

**ERIE REGIONAL AIRPORT AUTHORITY
MEETING
Wednesday, January 28, 2026**

Minutes of a Meeting of the Erie Regional Airport Authority duly posted and advertised, held in the second floor conference room of the Intermodal Center, 208 East Bayfront Parkway, Erie, PA 16507.

Attendees:

Brian Slawin	Derek Martin	Keith Walach, Citizen of Erie
Ryan Bergquist	Michelle Magee	Ed Brzezinski, Erie City Council
Erin Kerner	James Pacansky	
Peter Burton	Ian Bogle	
Kevin Smith	Jennifer Gornall	

Via call: Eric Rogers A'Darius Porter Dorothy Smith-Frazier

Board President Brian Slawin opened the meeting at 12:01 PM with the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States of America.

Approval of Agenda

Mr. Slawin asked for a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Erin Kerner moved, and Peter Burton seconded. Approved by Yeas: Erin Kerner, Kevin Smith, A'Darius Porter, Peter Burton, Brian Slawin, Eric Rogers, Dorothy Smith-Frazier and Ryan Bergquist.

Public Comments- Keith Walach, citizen of Erie, stated he is very pleased with the announcement of Chicago service on both American and United. He expressed concern as to whether or not Erie can support 4 flights daily to Chicago. He asked if our efforts on the small community air service development (SCASD) grant are now null and void. He said he hopes Erie is not a pawn between American and United for a Chicago hub.

2026 Slate of Officers- Brian Slawin read the proposed 2026 slate of officers as prepared by the Nominating Committee and previously presented to the Board. President- Brian Slawin, Vice President Erin Kerner, President Pro Tem Aaron Susmarski, Treasurer Ryan Bergquist, and Secretary Peter Burton. Mr. Slawin asked for nominations from the floor. Hearing none, Mr. Slawin asked for a motion to approve the 2026 slate of officers as presented. Peter Burton made the motion and Ryan Bergquist seconded. Approved by Yeas: Erin Kerner, Kevin Smith, A'Darius Porter, Peter Burton, Eric Rogers, Brian Slawin, Dorothy Smith-Frazier, and Ryan Bergquist.

Approval of Minutes

December 17, 2025, Board Meeting Minutes

Erin Kerner moved to approve, and Peter Burton seconded. Approved by Yeas: Erin Kerner, Kevin Smith, A'Darius Porter, Peter Burton, Eric Rogers, Brian Slawin, Dorothy Smith-Frazier, and Ryan Bergquist.

Announce Executive Session- none.

Committee Reports

Finance Committee- Ryan Bergquist stated that the Finance Committee reviewed the November and December financials and recommended approval of the bills. Peter Burton made the motion for approval; seconded by Kevin Smith. Approved by Yeas: Erin Kerner, Kevin Smith, A'Darius Porter, Peter Burton, Eric Rogers, Brian Slawin, Dorothy Smith-Frazier, and Ryan Bergquist. Mr. Bergquist added that the Authority's cash position remains strong and the additional service on United and American is great for the airport.

Financial Report- Mr. Pacansky stated the November and December reports were reviewed at yesterday's meeting. He reviewed the December report as it includes year end. The net deficit after interest income for December was \$204,000, bringing the year to date deficit after interest income to \$1.25 million.

Unfinished Business- none.

Resolutions

RESOLUTION 2026-01

APPROVAL OF LEASE FOR FAA SSC

WHEREAS, the Federal Aviation Administration ("FAA") and the Erie Regional Airport Authority ("Authority") wish to enter into supplemental agreement no.2 to FAA contract no. DTFAEN-13-L-00197 FAA SSC Office, NOAA Building for \$100,195.20 per annum (\$8,349.60 monthly) for an additional 5 year period, January 1, 2023 through September 30, 2029. The previous agreement expired December 31, 2022 with negotiations ongoing since then.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED, that the Executive Director is authorized to execute the supplemental agreement for the FAA SSC office.

Erin Kerner made the motion and Ryan Bergquist seconded. Approved by Yeas: Erin Kerner, Kevin Smith, A'Darius Porter, Peter Burton, Eric Rogers, Brian Slawin, Dorothy Smith-Frazier, and Ryan Bergquist.

