

Posted: October 10, 2025, 3:00 pm



Airport & Transportation Commission

Open Meeting Agenda

October 14, 2025, 12:00 - 1:00 PM

Kirksville Aquatic Center Meeting Room, 801 E. Mill

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## **Call Meeting to Order**

## **Approval of Agenda**

## **Approval of Minutes - September 9, 2025**

## **Activity Reports**

- a. Street Update
- b. Airport Update

## **Old Business**

## **New Business**

## **Citizen Participation**

Members of the public will be permitted to address the commission for up to five minutes for comments or suggestions. Action by the Commission other than acknowledgment is not expected at the same meeting. Repetitive addresses may be limited at the discretion of the Chair.

## **Adjournment**

## **Next Meeting is on November 11, 2025**

**ATC Members – In order to ensure that a quorum is present for this meeting, please contact Billie at 785-3982 to confirm your attendance.**

### Notice of Nondiscrimination

All persons within the City of Kirksville are free and equal and shall be entitled to the following equal use and enjoyment within the city at any place of public accommodation without discrimination or segregation on account of age, ancestry, color, disability, gender, gender identity, marital status, national origin, race, religion, sexual orientation or on any other basis that would be in violation of any applicable federal, state, or local law.

### Notice of Disability Accommodations

Any person with a disability desiring reasonable accommodation to attend this meeting may contact the City Clerk at 660.627.1225 to make such arrangement.

**Airport and Transportation Commission**  
**Tuesday, September 9, 2025**  
**Kirksville Aquatic Center**  
**12:00 PM**

Present: Kirk Rourke, Chade Shorten, Rick Steele, Jeff Romine, Mark Hermann, Pete Detweiler, John Grossnickle via ZOOM and Keith Helseth.

Absent: Jason Hunsicker

Staff: Adam Dorrell, Public Works Director/City Engineer; Jeff LaFountain, Airport Director; Stephen Taylor, Street Superintendent; Rich Morrow, Deputy Public Works Director; Austin Miller, Communication Director; Billie Linhart, Staff Support.

**Call Meeting to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 12:07 pm by Chair, Chade Shorten.

**Approval of Agenda**

Chair asked for a motion to approve the order of agenda. Keith Helseth made a motion to approve the agenda and Mark Hermann seconded. The motion carried by the following vote: Mark Hermann - aye, Keith Helseth – aye, Kirk Rourke – aye, Rick Steele – aye, John Grossnickle – aye via ZOOM, Pete Detweiler – aye, Chade Shorten – aye, Jason Hunsicker – absent and Jeff Romine – aye.

**Approval of Minutes**

Chair asked for a motion to approve the August 12, 2025 minutes. Jeff Romine made a motion to approve the meeting minutes and Kirk Rourke seconded. The motion carried by the following vote: Mark Hermann - aye, Keith Helseth – aye, Kirk Rourke – aye, Rick Steele – aye, John Grossnickle – aye via ZOOM, Pete Detweiler – aye, Chade Shorten – aye, Jason Hunsicker – absent and Jeff Romine – aye.

**Street Activity Report**

Adam Dorrell reviewed street update: The 2025 street construction program is continuing to move ahead. W.L. Miller has completed the most of their work, with just a bit of clean-up to finish. This was the first year of the new practice of “edge milling” of existing concrete streets. This was done in College Park, Weatherstone, Kellwood, and Kings Ridge Subdivision. This was a new practice for W.L. Miller and they did a great job with the milling and overlay. We will be evaluating pavement conditions over the next year to see if any adjustments are needed. There was a brief discussion on edge milling method and hoping there will be an advantage for improved drainage, as well as separation cracks and how they are formed. The full depth reconstruction program is about half completed. Porter, Bradford, and Stacy have new curb and gutter and the asphalt base lifts complete. Pavement removal on Franklin is planned to begin this week and base course paving will take place next week sometime. Once this work is done the final surface asphalt will be placed on all of the reconstructed streets. Stanton Construction is beginning the full depth concrete patching on East Porter this week. This work is expected to take approximately 2 weeks. Following that work he will be moving to North New Street then on to Quail and Pheasant. Franklin is about 1,300 feet total. This work is planned to be completed by the end of October. Adam Dorrell stated there has been some concerns during construction and we are trying to find a balance. There was a brief discussion on ways to try to help make it safer during street closures for contractors as well as residents. Planning continues for 2026 with the program being similar to this year and should be coming to the ATC with a draft plan for consideration in next couple months. Rick Steele stated that he had a call from a business on North Franklin that was very happy they were able to keep the business open during construction. Adam Dorrell stated that the TEAP sidewalk application has been submitted and awaiting decision.

