



AIRPORT COMMISSION MEETING

Thursday, February 19, 2026 at 8:00 AM

Owatonna Degner Regional Airport

James Keltgen Commissioner

Greg Krueger Commissioner

Justin Lindee Chairman

Angie Lipelt Commissioner

Paula Snitker Commissioner

Sharon West Commissioner

Matt Thurnau Vice Chairman

Dave Beaver Airport Manager

1. Agenda

1.a. Agenda

2. Call to Order

3. Roll Call

4. Approval of Agenda

5. Approval of Last Meeting Minutes

5.a. January Meeting Minutes

6. Action Items

6.a. Chair Reports

6.b. Staff Reports

6.c. Automated Fueling Card Reader Replacement Project Update

6.d. 2026 Project Updates

6.e. 2026 Farm Land Lease Rates

7. Adjournment



**8:00 AM, Feb. 19, 2026 - Charles S. Crandall Center at City Hall
540 West Hills Circle, Owatonna, MN**

AIRPORT COMMISSION:

Madeleine Haberman	Commissioner
Greg Krueger	Commissioner
Anthony Louris	Vice Chair
Tim McManimon	Commissioner
Dave Purscell	Commissioner
Daren Tarpenning	Commissioner
Matt Thurnau	Chair
Dave Beaver	Airport Manager

AGENDA

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Approval of Agenda
4. Minutes Approval of the Jan. 22, 2026 Airport Commission meeting minutes.
5. Action Items
 - a. Chair Reports
 - b. Staff Reports
 - c. Automated Fueling Card Reader Replacement Project Update
 - d. 2026 Project Updates
 - e. 2026 Farm Land Lease Rates
6. Adjournment

AIRPORT COMMISSION MEMBERS RSVP, IF YOU WILL NOT BE ATTENDING (774-7141)

Airport Commission Meeting Minutes
January 22, 2026 – Charles S. Crandall Center – Meeting Room, City Hall
“DRAFT”

1. Call to Order

Chair Thurnau called the meeting of the Airport Commission to order at 8:03 am.

2. Roll Call

Commissioners Attending

Matt Thurnau	Chair
Anthony Louris	Vice Chair
Dave Purscell	Commissioner
Daren Tarpenning	Commissioner

Commissioners Absent

Greg Krueger	Commissioner
Tim McManimon	Commissioner
Madeleine Haberman	Commissioner

Staff Attending

Dave Beaver	Airport Manager
Troy Klecker	Community Development Director
Kristen Kopp	Senior Administrative Technician

Visitors Attendings

Melissa Underwood	SEH, Inc.
Jake Jorgenson	SEH, Inc.
Sharon Klein	Exchange Club
Katie Smith	Exchange Club
Dom Korbel	Exchange Club
Corey Madrid	Civil Air Patrol

3. Approval of Agenda

Commissioner Louris made a motion to approve the agenda and Commissioner Tarpenning seconded the motion. All Commissioners voting Aye, the motion carried.

4. Minutes

Commissioner Purscell made a motion to approve the minutes from December 18, 2025, Airport Commission meeting and Commissioner Louris seconded the motion. All Commissioners voting Aye, the motion carried.

5. Action Items

Chair Reports

None

Election of Officers

A motion was made by Commissioner Louris to nominate Matt Thurnau as Chair with a second by Commissioner Purscell. All Commissioners voting Aye, the motion carried.

A motion was made by Commissioner Thurnau to nominate Anthony Louris as Vice Chair with a second by Commissioner Tarpenning. All Commissioners voting Aye, the motion carried.

Staff Reports

Airport Manager Beaver said they've been busy with snow and ice. He passed around a drawing of the final wall mural to go in the main Airport vestibule. He said they hope to have it up by February 12, when there is an open house as part of the city worksite visits for City employees.

