

**GERALD R. FORD INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT AUTHORITY  
OPERATIONS AND MARKETING COMMITTEE MINUTES  
Gerald R. Ford International Airport, International Room  
5500 44<sup>th</sup> Street SE, Grand Rapids, MI 49512  
Wednesday, January 22, 2025  
8:00 a.m.**

The meeting was called to order at 8:02 AM by Chair Small.

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

Also Present: Tory Richardson, Maria Kim, Alex Peric, Clint Nemeth, Tom Cizauskas, Chris King Dye, Chris Anderson, Michelle Baker, Jack Bryan, Lisa Carr, Casey Ries, Haley Abbas, Heidi Groenboom

**1-1 Meeting Minutes**

The Operations and Marketing Committee minutes of November 13, 2024, were approved as submitted with a motion by Mr. Verhulst and support by Mr. Koorndyk.

**1-2 Public Comment**

No public comment.

**1-3 Resolution 25-1: Airport Rescue Firefighting Truck Replacement**

Mr. Anderson presented on the current R3 Crash Truck, which is 11 years old and is reaching the end of its expected life. He noted the 2024 Capital Budget includes \$1,500,000 to replace the existing R3 ARFF Truck to maintain reliability of ARFF equipment and Airport ARFF Index Requirements.

Motion by Mr. Verhulst supported by Mr. Koorndyk, the approval to authorize the President & Chief Executive Officer to sign all associated documents for the approval of a Purchase Order of \$1,319,821 to Oskosh Airport Products for the supply of a new Airport Rescue Firefighting (ARFF) Truck, including all associated tools, equipment, and training.

**1-4 Resolution 25-2: Runway 8R Wildlife Habitat Mitigation**

Ms. Baker presented an overview of the Wildlife Hazard Mitigation project, focusing on the low-lying area north of Runway 8R, which includes a stream, unmowed grass, and wetlands that attract wildlife, posing hazards to airport operations. To comply with Title 14, CFR Part 139, and the GFIAA Wildlife Hazard Management Plan, the project aims to mitigate wildlife attractants by filling in the low areas, placing the stream in a culvert, and using stockpiled spoils from the 2018-2019 Apron Reconstruction project to fill the wetlands. Initially scheduled for 2021, the project was delayed due to the COVID-19 pandemic and remains a priority for ensuring airport safety and regulatory compliance.

Motion by Mr. Verhulst supported by Mr. Koorndyk, the approval of project contracting authority not to exceed \$9,000,000 for the Mitigation of Wildlife Habitat from an area north of the Runway 8R, and authorization for the President & CEO to sign all associated documents.

**1-5 2025 Winter/Spring Marketing Campaign Overview**

Mrs. Abbas presented the winter/spring campaign to continue increasing engagement in the community.

**1-6 Project/Construction Report**

Mr. Ries reviewed the status of the construction projects.

1-7 **Other**

No other business.

Meeting adjourned at 8:45 a.m.  
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