

Airport Advisory Board

Battle Creek Executive Airport at Kellogg Field

15551 South Airport Road

Virtual/Zoom

Tuesday, March 11, 2025

1:00 P.M.

Members Present:

Jim Lance, COBC Commissioner; Ethan Moody, City of Springfield, Interim City Manager; Amy Marciano-Ratliff, Resident; Alana White, BC TIFA Chair; T.R. Shaw, Resident; Kelli Scott, Calhoun County Administrator; Nate Darlington, Duncan Aviation, VP Aircraft Modifications; Kara Beer, BC Chamber of Commerce; Ted Dearing, Assistant City Manager

Members Absent:

Carla Reynolds, Vice Mayor CoBC; Joe Sobieralski, BC Unlimited

Stakeholder Technical Advisory Subcommittee Present:

None

Stakeholder Technical Advisory Subcommittee Absent:

Barb Haluszka, Director, BC Field of Flight; Andy Richards, CEO, Duncan Aviation; Raymond Thompson, Dean, College of Aviation W.M.U.; Bud Dunn, Local Pilot, Atlas Sales

Staff:

Phil Kroll, Aviation Director; Miles Weaver, Assistant Aviation Director; Charles Orr, Operations Manager; Penny Seume, Airport Administrative Coordinator; Eric McClure, CoBC Communications Specialist

Others Present:

Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order by Jim Lance at 1:00 P.M.

Roll Call, Quorum present.

Motion to approve the agenda as presented made by Kelli Scott, supported by Alana White. All yes, none opposed. Motion approved.

Motion to approve minutes of the December 12, 2024 meeting made by Amy Marciano-Ratliff, supported by Nate Darlington. All yes, none opposed. Motion approved.

Update from Airport Staff:

Phil Kroll, Aviation Director, welcomed the board and provided the airport update. Waco's expansion is underway with construction of a 45,000 sq. ft. facility, a \$12 million investment expected to open near the end of this year. This hangar is for the Junkers open cockpit-style aircraft and is located landside off South Airport Road.

MDOT Office of Aeronautics met with the FAA last week to discuss BTL ALP preliminary findings. Neither our team nor our consultants were present. The FAA informed MDOT that based on the current and projected operations at BTL, runway 23L/5R (the smaller parallel) is not eligible for federal funding. Our annual operations last year were around 85,000, and the FAA requires 150,000 operations annually to qualify to retain the parallel. Additional meetings will take place in 2025 between BTL, MDOT, and the FAA to discuss future actions and other areas of the ALP. A short-term and long-term alternative were presented via PowerPoint.

Question from Nate Darlington, VP Aircraft Modifications, Duncan Aviation: With the main runway, 10,000 ft, will we still get full-length funding?

Phil Kroll, Aviation Director: The FAA hasn't said yet; it's not in our plans to shorten it.

The Air Show will take place Wednesday, July 2 to Sunday, July 6 after a full year of event planning. This year's performers include the USAF Thunderbirds, USAF F-35A Lightning II team, US Navy F-18 Super Hornets, and civilian performers. Airport staff has been working with Barb Haluszka's team at the Battle Creek Field of Flight and Balloon Festival to support event improvements.

Remaining 2025 Meeting Dates:

- June 10, 2025
- September 9, 2025
- December 9, 2025

All meetings will be held virtually. Airport staff will send calendar holds for the dates and times.

Public Comment:

None

Member Comments:

None

Adjournment:

Meeting adjourned at 1:26 P.M.