



MINUTES
GLYNN COUNTY AIRPORT COMMISSION
April 21, 2026

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT

ED FARLEY, Chairman
DAVID FURNISH, Vice Chairman
DOUG HUTSON, Secretary-Treasurer
JEFF CULWELL
CEDRIC KING
WAYNE NEAL

STAFF PRESENT

ROBERT BURR
VERNON BESSING
SHAWNA WILLIAMS
TERRA WINSLETT
CRAIG PACE
KATHERINE KISSLING
TIFFANY LANDRY
LEIGH NEWTON
PATRICIA YONCE
ANGELO NORFLEET

LEGAL

HILLARY STRINGFELLOW

TENANTS AND PUBLIC PRESENT

PAM SHIERLING
JERRY LATVALA
BRIAN THOMPSON
MAKAYLA O'BRIEN
STEPHEN FLOYD
FRANK BARTANOWITZ

GRADY FLOYD
MINH NGUYEN
JEFF GRIFFITH
NATHAN BAKER
JESSICA WARD
SHERRI PRUITT

RENN GRUBER
PETER WEIR
JIM WALDRON
RENN GRUBER
KEVIN KNIGHT

The monthly meeting of the Glynn County Airport Commission (GCAC) was held at **9:00 a.m. on Tuesday, April 21, 2026** at the Glynn County Airport Commission Annex, 160 Gary L, Moore Court, St. Simons Island Airport, St. Simons Island, GA 31522.

Call to Order – The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. by Chairman Farley. He welcomed attendees and thanked everyone for coming.

Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance – Chairman Farley gave the invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Accept Agenda – The meeting agenda was sent out to the Airport Commissioners the previous week. Chairman Farley requested any changes to the meeting agenda. None were stated.

**Commissioner Culwell made a motion to accept the agenda.
Commissioner Hutson seconded the motion, and it carried: 4-0.**

Public Comment

Chairman Farley asked for any public comments or requests to speak. None were submitted. He welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Pilot Recognition

Commissioner Culwell and Chairman Farley presented Grady Floyd with an achievement plaque and congratulated him on earning his Private Pilot rating. Training was completed with Makayla O'Brien, High Tide Aviation at the St. Simons Island Airport.

Commissioner Culwell and Chairman Farley also presented Nathan Baker with an achievement plaque and congratulated him on earning his Private Pilot certificate. Training was completed with Peter Weir at High Tide Aviation at the St. Simons Island Airport. The Airport Commissioners congratulated the pilots on their achievements.

Approval of Minutes

Chairman Farley presented the February 24, 2026 Glynn County Airport Commission meeting minutes for approval and asked for any corrections or changes. None were stated.

**Commissioner Culwell made a motion to approve the February 24, 2026 meeting minutes.
Commissioner Neal seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously: 4-0.**

Airport Commission Strategic Plan Update – Shawna Williams explained there are 78 items included in the Strategic Plan. Several components of the strategic plan will be discussed later in the meeting. Overall, 59% of the goals have been completed, 28% are in process, 9% have been deferred and 5% are pending.

Capital Improvement Projects

ARFF Station/County Station 5 "Top Out" Celebration and Media Event – Brunswick Golden Isles Airport

On March 10th Samet Construction sponsored a "Top Out" party. Staff, Airport Commissioners, Glynn County officials, fire fighters and press attended. The contractor is on schedule. Chairman Farley stated that it was an excellent event.

Passenger Terminal Parking Lot Expansion Phase 2 (Project #194) – Brunswick Golden Isles Airport – The Airport Commission received three bids from Eastern Builders, Curb and Gutter Professionals Inc. and Reeves Construction Company. The lowest bidder was not responsive due to state and federal certification issues. The program provides expansion of the terminal passenger vehicle parking area and rehabilitation of existing pavements. The bid includes construction of 3 schedules: C, D, and E. Bid Schedules C and D include the provision of new asphalt pavement on crushed aggregate base, earthwork and subgrade preparation; concrete curbing, sidewalks and curb ramps, painted pavement marking installation and removal; topsoiling and grassing, tree installation and tree relocation, stormwater system improvements, parking lot lighting improvements, roadway pavement marking and parking lot signage improvements. The scope of work for Schedule E includes, but is not limited to, crack sealing, sealcoating, and remarking of existing parking areas. Up to 184 parking spaces will be added under this program. Additionally, Georgia Power is anticipated to extend the existing lighting system to the new areas. This project anticipates FAA federal and state funding.

