

**Westmoreland County Airport Authority
Regularly Scheduled Meeting
May 12, 2026**

Regular Meeting

The Regularly Scheduled May, 2026, meeting of the Westmoreland County Airport Authority was held at 9 a.m. Tuesday, May 12, 2026, in the Authority Conference Room 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
Vincent Finoli - Vice Chairman
Brian Sokol - Treasurer
Mark Gera
Donald Rossi
Deborah Irwin
Dale "Lee" Landis
Edward Sobota

Also present were: Executive Director Maurice Haas, Airport Asst. Manager Dylan Kovatch, Grants Director Dwayne Pickels, Raena Lindemuth of McFarland-Johnson, authority engineers; reporters Renatta Signorini, Tribune-Review; Abigail Hakas, Latrobe Bulletin; Paul Gough of the Pittsburgh Business Times. Also in attendance were pilot Valetta Mowry, Anthony DeNunzio of DeNunzio's Italian Chophouse.

An executive session was called to discuss real estate and personnel matters at 9:01 a.m. and the meeting reconvened at 9:27 a.m.

Public Comments - none

Approval of Minutes

Upon the motion of Mr. Rossi, seconded by Mr. Finoli, minutes of the April 14, 2026, regular meeting were unanimously approved.

Arnold Palmer Regional Airport and Rostraver Treasurer's Reports -

Mr. Sokol reviewed treasurer reports for April, 2026 (attached).

Upon the motion by Mr. Rossi, seconded by Mr. Finoli, the April, 2026, treasurer's report for Arnold Palmer Regional Airport was unanimously approved.

Upon the motion of Mr. Sobota, seconded by Mr. Rossi, the April, 2026, treasurer's report for Rostraver Airport was unanimously approved.

Rostraver Committee Report - Mr. Sokol gave an update on the Dunkin' project at Rostraver Airport. "The shell is going up pretty quick, the projected opening opening is set for July 1," he said. Mr. Sokol also credited airport staff for the work they do at the facility.

Property Committee Report - Mr. Gera had no report.

Engineer's Update Report - by Mrs. Lindemuth 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. Mrs. Lindemuth said construction began in April, 2025, and Taxiway E is substantially complete. Taxiway D is substantially complete except for final seeding in the spring. Surface markings will also be completed in the spring. Final inspection was held on Nov. 20, 2025.

Terminal Addition & Improvements/Apron Equipment Storage Building Design

The Terminal Addition project is to design and bid an addition and improvements for the terminal. Construction of the first phase began in October, 2024, and is still underway, slated for completion in June, 2026.

The engineer recommended approval of general contractor Allegheny Construction Group's change order No. 10A in the amount of \$81,465.00 addition for drilling and surveying monitoring wells required by DEP related to the removal of the underground storage tank from the old hangar demolition. Total revised contract amount is \$8,072,919.29.

Upon the motion of Mr. Gera, seconded by Mr. Sobota, the change order was approved as presented.

Mrs. Lindemuth added that all four Phase II agreements have been executed. A pre-construction meeting was held Nov. 5, 2025, and may start in mid-June. The refurbished passenger boarding bridge will be returned when foundations are completed, which is anticipated in early May.

The Phase III bid package was advertised on March 30th, she said.

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 and the 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 for \$24,561.04 and approved by FAA. The hood was delivered this week, Lindemuth reported.

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 been executed with the supplier (Oshkosh) and a preconstruction meeting was held on Oct. 9, 2025. No responsive bids were received for the ARFF equipment. The engineer has identified a potential vendor to purchase all equipment through Costars contract. Truck is in production.

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, it is proposed to move forward with modifications proposed by the Engineer with authority funds to improve security and safety, and seek reimbursement of those costs when the larger project is funded.

ROSTRAVER AIRPORT:

Rehabilitate GA Taxiways

The project is to rehabilitate taxiway pavement near the T-hangars. A pre-design meeting was held in February with FAA and BOA. Bids for the project were advertised on March 30.

Promotions/PR/Events Committee report: Mr. Rossi mentioned the annual program with school children at the aviation museum along Route 981, which drew about 400 students to visit the facilities and gain an appreciation for aviation and emergency response operations and equipment.

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REQUISITIONS - Mr. Pickels reviewed the list of requisitions for April, 2026 (attached).

Upon the motion of Mr. Sokol, seconded by Mr. Rossi, requisitions for May, 2026, were unanimously approved as presented.

Solicitor's Report -

On Ms. Leechalk's behalf, Mr. Haas reported on a standard 2016 land lease for LJ Aviation No. 26 that needed signatures.

Upon the motion of Mr. Finoli, seconded by Mr. Sobota, re-approval was granted unanimously.

Mr. Finoli made a motion to authorize the solicitor to approach a specialty bankruptcy counsel in Pittsburgh to represent the authority in the bankruptcy filings with Spirit Airlines. "I don't know that it's a big project or that we have that much to gain, but we do need to have somebody oversee this," he said.

Upon the motion of Mr. Finoli, seconded by Mr. Landis, the motion to obtain specialty bankruptcy counsel for the Spirit matter was unanimously approved.

