

MEETING MINUTES
GERALD R. FORD INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT AUTHORITY BOARD
Gerald R. Ford International Airport, International Room
5500 44th Street SE, Grand Rapids, MI, 49512
Wednesday June 24, 2026

A quorum being present, and in accordance with notice being duly given, Chair Koorndyk called the meeting of the Authority Board to order on June 24, 2026, at 8:30 a.m.

Chair Koorndyk welcomed everyone and asked for Board Member attendance by roll call:

Board Present: Mike Verhulst, Doug Small, Jennifer Merchant, Dan Burrill, Dan Koorndyk – 5

Board Absent: Birgit Klohs – 1

Board Virtual: Pete Beukema – 1

Staff Present: Tory Richardson – President and CEO
Alex Peric – Vice President and COO
Carlos Ruiz – Chief Commercial Officer
Casey Ries – Chief Asset Development Officer
Haley Meyer – Executive Assistant
Ashley Thorsen – Operations Director
Matt Zeilstra – Controller
Clint Nemeth – Engineering and Sustainability Director
Rich Atha – Chief Police
Marissa Norris – Senior Procurement Specialist
Jon Couchenour – IT Support Analyst
Emma Pawlowski – Communications, Marketing & Events Supervisor
Brooke Faber – Communications, Marketing & Events Associate
Derrick Grinnell – Chief Firefighter
Alyssa Stoker – Business Intelligence Data Analyst
Chris King-Dye – Maintenance and Asset Management Director
Brian Hilbrands – Planning Manager

Staff Virtual: Maria Kim – Chief Financial Officer

Others Present: Mary Kay Shaver (Varnum), Steve Osit (KKR), Paul Swanson (CS Erickson), Walter Bujak (KCC), Scott Breslin (PAA), Ted Vonk, Dick VanderMolen, Pat VanderMolen, Tom Moerdyk, John Oliver

6-1 Approval of the Agenda

Motion by Mrs. Burrill supported by Mr. Small the approval of the agenda.

6-2 Public Comment

No public comment.

6-3 Consent Agenda

- a) Approval of Authority Board Minutes – May 27, 2026

OPERATIONS AND MARKETING COMMITTEE

- b) Resolution 26-24: Concourse B Renovation – Construction Phase
- c) Resolution 26-25: Taxiway Foxtrot and Golf Reconstruction – Construction Phase
- d) Resolution 26-26: Federal Inspection Station – Phase 2 Design

HUMAN RESOURCES COMMITTEE

- e) Resolution 26-27: Employment Agreement and Supplemental Retention Agreement

f) Reports

- Project/Construction Report
- Public Safety and Operations Report
- Maintenance and Asset Management Report
- Aviation Activity Report

- Media Report

Motion by Mr. Small supported by Mrs. Merchant, the approval of consent agenda items a – f representing more than \$26.7M of investment in our facilities.

Motion carried.

6-4 Resolution 26-19: Amended and Restated Minimum Standards

Mr. Peric presented proposed updates to the Airport Minimum Standards, which establish the minimum requirements for conducting aeronautical activities at the Airport. The revisions modernize the standards, strengthen safety and compliance requirements, provide clearer administrative procedures and create a framework for regulating independent operators. The current standards were last amended in 2018, and draft revisions were circulated to aeronautical users and reviewed by Authority staff and aviation legal counsel.

Motion by Mr. Burrill, supported by Mr. Small, the review and approval of the Gerald R. Ford International Airport Amended and Restated Airport Minimum Standards. Motion carried.

6-5 Resolution 26-23: Amended Rules and Regulations

Mr. Peric presented the amended Airport Rules & Regulations, explaining that staff completed a comprehensive review to ensure alignment with legal and regulatory requirements, federal grant obligations, contractual commitments, and current Airport operations. He highlighted key updates including new provisions for Peer-to-Peer Transportation Platform Services, implementation of a Notice of Violation Program, enhanced safety and operational standards, clarification of prohibited activities, and updated definitions and regulatory references.

Motion by Mr. Burrill, supported by Mr. Small, the review and approval of the Gerald R. Ford International Airport (Airport) amended Rules and Regulations. Motion carried.

6-6 President and CEO Report

Mr. Richardson reviewed the CEO report.

6-7 Other Business

Chair Koorndyk provided brief remarks reflecting on the transition from the former County Airport structure to the establishment of the independent Airport Authority. He reminded attendees that cake would be available immediately following the meeting in celebration of the Airport Authority's 10-year anniversary and encouraged everyone to join recognizing this milestone.

6-8 Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 9:08 a.m.

APPROVAL: 

Birgit Klohs, Secretary to the Board

HM