



Bentonville Municipal Airport  
Airport Advisory Board Meeting Minutes  
Thursday, August 14, 2025 -- 3:00 pm  
Bentonville City Hall – 305 SW “A” Street  
Bentonville, AR 72712  
(**& VIA ZOOM WEBINAR**)

**Meeting Recording:**

[https://us02web.zoom.us/rec/play/JEqMrVD31KfV\\_sahZHZCI53SvKk0MHvTUeVlhppTokS-pHsdDW0xaa3gk3qd1svLB\\_vgZMIQbpQBhv8cn.3N4uYs6CKCt2swRX?autoplay=true](https://us02web.zoom.us/rec/play/JEqMrVD31KfV_sahZHZCI53SvKk0MHvTUeVlhppTokS-pHsdDW0xaa3gk3qd1svLB_vgZMIQbpQBhv8cn.3N4uYs6CKCt2swRX?autoplay=true)

**Video Recording:**

[https://us02web.zoom.us/rec/play/T7cP46JHFjrMQJgyKMFrp0Wt7xH6bBE\\_Ehc17p3\\_1fWYb9RY1YzvuYgOr5oVU11h4atjtB27VWj72Pvk.v8ZqO1L17hVFke7S?autoplay=true&startTime=1755200942000](https://us02web.zoom.us/rec/play/T7cP46JHFjrMQJgyKMFrp0Wt7xH6bBE_Ehc17p3_1fWYb9RY1YzvuYgOr5oVU11h4atjtB27VWj72Pvk.v8ZqO1L17hVFke7S?autoplay=true&startTime=1755200942000)

- I. **Call to Order, Welcome & Pledge of Allegiance – *Dennis Cherry, Acting Chairman***  
Dennis Cherry called the meeting to order at 3:00 pm and led the room in the Pledge of Allegiance.
  
- II. **Approval of Minutes:**
  - July 10, 2025  
Cara Osborne made the *motion* to approve the minutes of the July 10, 2025, meeting as written. Hayes Wade gave a second to the motion. ***Motion approved.***
  
- III. **Geese Control Report – *Robin Fields and Maverick***
  - Status Report  
Robin Fields and Maverick appeared via Zoom with their report. Mr. Fields said that it had been a slow month. They have been chasing off a few geese from the south end of the runway. There were some geese over on the west side where the new hangars are going to be built. In the last two weeks, the lake has had very few geese. Robin said they chased off the young geese when they were able to fly. He’s been seeing geese flying in the mornings, but not on the ground at the airport. He also saw this morning one very small coyote heading toward the dirt piles on the west side. It was the first and only one he had seen this month.
  
- IV. **New Business:**
  - A. **Engineering and Construction Updates – *Chris Maestri – Garver USA***
    - Current Airport Projects  
Chris Maestri and Ginny Lantz of Garver USA both appeared before the board to give their reports for the current airport projects.

**Runway 18-36 Widening (FAA Grants)**

Chris said he meant to take this project off the list. They are just finalizing some closeout with the State and the FAA on the second grant we had for this project.

### **VBT East Taxiway Extension (Phase 2) (FAA Grant)**

This project was completed and opened on August 4, 2025, so we have 600' of new taxiway in the SE corner of our airfield. The only thing we lack is a closeout with our FAA grant and a final inspection with the city. We had a pre-final with the Garver team and with Mark Slaughter to make sure that it was safe to open and get all the barricades and closure markers removed. We must submit a few As-built documents and other items to get the final inspection with the city. The runway extension is open as well. Chairman Baldwin gave thanks to the Garver team for the good job they did on this project.

### **VBT Hangar Access Road (ADA Grant)**

SyCon has effectively finished its scope outside of some minor utility improvements. The city Street Department scope has been working hard for the last couple of weeks to get prepared for asphalt paving. Garver understands they are planning to pave next week. This will be the section between the Flight Center parking lot and Brian Baldwin's access drive off of "I" Street, and then that small section south of that same access drive until we get to the Neighborhood 1 area. We will leave this area unpaved until those hangars are constructed. They are waiting on some final construction documentation from the city Street Department to make sure that their base is ready to go. Otherwise, we should expect pavement going down in that area next week.

Brian Baldwin asked about the keypad for the current entry gate was taken down, and forced the airport to leave the gate open. As he went by today, it was still not up and running and he wanted an update on it. Ginny Lantz reported that it was brought up in the progress meeting today, and SyCon said they had been told it was reinstalled last Tuesday. He told Ginny he was going to go by there as soon as possible and make sure that it gets taken care of. Ginny said that it was not reinstalled, but she hopes to see that completed tomorrow.

### **VBT East Parking Apron (ADA Grants)**

There hasn't been much movement on this project this month. Garver has been trying to finalize what private funding looks like to assist with this project. Mark and Brian have been working on this as well, before we start working on the design.

### **VBT Taxiway A Pavement Rehabilitation (ADA Grant)**

This project is in Garver's court to get Mark Slaughter a work order so we can start the design, knowing that we are trying to get this bid and potentially construct this year before it gets too cold. We are going to go ahead and get our team started on it to make sure we can hit some of our bidding timelines, then follow up with Mark with that order. This should be sent to him in the next couple of days.

