



AIRPORT ADVISORY COMMISSION

MINUTES

August 20, 2026

3:30 p.m.

Santiam Room, City Hall/VIRTUAL

Approved: September 17, 2026

Call to Order

Chair Mel Huffman called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m.

Roll Call

Members present: Chair Mel Huffman, Chuck Kratch, Debbie Origer, Rodney Moore, Matthew Arck, and Ralph Menweg

Members absent:

Staff present: Transportation Manager Robb Romeo and Administrative Assistant Anita Dodd

Others present: Tony Hann, Yu Takahashi, Brian Deno, and Richard Bobbitt

Approval of July 16, 2026, Minutes

3:31 p.m.

Ralph Menweg moved to approve the July 16, 2026, minutes as amended, Debbie Origer seconded the motion, and the motion passed 5-0. Chuck Kratch arrived after the vote.

Staff Updates

3:34 p.m.

Transportation Manager Robb Romeo reported that recent airfield maintenance and striping were completed with only minor scheduling adjustments, and preparation for the Art and Air Festival is well underway. He noted that several FAA (Federal Aviation Administration) project closeouts are nearly finished, and staff continue to coordinate on upcoming CIP (Capital Improvement Plan) efforts. A storm grate issue near the North Gate remains under observation, and recent flights confirmed excellent visibility of the airfield lighting.

FBO Updates

3:40 p.m.

Yu Takahashi (Taka) reported that all aircraft have returned to Albany, flight training has resumed, and 5,000 gallons of fuel were recently delivered. A promotional fuel discount is planned once runway and fuel system upgrades are complete. He added that the FBO (Fixed Base Operator) is still awaiting approval for its tenant services program.

Tony Hann noted that Albany's airfield maintenance compares favorably to other airports and reported minor bollard damage that will lead to expanded camera coverage. He also confirmed preparations for the Art and Air Festival, including the EAA (Experimental Aircraft Association) supported Young Eagles event.

Business from the Commission

3:45 p.m.

Matthew Arck is exploring potential collaboration with Linn-Benton Community College on an A&P (Airframe and Powerplant) training program. Menweg also described initial outreach to HGTV

regarding possible support for hangar restoration and broader airport improvements, noting that the idea would require review by city staff and legal counsel. No additional items were brought forward.

Public Comment

3:56 p.m.

None

The next regularly scheduled meeting is on Thursday, September 17, 2026.

Hearing no further business, Chair Mel Huffman adjourned the meeting at 3:57 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Reviewed by,

Signature on File

Signature on File

Anita Dodd
Clerk III

Robb Romeo
Transportation Manager

**Documents discussed at the meeting that are not in the agenda packet are archived in the record. The documents are available by emailing cityrecorder@albanyoregon.gov.*