

# **SOUTH DAKOTA AERONAUTICS COMMISSION MEETING**

**Thursday, September 18, 2025, at 2:00 p.m. CT**

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

## **COMMISSIONERS PRESENT**

**VIA CONFERENCE CALL:** Bob Huggins, Chairman  
Dustin Coleman  
David Howard  
Rolf Johnson

**DOT STAFF PRESENT:** Joel Jundt, Kellie Beck, Jon Becker, Tom Koch, Nancy Hiller, Brock Antijunti and Kari Kroll

## **DOT STAFF PRESENT**

**VIA CONFERENCE CALL:** Dustin DeBoer

## **OTHERS PRESENT**

**VIA CONFERENCE CALL:** Brooke Edgar – Helms & Associates and Charlie Baker - KLJ

Chairman 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.

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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.

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Huggins asked for a motion to re-approve the July 17, 2025 Commission meeting minutes.

Kari Kroll, Office of the Secretary, shared the two errors needing correction found in the minutes after the original approval by the Commission.

- Under the approval of the previous minutes, the approval was intended for the June 12, 2025 minutes and not the May 15, 2025 minutes as originally noted.
- Under the Airport Improvement Program (AIP) and Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) grant applications, the last project listed for Sioux Falls Regional Airport should have read IIJA, not BIL (Bipartisan Infrastructure Law) as the type of grant.

A MOTION WAS MADE by Johnson and seconded by Howard to re-approve the July 17, 2025 Commission meeting minutes with the two edits as described above. All present voted aye by roll call vote. The motion carried.

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Huggins asked for a motion to approve the August 21, 2025 Commission meeting minutes.

Commissioner Dustin Coleman noted a typo; it was an extra “)” on the last IJA project in Aberdeen list of projects. He asked it to be removed.

A MOTION WAS MADE by Johnson and seconded by Coleman to approve the August 21, 2025 Commission meeting minutes with the edits as described above. All present voted aye by roll call vote. The motion carried.

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Huggins led a discussion about tall structures exceeding Part 77 requirements, in particular wind turbines. Huggins asked the Commission to consider making comments when there was enough time given in for a public comment or allow him to comment on behalf of the Commission if there was not.

Dustin DeBoer, Office of Legal Counsel, addressed the Chairman’s Huggins request. He shared that any official comments or position on a tall structure issue made by the Commission would need to be approved by the Commission after considering any issues at a meeting. DeBoer offered the legal office’s assistance if any Commissioner wished to provide individual, private input, separate from the Commission’s position, on a tall structure issue to ensure obligations as a Commissioner are not violated.

No action was taken as this has been the standard protocol. All Commissioners agreed to continue with this standard and that this discussion goes on record.

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Huggins opened the floor to public comment.

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

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Secretary Joel Jundt shared with the Commission he had nothing significant to present as the Secretary’s Report. He informed the Commission there has been no developments on the status of the annual Federal appropriation bill and informed the Commission he expected a continuing resolution to be signed to continue funding if an appropriation bill is not passed by September 30, 2025.

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Jundt then asked that the informational item regarding the Aeronautic Fund be deferred to a future meeting. He felt the Department of Transportation (the “Department”) could be more confident in the future project funding from the Federal Aviation Administration.

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Jundt addressed the Commission regarding the 2026 Airport Conference that will take place in Pierre in April of 2026. He asked commissioners to share if they were interested in attending to ensure no violations of any Open Meeting Laws. Chairman Huggins, Vice-chairman Rolf Johnson, and Commissioner David Howard shared they were interested in attending. The three of them attending will not make a quorum so no Open Meeting Laws will be violated by attendance.

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Jon Becker, Office of Air, Rail, & Transit, presented for Commission's consideration the following Airport Improvement Program (AIP) and Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) grant applications:

**Chamberlain 3-46-0071-018-2025**

**IIJA:** Phase 4 construction terminal parking lot, drainage improvements, fence, AWOS antenna relocation.

Federal Share	\$ 83,435.00
State Share	\$ 2,196.00
Local Share	\$ 2,196.00
Total	\$ 87,826.00

**Mitchell 3-46-0037-034-2025**

**AIP:** Phase 1 design shift runway 18/36.

Federal Share	\$ 299,250.00
State Share	\$ 7,875.00
Local Share	\$ 7,875.00
Total	\$ 315,000.00

**Pierre 3-46-0044-052-2025**

**IIJA:** Phase 1 design construct parallel taxiway C, MITL and crack seal twy B.

Federal Share	\$ 537,035.00
State Share	\$ 14,133.00
Local Share	\$ 14,132.00
Total	\$ 565,300.00

**Rosebud 3-46-0082-021-2025**

**AIP:** Phase 2 construction of hangar taxilane extension (200'x35').

Federal Share	\$ 413,250.00
State Share	\$ 10,875.00
Local Share	\$ 10,875.00
Total	\$ 435,000.00

**State of SD 3-46-4600-031-2025**

**AIP:** Statewide pavement maintenance at multiple airports.

Federal Share	\$ 838,095.00
State Share	\$ 22,055.00
Local Share	\$ 22,056.00
Total	\$ 882,206.00

**Sturgis 3-46-0054-023-2025**

**IJA/SB144:** Reconstruct GA terminal building including interior, expansion of pilot briefing area and two restrooms. SB144 funds were approved July 18, 2024 for \$210,000.

Federal Share	\$ 258,360.00
State Share	\$ SB144
Local Share	\$ 6,799.00
Total	\$ 271,958.00

**Sturgis 3-46-0054-025-2025**

**AIP** Construct parallel taxiway, phase 2 construct 1131' of taxiway – design, construct, engineering.

Federal Share	\$ 1,100,000.00
State Share	\$ 28,948.00
Local Share	\$ 28,948.00
Total	\$ 1,157,896.00

A MOTION WAS MADE by Howard and seconded by Johnson to approve all the above AIP and IJA grant applications. All present voted aye by roll call vote. The motion carried.

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Jon Becker addressed the Commission to request reimbursement from the Spearfish/Black Hills Airport for the 25% local match for the installation of their aviation weather camera in the form of their fuel tax in the amount of \$3,603.24.

A MOTION WAS MADE by Coleman and seconded by Howard to approve the reimbursement of \$3,603.24 to Spearfish/Black Hills Airport from their fuel tax fund. All present voted aye by roll call vote. The motion carried.

Becker then shared with the commission for their information 5 additional letters of interest in participating from the City of Sisseton, the City of Wagner, the City of Yankton, the City of Gregory, and Aberdeen Regional Airport. This item was noted as an item for consideration on the agenda, but it was intended to be informational only at this point as the financial details are still developing.

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Tom Koch, Office of Air, Rail, & Transit, presented to the Commission for their consideration a request to publish 3000 copies of the 2026-2028 South Dakota Airport Directory. Forum Communications was the lowest quote. The request is to enter into an agreement with Forum plus an additional \$1000 to cover any extra charges for a total of \$13,652.11

A MOTION WAS MADE by Johnson and seconded by Coleman to approve the Department to enter into agreement with Forum Communications to publish the directory at their quote of \$12,652.11 as well as an extra \$1000 for any additional charges that may arise for a total of \$13,652.11. All present voted aye by roll call vote. The motion carried.

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With no further business to come before the Commission, Chairman Huggins adjourned the meeting at 2:51 p.m. CT.