## **B. Updates from the Field – Aaron Kunze - *Legends Air Center***

### **• Status Report**

Aaron Kunze appeared via Zoom with his report. Low lead fuel sales from last month had a surprising jump with a 31% increase. However, Jet A had a decrease. We were at 28,000 gallons in June, and it dropped to 18,000 in July. This was due to a lack of larger planes coming in. It has picked up in August. The number of flight days lost to weather was estimated at six (6) days in July. We had 16 new flight school students last month, jumping up to 70 total for the year. We had four (4) check rides in July, and they all passed on their first attempt. We had two private pilot, one instrument rating, and one commercial flight. Testing stopped for a while, but it has kicked off again the last few weeks. They ended up with 31 tests administered for the FAA, and hope to expand as they continue to train.

**C. City of Bentonville Updates – Mark Slaughter, Airport Manager**

- **Solicitation of Requests for Proposals**

Last Tuesday, the City Council for the two RFP's, the West Side Hangar Development and the East Side Hangar Development, so we are now waiting for it to go through the normal chain and be signed by the Mayor. Then there will be an award letter to Chad Cox and one to the city, and the work should begin to start. Chad Cox spoke and wanted to thank everyone for the work the city did to get all this worked out.

- **Neighborhood One**

Southern Brothers has put their silt fence and sign up. Things are being switched over from SyCon to the Neighborhood 1 people. The SWPPP is done, the ROW permit is done, so they can start working out there. They are going to be hauling the dirt somewhere near Wagon Wheel Road and I-49. That is a long way for a truck during the daylight hours and will take at least 45 minutes, so they are going to apply to do some night work. The traffic won't be as bad then, and they will be able to make more trips.

- **Replacing the AWOS and Siting (Mesotech)**

We are rather dead in the water on the AWOS right now, but the RTR...there have been some Conversations with some pertinent people in the area. Hopefully, next month we will have some Good news about the RTR.

- **1200.aero**

As an added item, Mark Slaughter had put 1200.aero on hold for a while, but Steve Johnson just provided him with the dashboard view of the data that he has been capturing, and it looks good. Steve has the program about 90% complete. It needs some tweaking, but it looks good. The number of operations happening out of Bentonville is much higher than Mark thought.

**V. Other Business:**

**A. Projects and Priorities – Brian Baldwin, Chairman**

Brian Baldwin said that in speaking with Mark Slaughter, he found that Mark had turned over a lot of rocks and had found a list of things that should be done at the airport at some point in time. Brian said that he told Mark that if he came up with a list of things that need to be done, the board would help him accomplish them. We can't do everything at once, but we can help. There are large and small jobs. If we can start working on these, one or two at a time, that would be a good use of our time.

Regarding the RFP's, Mr. Baldwin asked Mark Slaughter, since the RFP's have been awarded, when do we get into the specifics about what each of those entities is going to accomplish under that RFP? Mark said he doesn't know, this being his first time, but once they have their award letters, they can start spending money to do all the engineering, and then they can start working out their timeline. First off, it may take 4 to 6 months to move the dirt. They have a place that is close to move the dirt, so they will be able to do more in a day. Once all the paperwork is done, it is up to them how fast they can move. Mr. Baldwin asked the board to begin thinking about how to set out clarification of the process, and of who is responsible for what and when, so that it will benefit both parties. He just wanted to get this on the record today, so the board can start thinking about it.

**VI. Closing:**

**A. Next AAB Meeting Schedule**

- Proposed Meeting Date and Time: Thursday, September 4, 2025, 3:00 pm  
Location: City Hall – Council Chambers – 305 SW “A” Street, Bentonville, AR  
The Board agreed to the date of *September 4, 2025, but changed the time to 11:00 a.m.*

**B. Motion to Adjourn:**

Brian Baldwin made a *motion* to adjourn. Cara Osborne gave a second. *Motion approved.*

###

Project Task	Runway 18-36 Widening (FAA Grants)		VBT E. Taxiway Ext. (Phase 2) (FAA Grant)		VBT Hangar Access Road (ADA Grant)		VBT East Parking Apron (ADA Grants)		VBT Taxiway A Pavement Rehabilitation (ADA Grant)	
Site Investigations					10/1/2025		8/18/2025			
Conceptual Meeting w/ City					10/1/2025					
Preliminary Design					10/1/2025					
Preliminary Design Review					11/15/2025					
Final Design					12/1/2025		8/18/2025			
Final Design Review					12/31/2025		9/18/2025			
Bidding					2/14/2026		10/18/2025			
Grant Award							7/16/2025			
Construction Contract					3/15/2026		11/8/2025			
Preconstruction					5/1/2026		11/24/2025			
Construction Start					5/15/2026		11/27/2025			
Construction Complete					8/4/2025		12/11/2025			
Grant Closeout					10/31/2025		2/17/2026			
					8/31/2025					
					12/31/2025					
					8/31/2026					



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