also adjoins Mellon Hanger #9 and LJ Aviation #8.

“The issue is whether this should be a tow-motor only area rather than a power taxiway. The FAA has some concerns about it, as do the tenants,” Mr. Finoli said.

The Property Committee was tasked to look into this situation and make a recommendation to the board to restrict this area to only tow motor use. No powered up jet engines can be used to transit through this area.

Seconded by Mr. Beck, the motion passed without opposition.

Adjournment

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:33 a.m.

The next regular meeting of the authority will be held **Tuesday, Nov. 11, 2025, at 9 a.m.**

Minutes respectfully submitted by:
Dwayne Pickels, Grants Director