Joplin Regional Airport
602 S Main Street
Joplin, Missouri 64801
417-623-0262

CALL TO ORDER

The Airport Board met in the Administrative Conference Room at the Joplin Regional Airport Commercial Terminal on February 12, 2026. The meeting was called to order by Mr. Jones at 7:00 A.M.

ROLL CALL

A. Board Members
   a. Brian Jones
   b. Tom Christensen
   c. Brett LaForest
   d. Joshua Oathout
   e. Tom Robertson
   f. Kris Zibert

B. Staff
   a. Airport Manager – Allison Zahner
   b. Operations Supervisor – James McBryde
   c. Administrative Assistant – Cristy Short
   d. Public Works Assistant Director – Jeremy Hagerman
   e. Airport Police - Brent Williams

C. Other
   a. Freedom of Flight Museum – Darryl Coit
   b. Freedom of Flight Museum – David Glenn

MINUTES

Mr. Jones moved to approve minutes from the January board meeting. This motion was seconded by Mr. Zibert, and unanimously approved.

MEETING

Mr. Jones opened discussion by inquiring about the recent FAA Part 139 inspection. Ms. Zahner reported that the inspection took place on January 21–22. At the time of the meeting, the FAA was continuing its review of inspection materials, and the airport had not yet received the out-brief, findings, or any corrective action recommendations.

Ms. Zahner presented an update on the Passenger Boarding Bridge (PBB) Project, which will replace two passenger boarding bridges at Joplin Regional Airport. She noted that Wright Construction Services is the contractor for the project and reviewed the estimated project timeline and funding sources. The contract requires completion within 340 days of the issuance of the Notice to Proceed, placing the anticipated completion in winter 2026. The project is funded through federal grant support covering 95% of the total cost.

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Ms. Zahner presented a summary of another Capital Improvement Project running concurrently with the PBB Project, the North Perimeter Road Project. Perimeter roads are important for conducting required daily perimeter inspections and maintaining reliable access around the airfield. This maintenance project will address areas along the north road that have washed out and are difficult to traverse with certain vehicles. These conditions place additional stress on existing airport vehicles and create challenges for wildlife management and other activities. The project consultant, CMT has been on-site to survey the surrounding areas and will complete the design and bidding, with construction anticipated in 2026. The project is also funded at 95% through federal grant support.

Ms. Zahner presented the monthly traffic report. The January summary included itinerant IFR, itinerant VFR, local, and jet operations, as well as enplaned passengers and overall load factor of 51%. Notably lower than the peak holiday passenger counts. An overview of Commercial flight delays and cancelations was also available. This included breakdown rationale provided by SkyWest for each occurrence. Mr. Zibert requested additional clarity on the "Maintenance/Fuel" category. Mrs. Short will delineate that category on future reporting.

Mr. Jones opened the floor for Mr. Darryl Coit with the Freedom of Flight Museum. Mr. Coit had several topics and detailed each area of involvement for the following:

A. MOSO/CAPS program – Highlights include activities that provide involvement for project overview. Program starts March 23. Mr. Jones added this is a great program with a science to jobs philosophy. Mr. Oathout noted that a project showing start to finish could shape future programs.
B. Volunteer Appreciation event (April 16, 2026) – plans for an upcoming volunteer appreciation event to keep volunteer enthusiasm and for help in volunteer recruitment and seeking donors.
C. T-33 progress – Expected completion and display during the volunteer event with a chamber ribbon Cutting, with an event date to be announced.
D. Wings and Wheels (Oct 3, 2026) – Planning for the event has begun. Assistance is requested in helping spread the word to local car enthusiasts and pilots. Exhibits are needed and volunteers are welcome. The 2025 event drew approximately 3,000 attendees and provided strong visibility for the museum as well as fundraising support. Efforts are also underway to attract additional aircraft for display and assist with associated costs. Mr. Jones commented on expenses that could be funded by local sponsorship.
E. 5k Run on the Runway – Reigniting interest and reaching out to local groups for support in bringing this event back and partnering with local road Runner groups.
F. EAA Chapter – Effort underway to reestablish a local chapter. Reviving this association, which has been inactive in the area for over 10 years, will help support and guide future airshow planning and engagement with officer

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candidates. Mr. Jones suggested reaching out to local Rotary clubs and other community organizations for support.

G. Iowa bus tour – Reaching outside the state lines to increase awareness and opportunity as visitors are passing through from Iowa to Texas.
H. Upcoming field trips – FOFM supports 100's of students on a monthly basis.
I. Leadership change – Mr. Darryl Coit is planning to step down as FOFM president at the end of 2026. Board members will begin a search for replacement to ease the transition as Mr. Coit and his wife, Darlene step away from active leadership.

Mr. Jones recognized Mr. Coit for his significant contributions and dedicated leadership, noting the strong legacy he has established and that his role will be challenging to fill.

Mr. Coit introduced David Glenn as a new member of the FOFM board. Mr. Glenn is excited about the T-33 project and would like to understand more about the regulatory agencies and rules of corporate hangar ownership. Mr. Jones noted that there are regulatory agencies that drive the rules for competitive rates. Mr. Zibert relayed direct FAA regulatory ruling to support the discussion.

Ms. Zahner introduced the next discussion item, "Future of JLN." Mr. Jones emphasized that strategic planning is critical to addressing community needs and suggested that each board member provide input on key priorities. The Board engaged in a substantive discussion covering several themes, including leveraging the airport's masterplan to guide initiatives, the importance of STEM education through FOFM to attract technical talent, airline access, enplanements, and destinations to encourage travel, opportunities to engage airlines and consultants for expanded services, growth of airport functions, communication and liaison with City Council, business awareness, educational outreach to attract students, and the role of drones and drone operators in future airport operations and public education. The Board will consider and prioritize these goals for a future roundtable discussion.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Oathout motioned to adjourn. This was seconded by Mr. Zibert, and the motion carried unanimously at 8:06 A.M.

Brian Jones, Chairman

Cristy Short, Administrative Assistant