Mr. Beaver introduced the members of the Owatonna Exchange Club joining us this morning to discuss the event permit application in the packet. Sharon Klein said that they would like to do a flag field on Airport property from June 11 through June 16 in celebration of the 250th birthday of the USA. She presented an exhibit showing the area of airport property that they would like to use. They did a similar flag field in the proposed location over September 11, 2007. Beaver said that as part of the review process the Airport Commission would be the first to look at it as well as other City Departments that would need to sign off on it and it would then go to City Council for consideration and final approval. He said a potential airport impact would be the concern with the timing of the airport parking lot construction. This project has been awarded and scheduled for spring construction. Jake Jorgenson with SEH said that Ulland Brothers has proposed a start date of May 18 and anticipates four weeks of construction. This has them finishing up on June 12, weather depending. The worst-case scenario would be that the parking lot would not be striped, but it would still likely be usable. Klein said that one of the days there will be a program and that the main stage would be set up near the area of the Federated sign and that the last time they held the event, golf carts were used for transportation. The event involves the placement of 1,000 US Flags. Regarding the flags, Katie Smith said the poles are 8 feet high and positioned 6 feet apart. The flags are full sized at 3 by 5 feet. She said they are easily installed and easily removed. There was some discussion on the number of people. Purscell said it sounds like the presence of the flags is not a big deal, but it would be nice to have the parking lot completed. Louris said that the airport parking lot construction must take priority over the event. Alternate parking and possible shuttles were discussed. Klecker said that they'd need to have a plan if there are more people than expected. Beaver said that they'd have to have the appropriate insurance. Smith said they have it through the National Exchange Club. Klein said there are four exchange clubs that are working on this together. After discussion, a motion was made by Purscell and seconded by Louris to recommend approval of the event permit with the following conditions:

- 1) The Exchange Club must coordinate with the County for impacts, traffic control, and any parking along Frontage Road West.
- 2) The Exchange Club must have a plan for overflow parking.

- 3) The Exchange Club must arrange for Locates for underground services as mandatory before placing flags.

All Commissioners voting Aye, the motion carried.

Owatonna Squadron Civil Air Patrol (CAP) Update

Corey Madrid of Civil Air Patrol gave a review of 2025. He said that they were unable to host the Fly-In Breakfast, but it will be coming back in 2026. The highlight of the year was the opportunity to make history by redesigning the squadron patch. This marks the first field uniform change in 10 years. Regarding the 2026 Fly-In Breakfast, they have partnered with Accelerated Aviation for this event and Accelerated Aviation will help with facilities and to marshal aircraft for the event. The Fly-in Breakfast is planned to be May 17 subject to the submittal of the required Event Permit Application. Jake Jorgenson with SEH said that the parking lot construction project is scheduled to begin the next day on May 18th. Madrid said that they chose to shift the event to the spring. He mentioned reaching out to a car club to stagger and bring in vehicles as a possible added attraction. They are grateful for the continued support of the Airport Commission and the City of Owatonna.

Automated Fueling Card Reader Replacement Project Update

Beaver said there are three proposals for the automated fueling card reader replacement project, which is an approved 2025 CIP project. All three proposed different systems. He said that the IT Department is assisting with the review to determine compatibility and preference of system connectivity and other items such as availability of cloud-based applications as well as functionality for users. He doesn't have a recommendation yet as vendors are still providing clarification on questions. They hope to have the final comparisons, costs, and recommendations available for review at the February meeting.

SEH, Inc., 2026 Project Engineering Scope of Services

Jake Jorgenson gave an overview of the 2026 Projects Engineering Scope of Services. He presented a scope of service for four projects including Runway 5/23 Crack Seal, Airfield Pavement Maintenance, Apron Reconstruction, and a Broom Attachment for the loader. Melissa Underwood said that it is advantageous to submit these projects this year because in 2026, there is still the availability of an extra 5% Federal funding that may expire, so the local and State share for federally eligible projects is down to 2.5%. She said that the projects are heavy on pavement needs and work may move into construction season in 2027 depending on the timing of the grants. Beaver said that regarding the broom, it is anticipated that this will be used primarily in support of snow removal operations for certain types of snow but may also have applications for other types of debris removal. For other existing equipment, he said that they are also looking at the possibility of options for replacing a tractor that was purchased with State funds that is used primarily for mowing and also has a loader bucket. The tractor has had a number of mechanical issues, and it may be advantageous to replace it sooner than planned in 2029. The pavement projects are all planned and included in the Capital Improvement Program (CIP).

A motion was made by Louris and seconded by Tarpenning to recommend approval of the Scope of Engineering Services for 2026 Runway 5-23 Crack Seal. All Commissioners voting Aye, the motion carried.

A motion was made by Louris and seconded by Tarpenning to recommend approval of the Scope of Engineering Services for 2026 Airfield Pavement Maintenance. All Commissioners voting Aye, the motion carried.

A motion was made by Tarpenning and seconded by Purscell to recommend approval of the Scope of Engineering Services for 2026 Apron Reconstruction. All Commissioners voting Aye, the motion carried.

A motion was made by Louris and seconded by Tarpenning to recommend approval of the Scope of Engineering Services for 2026 Broom Attachment for the Loader or Existing Equipment. All Commissioners voting Aye, the motion carried.

6. Adjournment – The meeting was adjourned at 9:10 am.