

**GERALD R. FORD INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT AUTHORITY
OPERATIONS AND MARKETING COMMITTEE MINUTES
Gerald R. Ford International Airport, International Room
5500 44th Street SE, Grand Rapids, MI 49512
Wednesday, April 22, 2026
8:00 AM**

The meeting was called to order at 8:00 AM by Chair Small.

Members Present: Jennifer Merchant, Doug Small, Mike Verhulst, Dan Koorndyk – 4

Also Present: Tory Richardson, Alex Peric, Haley Meyer, Carlos Ruiz, Maria Kim, Tom Cizauskas, Ashley Thorsen, Chris King-Dye, Kyle McKeown, Heidi Groenboom, Casey Ries, Mary Bernthal, Pete Simms, Jack Bryan, Jeff Berghage, Jake Stidham (Extra Credit Projects)

4-1 Meeting Minutes

The Operations and Marketing Committee meeting minutes of February 18, 2026, were approved as submitted with a motion by Mrs. Merchant and support by Mr. Verhulst.

4-2 Public Comment

No public comment.

4-3 Resolution 26-4: Second Amended and Restated Bylaws of the Gerald R. Ford International Airport Authority

Ms. Meyer presented the proposed Second Amended and Restated Bylaws of the Gerald R. Ford International Airport Authority, highlighting key updates including revisions to committee language and the addition of paragraph (g) to Article 5.

Motion by Mr. Verhulst, supported by Mrs. Merchant, the approval of the proposed Second Amended and Restated Bylaws of the Gerald R. Ford International Airport Authority. Motion carried.

4-4 Resolution 26-5: Amended and Restated Standing Rules of the Gerald R. Ford International Airport Authority

Ms. Meyer presented the Amended and Restated Standing Rules of the Gerald R. Ford International Airport Authority, highlighting key updates including granting the chairperson discretion to modify the order of public comments, revising language related to public notice of meetings and agendas, and clarifying the descriptions and responsibilities of each committee.

Motion by Mrs. Merchant, supported by Mr. Verhulst, the approval of the proposed Amended and Restated Standing Rules of the Gerald R. Ford International Airport Authority. Motion carried.

4-5 Resolution 26-7: Terminal Enhancement Project – 2nd Floor GFIAA Administrative Space Construction

Mr. Ries presented the Terminal Enhancement Project – 2nd Floor Administrative Space Construction, highlighting the 36,000 square feet of new second floor space that will support GFIAA administrative, badging, and police functions. He noted that the project is designed to meet current staffing needs while also accommodating future staff growth and upcoming projects.

Motion by Mr. Verhulst, supported by Mrs. Merchant, the approval of project contracting

authority not to exceed \$11,200,000 for the construction and fit out of the new Airport Authority administrative spaces on the 2nd floor of Terminal Enhancement Project, and authorization for the President and CEO to sign all associated documents. Motion carried.

4-6 Resolution 26-8: Hot Spot 3 – Taxiway Wetland Mitigation

Mr. Simms stated that the airport airfield currently has three hot spots located on the movement area and the goal of the project is to eliminate hot spot 3 on the airfield and to increase safety measures for all Airfield Operations, Airfield Maintenance, and airlines. This action includes the design phase for construction and removal of portions of taxiway to mitigate hot spot 3 and associated wetland mitigation design.

Motion by Mrs. Merchant, supported by Mr. Verhulst, the approval of project contracting authority not to exceed \$1,000,000 for the design of the Hot Spot 3 – Taxiway K Wetland Mitigation project, and authorization for the President and CEO to sign all associated documents. Motion carried.

4-7 Resolution 26-9: Taxiway D Rehabilitation

Mr. McKeown explained that the goal of the project is to maintain the integrity of Taxiway D, specifically portions of this primary parallel taxiway that provide direct access to the commercial service apron. The rehabilitation will include selective removal and replacement of failing concrete slabs on Taxiway D between Taxiways R and F. He noted that the project will have no direct impact on guests; however, coordination with airlines, airport operations, and other tenants will occur to maintain airfield operations throughout construction.

Motion by Mr. Verhulst, supported by Mrs. Merchant, the approval of project contracting authority not to exceed \$2,500,000 for the rehabilitation of Taxiway D (from Taxiway R east to Taxiway F), and authorization for the President and CEO to sign all associated documents. Motion carried.

4-8 Resolution 26-10: GSE Fuel Farm Expansion – Construction Administration

Mr. McKeown stated that on February 24, 2026, the GFIAA Board approved contracting authority for construction phase contractor contracts not to exceed \$4,350,000 via Resolution 26-3. He explained that Resolution 26-3 noted Construction Administration (CA) services to be provided by the project engineer; however, approval authority did not include this cost. To incorporate the full construction phase costs for the project, an additional \$470,000 in project funding is being requested.

Motion by Mr. Verhulst, supported by Mrs. Merchant, the approval of project contracting authority not to exceed \$4,820,000 for the expansion of the Ground Support Equipment (GSE) Fuel Farm, and authorization for the President and CEO to sign all associated documents. Motion carried.

4-9 Resolution 26-11: Baggage Handling System Operation and Maintenance Agreement

Mr. King-Dye stated that the Beumer Group was selected to provide and install the new baggage handling system through an RFQ conducted by the TEP General Contractor and GFIAA staff. He noted that Beumer staff will be on site 24 hours per day to manage and

conduct the operation and maintenance of the outbound baggage handling system. He added that Beumer Group is headquartered in Beckum, Germany, with U.S. offices in Denver, Colorado, and Somerset, New Jersey, and that full-time staff will be hired and based in the West Michigan area to support this service contract.

Motion by Mr. Verhulst, supported by Mrs. Merchant, the approval to authorize the President and Chief Executive Officer to enter a three-year contract with Beumer Lifecycle Management, LLC to provide operational and maintenance services for the new baggage handling system with a first-year cost of \$3,716,817.

4-10 History Display

Casey Ries and Mary Bernthal presented an update on the airport's history display. The exhibit is expected to open to the public in the fall.

4-11 Summer Marketing Campaign Update

Mr. Ruiz presented the Summer Marketing Campaign that runs from May 1 – August 31. He also provided an update on upcoming marketing efforts.

4-12 Concession Program Update

Mr. Ruiz presented the year-end concession results for 2025.

4-13 April 2026 Construction/Project Report

Mr. Ries reviewed the status of the construction projects.

4-14 Other

Mr. McKeown mentioned that a Patterson Avenue SE construction project between 36th Street and 44th Street starts May 4th and ends June 7th.

Meeting adjourned at 9:10 AM
HM