Executive Director's Report

Mr. Haas reported that "we were approached by the Ligonier Country Market last week to use the airport for its weekly operation. "We got approval from FAA and PennDOT Bureau of Aviation to use our parking lots - one for vendors, the other would be for parking," he said. "There are still a few things that need ironed out."

Mr. Finoli made a motion for the authority's solicitor to draft a week-to-week agreement with the farmer's market for \$1,000 a week contingent upon renewing each week if everything is going smoothly, subject to all needed approvals, permits, insurance requirements and get it to the market's attorney" to meet the market's desire to initiate use of the facility this Saturday (May 16).

Upon the motion of Mr. Rossi, seconded by Mr. Finoli, the motion was unanimously approved.

Mr. Haas reported that the Laurel Highlands Visitor's Bureau is still interested in setting a marker to commemorate the first air mail pickup in a grassy area near the aviation museum at not cost to the authority other than labor.

Upon the motion of Mr. Sobota, seconded by Mr. Landis, the request was approved.

Mr. Landis requested a summary of the triennial drill exercise held last week at the airport. Mr. Kotatch reported on the event. "It went very well, there were 150 volunteers," he said. "It really tested our capabilities."

Mr. Haas reported that a consensus has been ascertained through talks with township officials have left a less than favorable likelihood of approvals needed for any solar panels project.

Upon the motion of Mr. Landis, seconded by Mrs. Irwin, the board voted unanimously to table the plan.

Chairman's Report

Mr. Whittaker noted that "other than trying to recover from Spirit, I don't really have much to say."

Mr. Sobota moved that Mr. Kovatch be named Airport Manager, with Mr. Rossi seconding. Approval was unanimous.

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“For the time being, because of what’s happened with Spirit pulling out, there will be no pay adjustments at this time,” Mr. Sobota said. “We’ll evaluate things as we progress.”

Unfinished Business

Mr. Haas reported that, as a result of Spirit’s departure, caused by a total shutdown of all airline operations, some 25 airport employees have been laid off, along with a few hour reductions. “Our hopeful intent is that we get a new airline in here sooner, rather than later.”

During Spirit’s nearly 15-year tenure at Arnold Palmer Regional, “We moved more than 3.5 million passengers through this terminal,” he said. “Promoting our airport to other airlines as to what we have to offer” has become a priority, he added. “We’ll be ready to go when we get another airline to come in. I believe that we are very attractive. Hopefully we’ll be back sooner, rather than later.”

Adjournment

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:02 a.m.

The next regular meeting of the authority will be held **Tuesday, June 9, 2026, at 9 a.m.**

Minutes respectfully submitted by:

Dwayne Pickels, Grants Director

WESTMORELAND COUNTY AIRPORT AUTHORITY MEETING

May 12, 2026

Latrobe – 66-22 REQUISITION NO. 7:

A&H Equipment Company Snow Removal Equipment	\$23,628.55
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Latrobe – 69-24 REQUISITION NO. 18:

Allegheny Construction Group Terminal Addition Ph I (FAA Ph II) (GC)	\$42,533.10
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Latrobe – 70-24 REQUISITION NO. 19:

A-1 Electric Terminal Addition Ph I (FAA Ph III) (EC) (Will be paid from PennDOT land acquisition funds)	\$5,127.45
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A-1 Electric Terminal Addition Ph I (FAA Ph II)(EC)	\$30,929.38
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HRANEC Sheet Metal, Inc. Terminal Addition & Improvements Ph III (HC)	\$5,709.53
(paid from 70-24)	<u>\$36,638.91</u>

Latrobe – 74-24 REQUISITION NO. 17:

McFarland Johnson Terminal Addition & Improvements Ph I/FAA Ph IV	\$19,428.95
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Latrobe – 77-25 REQUISITION NO. 5:

McFarland Johnson Terminal Addition & Improvements, Ph. II	\$4,004.39
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Latrobe – Westmoreland County IDC REQUISITION NO. 27:

A-1 Electric, Inc.	
Terminal Addition Ph I/FAA Ph III (EC)	\$20,211.63
Allegheny Construction Group	
Terminal Addition Ph I/FAA Ph II (GC)	\$23,841.90
CCA Solutions	
Terminal Addition & Improvements Ph I	\$18,000.00
McFarland Johnson	
Terminal Addition & Improvements Ph I/FAA Ph IV	\$10,890.89
HRANEC Sheet Metal, Inc.	
Terminal Addition & Improvements Ph III (HC)	\$3,200.47
	\$76,144.89

Latrobe – ESA-2024-1022-4615 REQUISITION NO. 9:

TMR Roofing	
Roof Replacement	\$27,450.00
Dagostino Electric Services, Inc.	
Terminal Addition Ph I	\$132,754.22
	\$160,204.22

Latrobe – ADP-2025-0502-8194 REQUISITION NO. 2:

Cleveland Brothers	
Forklift	\$96,000.00

Rostraver – 33-25 REQUISITION NO. 5:

McFarland Johnson	
AWOS System Replacement	\$12,307.40

Special Projects Account REQUISITION NO. 274:

10% Sponsor Share 66-22	\$2,362.86
5% Sponsor Share 77-25	\$200.22
25% Sponsor Share ESA-202410224615	\$40,051.06
25% Sponsor Share ADP-202505028194	\$24,000.00
5% Sponsor Share 33-25	\$615.37
	\$67,229.51