

MEETING MINUTES
GERALD R. FORD INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT AUTHORITY BOARD
Gerald R. Ford International Airport, International Room
5500 44th Street SE, Grand Rapids, MI, 49512
Tuesday, February 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 February 24, 2026, at 8:30 a.m.

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

Board Present: Mike Verhulst, Pete Beukema, Dan Burrill, Jennifer Merchant, Dan Koorndyk – 5

Board Absent: Doug Small, Birgit Klohs – 2

Staff Present: Tory Richardson – President and CEO
Alex Peric – Vice President and COO
Carlos Ruiz – Chief Commercial Officer
Haley Meyer – Executive Assistant
Clint Nemeth – Engineering and Sustainability Director
Ashley Thorsen – Operations Director
Matt Zeilstra – Controller
Chris King-Dye – Maintenance and Asset Management Director
Tom Cizauskas – Business Administration Manager
Jon Couchenour – IT Support Analyst
Ghassan Abukar – Director Information Technology & Telecommunications
Jeff Berghage – Facilities Design and Construction Project Manager
Brian Hilbrands – Planning Manager
Derrick Grinnell – Chief Firefighter
Heidi Groenboom – Communication and Events Supervisor
Matt Johnson – Facilities Maintenance Manager
Nicholas Wiebenga – Maintenance Systems and Project Manager

Others Present: Shawn Hardy (TPG), Josh Karp (CS Erickson), Gary Bell (SP Plus), Larry Booker (SP Plus), Corey Drews (TPG), Brian Greenleaf (Sabo PR), Scott Atchison

2-1 Approval of the Agenda

Motion by Mr. Burrill supported by Mr. Beukema the approval of the agenda.

2-2 Public Comment

Scott Atchison addressed the Board regarding the potential development of an information center in downtown Grand Rapids. He shared his thoughts and information about the proposed concept.

2-3 Special Presentation

Chair Koorndyk invited Ashley Thorsen, Director of Operations, to present the annual Guest Champion recognition award. Mrs. Thorsen introduced Gary Bell of SP Plus, as the recipient, acknowledging his outstanding work, dedication, and commitment to serving the airport and its guests.

2-4 Consent Agenda

a) Approval of Authority Board Minutes – January 28, 2026

OPERATIONS AND MARKETING COMMITTEE

b) Resolution 26-2: Concourse B – Passenger Boarding Bridge Improvements

c) Resolution 26-3: Ground Support Equipment (GSE) Fuel Farm Expansion

d) Reports

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

Motion by Mr. Burrill supported by Mr. Beukema, the approval of consent agenda items a – d representing another \$7.7 million invested in our facilities.

Motion carried.

2-5 President and CEO Report

Mr. Richardson reviewed the CEO report.

2-6 Other Business

No other business was discussed.

2-7 Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 a.m.

APPROVAL: 

Birgit Klohs, Secretary to the Board

HM