

**ERIE REGIONAL AIRPORT AUTHORITY**  
**MEETING**  
**Wednesday, March 25, 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   | Peter Burton, former Board Member |
| Erin Kerner     | James Pacansky   |                                   |
| A'Darius Porter | Jennifer Gornall |                                   |
| Kevin Smith     |                  |                                   |
| Benjamin Wilson |                  |                                   |

Via phone: Eric Rogers      Aaron Susmarski

Board President Brian Slawin opened the meeting at 12:00 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. A'Darius Porter moved, and Ryan Bergquist seconded. Approved by Yeas: Erin Kerner, Aaron Susmarsli, Kevin Smith, A'Darius Porter, Benjamin Wilson, Brian Slawin, Eric Rogers, and Ryan Bergquist.

Mr. Slawin asked new Board Members Kevin Smith and Benjamin to share a bit about themselves.

**Public Comments-** Keith Walach, citizen of Erie, congratulated the Airport on the new Breeze Thru service to Fort Lauderdale on Breeze. He asked if the FAA's limit on Chicago flights will impact the American and United service from Erie to Chicago. Mr. Walach commented that Representative Merski could co-sponsor the Air Act bill with Senator Laughlin. The national news reported that the Transportation Secretary may remove TSA from smaller airports and close those airports.

Former Board Member Peter Burton stated he was honored to serve on the Airport Board. Mr. Burton thanked Mr. Martin for his guidance, industry knowledge, and friendship. Mr. Burton thanked Michelle Magee for her work with the Board and James Pacansky for the knowledge he brings. He added that James Pacansky should be strongly considered for Executive Director when Derek retires. Mr. Burton also complimented Chief Ian Bogle for his overall knowledge of the airport and IT issues. He represents the airport well! Mr. Slawin thanked Mr. Burton for his contributions to the Airport as a valuable Board Member.

**Nominations from the Floor for Secretary-** Dr. Porter nominated himself for the position of Secretary, left vacant by Peter Burton's non reappointment to the Board. Hearing no other nominations from the floor, Brian Slawin made a motion to elect A'Darius Porter for Secretary and Kevin Smith seconded. Approved by Yeas: Erin Kerner, Aaron Susmarsli, Kevin Smith, A'Darius Porter, Benjamin Wilson, Brian Slawin, Eric Rogers, and Ryan Bergquist.

### **Approval of Minutes**

#### **February 25, 2026, Board Meeting Minutes**

Dr. Porter noted that he attended the February meeting in person not via phone as indicated in the minutes. Ryan Bergquist moved to approve as amended, and Kevin Smith seconded. Approved by Yeas: Erin Kerner, Aaron Susmarski, Kevin Smith, A'Darius Porter, Benjamin Wilson, Eric Rogers, Brian Slawin, and Ryan Bergquist.

**Announce Executive Session-** none

### **Committee Reports**

Finance Committee- Ryan Bergquist stated that the Finance Committee held a meeting on March 24, 2026. Capital fund transactions, the bills to be paid, and the expense reports were reviewed. Mr. Bergquist added that we are very close to where we expected to be and noted that restaurant sales were at an all-time high in February. The Committee recommends the payment of the bills. A'Darius Porter made the motion for approval; seconded by Brian Slawin. Approved by Yeas: Erin Kerner, Aaron Susmarski, Kevin Smith, A'Darius Porter, Benjamin Wilson, Eric Rogers, Brian Slawin, and Ryan Bergquist.

**Financial Report-** Mr. Pacansky reviewed the January and February finance reports. Highlighting the most recent report (February), Mr. Pacansky reported that the net deficit for the month of February after interest income is \$69,855 bringing our year to date deficit to \$263,144.

**Unfinished Business-** none.

**Resolutions-** none

**New Business-** none

**Liaison Comments-** no liaisons were in attendance.

**Board Member Comments-** Mr. Bergquist thanked Mr. Burton for his service to the Board. Mr. Slawin shared a summary of his trip to the Wings Club in New York City where he and Derek met with the President of Breeze.

### **Executive Director's Report**

Mr. Martin reported the following:


- ICE agents cannot do the job of TSA agents in airports.

- Chicago is the only dual hub in the central part of the country, so it is a battle airport. We expect American to sign the airline operating agreement by the next meeting. United is cutting by 5% but it is not expected to affect new service at this time.
- It is highly unlikely that we will see ICE agents working at Erie Airport. We have technology here at ERI at the exit lanes so there would be nothing ICE could do to assist TSA at ERI.
- We are excited about the Breeze Thru service to Fort Lauderdale. This destination is one of the three we most recently pitched to Breeze. Fort Myers and Las Vegas being the other two. We see Fort Lauderdale as a “test run”.
- Our aviation consultant Brad DiFiore recently briefed the Fly Erie Fund Board on industry trends. Some destinations that people want from ERI just are not feasible. There are things like slot controlled airports and scope clauses that people really need to understand. Airlines are not going to “over fly” a hub for example, United is not going to fly over the Chicago hub for a direct flight to Denver.
- In response to a question from board members, Mr. Martin explained that the airport restaurant serves the passengers with access post security. He also explained how airlines purchase fuel 6-12 months ahead of time so current higher fuel prices are not necessarily affecting ticket prices.

Mr. Slawin has asked Mr. Martin to take 5 minutes at each Board Meeting to educate the Board on a different industry topic.

Dr. Wilson thanked Mr. Martin for the introductory meeting yesterday at the airport.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:38 PM. Brian Slawin made the motion and A’Darius Porter seconded.

  
A’Darius Porter, Secretary