RESOLUTION 2026-02

APPROVAL OF EXTENSION OF AIRPORT LEASE AND CONCESSION AGREEMENT WITH TAILWIND ERI, LLC

WHEREAS, the Erie Regional Airport Authority ("ERAA") operates the Erie International Airport ("ERI"); and

WHEREAS, on July 16, 2019, ERAA entered into an "Airport Facilities Lease and Concession Agreement" ("Agreement") with Tailwind ERI, LLC ("Tailwind") for Tailwind's operation of a food and beverage service at ERI for an initial term of five (5) years, ending on June 30, 2024; and

WHEREAS, due to hardships associated with COVID-19, the Federal Aviation Administration authorized ERAA and Tailwind (collectively referred to as "the Parties") to extend the original Agreement for an additional two (2) years, to June 30, 2026 to allow Tailwind the opportunity to recoup losses associated with loss of service at ERI due to the pandemic; and

WHEREAS, Section 5.2 of the original Agreement provides the Parties the option to renew the Agreement for an additional five (5) year term, which option to renew may incorporate changes to the Agreement as mutually agreed to by the Parties; and

WHEREAS, the Parties wish to extend the term of the Agreement for an additional five (5) year term, from July 1, 2026 through June 30, 2031 and also to revise the financial terms of the Agreement to provide for a Minimum Annual Guarantee of \$30,000 per year and a percentage rent of 12% of gross revenues; and

WHEREAS, the Parties drafted an "Extension of Airport Facilities Lease and Concession Agreement" to incorporate these agreed upon changes to the Agreement.

AND NOW, THEREFORE, on this 28th day of January 2026, it is hereby RESOLVED by the Board of Directors of the Erie Regional Airport Authority, the following:

1. That the Extension of Airport Facilities Lease and Concession Agreement between the Erie Regional Airport Authority and Tailwind ERI, LLC, said Extension Agreement incorporated into this Resolution as if fully set forth herein, is hereby APPROVED.
2. That Derek Martin, Executive Director, is authorized to execute the Extension Agreement on behalf of the Authority.

Brian Slawin made the motion and Kevin Smith seconded. Approved by Yeas: Kevin Smith, A'Darius Porter, Peter Burton, Eric Rogers, Brian Slawin, Dorothy Smith-Frazier, Ryan Bergquist, and Erin Kerner.

New Business- none.

Liaison Comments- Erie City Council liaison Ron Brzezinski greeted the group and stated he is happy to be the liaison.

Board Member Comments- Ms. Smith-Frazier said she received communication recently from a citizen asking about the difference in ticket prices between Erie,

Pittsburgh, Cleveland and Buffalo. Mr. Slawin explained how our cost per enplaned passenger (CPE) continues to decrease. Mr. Martin explained factors that affect airline pricing.

Mr. Burton commented that with the construction on the Bayfront, perhaps we can revisit options for a new location for our meetings. Mr. Burton welcomed his lifelong friend Kevin Smith to the Board. He added that County Council is aware of his interest to be reappointed. Mr. Burton plans to attend meetings until he is replaced or reappointed whichever it may be.

Mr. Slawin reiterated the roles of Board Members: fiscal responsibility and fiduciary oversight, governance and policy decision making, community voice and advocacy, and be prepared for meetings. Mr. Slawin stated that the Executive Director is responsible for public relations/marketing, air service development, grant opportunities, airport operations, and facilities. Inquiries from the public should be directed to the Executive Director.

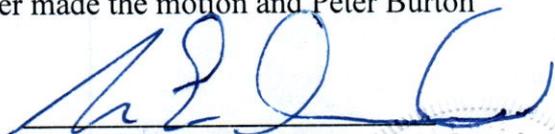
Mr. Slawin asked Mr. Martin and Ms. Magee to work with Ms. Kerner to draft 3 key points that board members can use when speaking with the community.

Executive Director's Report

Mr. Martin reported the following:

- There will be an Executive Session to discuss leased property following today's public meeting.
- Mr. Martin worked with the restaurant concessionaire Tailwinds and the local owner of Bee Free Bars for an opportunity for Bee Free Bars to sell in the restaurant. They are now in all airports where Tailwinds operates across the country.
- The challenges non-hub airports face specifically in regard to securing and maintaining air service.
- With a community grant recently passed by the House, we will have \$1 million to acquire a new ARFF truck. We worked through Congressman Kelly's office for this funding.
- With the United and American announcements for service to Chicago, we can no longer justify that we are underserved in that market through the small community air service development grant (SCASD) so we will no longer be pursuing it.
- Scope clause was explained again and reminded everyone to use the service we have!
- We have hired two new custodians to fill vacant positions. We may also have a need for a new Airfield Operations employee.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:05 PM. Erin Kerner made the motion and Peter Burton seconded.


~~Peter Burton, Secretary~~
Aaron Susmarska
President Pro Tem

