

SOUTH DAKOTA AERONAUTICS COMMISSION MEETING

Thursday, September 17, 2026, at 2:00 p.m. CT

Becker-Hansen Building/ Commission Room – 700 E. Broadway Ave., Pierre, SD 57501

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: Court Ecklund
Dustin Coleman
David Howard
Ivan Venner

COMMISSIONER PRESENT

VIA CONFERENCE CALL: Bob Huggins, Chairman
Rolf Johnson, Vice-chairman

DOT STAFF PRESENT: Joel Jundt, Karla Engle, Kellie Beck, Jack Dokken, Jon Becker, Brock Antijunti, and Kari Kroll

DOT STAFF PRESENT

VIA CONFERENCE CALL: Dustin DeBoer

OTHERS PRESENT

VIA CONFERENCE CALL: Brooke Edgar – Helms and Associates; Sheila Schatz – City of Gettysburg;
and Rod Senn – Mead Hunt

Chairman Bob Huggins called the meeting of the South Dakota Aeronautics Commission (the “Commission”) to order at 2:00 p.m. CDT. Roll call was taken. A quorum was determined.

Huggins opened the floor to the Commission to disclose potential conflicts of interest and to present requests for waiver pursuant to South Dakota Codified Law (SDCL) Chapter 3 – 23.

No members of the Commission disclosed a conflict or requested a waiver.

Huggins asked for a motion to approve the Commission meeting minutes from August 20, 2026.

Commissioner Dustin Coleman noted two typos:

- Page 1 – the motion regarding approving of the minutes should read July 16 not July 17
- Page 5 – the “The motion carried” statement was missing from the motion at the top of the page

No other commissioners had comments or corrections.

A MOTION WAS MADE by Coleman and seconded by Venner to approve the meeting minutes from August 20, 2026, with the correction. All present voted aye by roll call vote. The motion carried.

Huggins opened the floor to public comment.

No members of the public addressed the Commission or offered input.

Secretary Joel Jundt presented the following items in his Secretary's Report:

- The Governor has reappointed Chairman Huggins and Commissioner Howard. The Governor also appointed Mike Ginther, from Lemon, South Dakota, to fill the final Commission vacancy. Mr. Ginther was unable to attend this meeting, but he is planning to attend the October meeting. The Commission is now full.
- There was a recent issue regarding a helicopter possible landing at a high school sporting event. Department staff were contacted by local officials regarding whether there are any requirements by the Department, Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) or the Commission for landing a helicopter outside of a public airport or heliport, specifically for use at a sporting event. In visiting with FAA representatives, FAA informed the Department that FAA has no special restrictions for landings of this nature. Although there is currently a process in place for application to the Department and approval of a temporary airport by the Commission, the Administrative Rules regarding when a temporary Certificate of Approval is necessary may be written too broadly, unintentionally prohibiting certain landings intended to be outside the Commission's current powers. The Department will be reviewing the issue and will come back to the Commission in a future meeting with a recommendation of whether a change in Administrative Rules is needed to help clarify when someone should go through the process for a temporary airport certificate of approval.

Jundt then presented to the Commission for its consideration recommendations to amend the *Aeronautics Commission Policies & Procedures for Use of State Funds* which was last revised September 17, 2026, based on the current and projected funds in the account. The Commission discussed the following recommended changes:

- Section B, Items 9.ii:
Match rates on federal aid projects: Increase the fixed state match percentage from 5% to either 6% or 7%. The increased match rate will apply strictly to all public airports except Rapid City and Sioux Falls, as their additional funding will be handled through the new formula scheme for airport terminal projects.
- Section B, Items 9.iii:
Airport Terminal Projects: Adopt the proposed formula as shown on Attachment #2A of the agenda packet.

A MOTION WAS MADE by Venner and seconded by Howard to approve the proposed formula as shown and as recommended by the Department in Attachment #2A. All present voted aye by roll call vote. The motion carried.

A MOTION WAS MADE by Venner and seconded by Coleman to change the fixed state match from 5% to 7% for public airport projects excluding Rapid City and Sioux Falls Regional Airports. All present voted aye by roll call vote. The motion carried.

Jon Becker from the Office of Air, Rail and Transit presented to the Commission the following Airport Improvement Program (AIP) and Infrastructure Investment & Jobs Act (IIJA) grant projects:

Rapid City 3-46-0048-070-2026

AIP: Construct terminal remote parking apron and deicing containment facility; engineering and admin.

Federal Share	\$ 3,129,000
State Share	\$ 82,342
Local Share	\$ 82,342
Total	\$ 3,293,684

A MOTION WAS MADE by Johnson and seconded by Ecklund to approve the Rapid City project as presented by the Department. All present voted aye except Coleman who abstained. The motion carried.

Belle Fourche 3-46-0072-024-2026

IIJA-ATP: Construct terminal building remodel

Federal Share	\$ 541,500
State Share	\$ 14,250
Local Share	\$ 14,250
Total	\$ 570,000

Sioux Falls 3-46-0050-070-2026

IIJA: Phase 5 – Expand terminal building

Federal Share	\$ 4,204,258
State Share	\$ 0
Local Share	\$ 7,231,361
Total	\$ 11,435,619

Sioux Falls 3-46-0050-072-2026

AIP: Phase 7 – Expand terminal building

Federal Share	\$ 12,219,083
State Share	\$ 0
Local Share	\$ 2,633,515
Total	\$ 14,852,598

Sioux Falls 3-46-0050-073-2026

AIP: Acquire and Install Vehicle Movement Area Transponders (VMATs)

Federal Share	\$ 80,154
State Share	\$ 0
Local Share	\$ 8,906
Total	\$ 89,060

Sioux Falls 3-46-0050-074-2026

AIP: Phase 8 – Expand Terminal Building

Federal Share	\$ 5,000,000
State Share	\$ 0
Local Share	\$ 0
Total	\$ 5,000,000

Sioux Falls 3-46-0050-075-2026

AIP/Supplemental: Phase 9 – Expand terminal building

Federal Share	\$ 17,780,917
State Share	\$ 0
Local Share	\$ 0
Total	\$ 17,780,917

A MOTION WAS MADE by Coleman and seconded by Howard to approve the projects as presented by the Department. All voted aye by roll call vote. The motion carried.

Jack Dokken, Program Manager of the Office of Air, Rail, and Transit, presented to the Commission for its consideration a request from the City of Gettysburg for the use of City's available aviation fuel tax funds in the amount of \$2,273.90 towards the repair of its Constant Current Regulator. The repair will return the runway lighting system back to proper lighting capacity. The current balance in the City's fuel tax account is \$2,401.33.

A MOTION WAS MADE by Venner and seconded by Johnson to approve the \$2,273.90 funding request by the City of Gettysburg. All present voted aye by roll call vote. The motion carried.

With no further business to come before the Commission, Chairman Huggins declared the meeting adjourned at 2:54 p.m. CT.