## **Airport Activity Report**

Jeff LaFountain reviewed airport update: Airport staff is working on a full field knockdown in preparation for winter; to possibly only hit the areas we mow every week one more time before the season ends to aid in our wildlife activities in the winter. We are also working on our ARFF training in preparation for our annual live fire training in Columbia, Missouri, on November 5th. Reviewed the airline passenger numbers and Contour numbers over the years showing ridership has increased. There was a brief discussion on the 9-passenger plane numbers verses the 30-passenger plane. Jeff LaFountain stated that next year will be the beginning discussion for the essential air service contract. Waiting on the work for the stairs and ramp of the terminal. We have not gone vertical yet due to lead times on structural steel, but it has not slowed progress on the completion date of the end of May 2026. We look for the structural steel to arrive on site sometime in the next week or so. There was a brief discussion on World Cup in Kansas City next year and the impact it may have for the air service here. John Grossnickle inquired if Contour felt positive on the passenger count at this point. Jeff LaFountain stated yes and that the numbers for 2025 should be higher than 2024, not seen any decreases. The City and Contour are doing TV and radio advertising and hoping to do an airport appreciation day next year after the new terminal is open. There was a brief discussion on passenger numbers and major events where spikes tend to be higher and times of the year where numbers are lower. Pete Detweiler inquired is there was an average delay time. Jeff LaFountain stated no, that it varies based on the circumstances. There was a brief discussion on all across the board airline issues that cause delays and the difference between using the train and air service.

Adam reviewed Kirk-Tran Update: This past spring, OATS Inc. placed two, new buses into service for Kirk-Tran. The updated buses have been a positive development for our ridership. Unfortunately, there were also additional expenses associated with this upgrade, as it was necessary to remove the Kirk-Tran branding and paid advertising from the buses that had been used previously. This logo removal was paid for by the City's Kirk-Tran fund in order to eliminate any confusion that these buses would be used elsewhere or for different purposes. Austin Miller created an updated logo for Kirk-Tran during this past year, which was used to rebrand the new buses put in service for the Kirk-Tran route. Due to the increase in pricing, both current business that had advertising on buses opted for a smaller ad on the new Kirk-Tran buses to stay within their existing budget. Adair County Health Department began advertising with Kirk-Tran and the Braun Home is also interested in advertising with Kirk-Tran. This is all before any type of public information campaign has been launched regarding advertising options: clearly, the newly-branded buses have attracted attention. As an aside, KTVO also advertises with Kirk-Tran. Their ads are provided through a trade agreement where Kirk-Tran receives television advertisements in exchange for ads on the side of the Kirk-Tran buses. Additional marketing efforts include a new brochure to promote Kirk-Tran at various events where the city has been invited to and social media post presence. Reviewed the fixed route plan and changes to the schedule. Going to do some advertising to be able to look at if making changes to the routes based on feedback and bus usage may be needed. Austin Miller stated that there are two different bus services, one is fixed route and the other is scheduled pick-up and drop off to certain places.

Shade Shorten stated that there are some nice updates to the area which makes the community more attractive. Jeff Romine stated that he would like to see more discussion on sidewalks in the Commission and questioned if there is a demand to meet during the winter months. Adam Dorrell stated that he appreciates Austin getting information out in the public to keep the community informed.

## **Old Business**

None

## **New Business**

### **Adjournment**

With no further business to conduct Jeff Romine made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Keith Helseth seconded the motion at 12:57 pm. The motion carried by the following vote: Mark Hermann - aye, Keith Helseth – aye, Kirk Rourke – aye, Rick Steele – aye, John Grossnickle – aye via ZOOM, Pete Detweiler – aye, Chade Shorten – aye, Jason Hunsicker – absent and Jeff Romine – aye.

Submitted By: Billie Linhart

# Memo

**Date:** 10/14/2025  
**To:** Airport Update  
**From:** Jeffery LaFountain  
**Subject:** Airport Update

**Airport update:** Airport staff is still working on a full field knockdown in preparation for winter; the grass just won't quit; to possibly only hit the areas we mow every week one more time before the season ends to aid in our wildlife activities in the winter. We are also working on our ARFF training in preparation for our annual live fire training in Columbia, Missouri, on November 5<sup>th</sup>.

## Airline update:

### September Contour Flight Numbers

Total Flights= 104  
On time = 65 (63%)  
Delayed = 39 (37%)  
Canceled = 0 (0%)  
Total passengers = 923  
Total Enplanements = 470  
Total Enplanements for 2025 = 3,833  
We are 6,167 away from our 10,000 enplanements goal  
Delays because of Kirksville = 2  
Delays because of Chicago = 37  
Total Delays = 39

\*\*\*\*\* out of the 39 delays, 37 were due to Chicago. With 2 starting in Kirksville

**Terminal Update:** Structural steel has finally arrived and as of 10/6 we have started going vertical. Progress has been made in our lower-level parking lot as means to stay on task while we waited for the steel to arrive. We are still on track as of now for end of May the building being complete and July of 26 the end of the project.