Recommendation: Award the contract to the most responsive bidder: Curb & Gutter Professionals Inc. of Jesup, in an amount not to exceed \$1,588,408 and authorize the Executive Director to execute all necessary documentation, subject to receipt of grant funding and legal review.

**Commissioner Hutson made a motion to approve the recommendation.
Commissioner Culwell seconded the motion, and it carried: 4-0.**

Skylane Hangar Development Infrastructure Project (220C) - St. Simons Island Update

Bids have been received for this project and are being evaluated. Bids are not ready for recommendation. Proposals for the hangars have been received and are being evaluated for selection.

Safety Project Update (Project 215C) – St. Simons Island Airport

The contract for design of this project has been awarded to RS&H, Inc. Federal and state funding will be allocated for this project.

Capital Budget Amendment #2526-04

This amendment adjusts the capital program to encumber necessary costs to complete the ARFF facility construction project and special engineering services for a contract tower. It increases the airport share of capital expense and decreases capital reserves.

Recommendation: Approve the adjustments to the designated accounts to adjust the capital budget as follows: Adjust the Capital expenditures not to exceed \$227,638. Additionally, authorize the Executive Director to execute the budget amendment, associated Change Orders, and all necessary documentation upon final approval by the Development Authority.

**Commissioner Culwell made a motion to approve the recommendation.
Commissioner Hutson seconded the motion, and it carried: 5-0.**

Property & Marketing – Terra Winslett, C.M. Director of Development

Davis Love III Foundation, Inc. - RSM Classic Golf Tournament – St. Simons Island Airport

The Davis Love Foundation has requested a land use agreement for approximately 11.7 acres at the St. Simons Island Airport for the annual RSM Classic Golf Tournament. Use includes RSM Golf Tournament staging, storage, and transportation hub. Rates will be adjusted annually at 2.5%. The lease term is renewable for 4 years beginning 2026 and ending 2030 during the annual RSM Classic Golf Tournament. Compensation will include cash and airport promotions/marketing.

Recommendation: Approve the Davis Love Foundation land use agreement terms and request the Golden Isles Development Authority approval, subject to legal review, FAA, and GDOT approval.

Commissioner Culwell made a motion to approve the recommendation.

Commissioner Hutson seconded the motion, and it carried: 5-0.

Facilities & Operations – Vernon Bessing Director of Facilities & Operations

JAX Center Communications

Discussions are on-going with Jax Center regarding the radio frequency for St. Simons Island Airport to allow for pilots clearances. Meetings with Jeff Vincent, Southern Regional Administrator of the FAA, have been positive. Craig Pace recently sent a letter to Bruce Williams, an FAA engineer to explain the radio frequency issue between the St. Simons Island Airport and Jax Center. He is awaiting a response regarding a solution.

Hold Room Topsy McFly's "Grab and Go" Food Concession Grand Opening – Brunswick Golden Isles Airport

The Grand Opening of Topsy's "Grab and Go" concession area in the hold room at BQK opened March 21, 2026. It was well attended. Passengers and tenants have all provided very positive feedback. Reports reflect that initial sales are strong.

Temporary Tower Report March 12-20, 2026 - St Simons Island Airport

During the temporary air traffic control tower scheduled service, there were a total of 1,219 operations due to special events taking place at Sea Island. The pilots appreciated the tower during this busy time. Air traffic was well managed.

Tabby House Parking Lot – St. Simons Island Airport

Many improvements have been made to the Tabby House. The most recent upgrade was paving the parking lot. Chairman Farley complimented the work of the staff and appearance of the property.

Chairman's Items

Travel Approval – Chairman Farley to attend the Georgia/South Carolina Legislative Coalition events in Washinton D.C. March 25-26, 2026

Recommendation: Approve travel expenses for Chairman Farley to attend the Georgia/South Carolina Legislative Coalition in Washington D.C. March 25 – 26, 2026.

Commissioner King made a motion to approve the recommendation.

Commissioner Neal seconded the motion, and it carried: 5-0.

Executive Director's Items

Georgia Airports Association Legislative Update – Terra Winslett, Director of Development

House Bill 1434 Airspace Protection has been passed to protect airspace around Georgia airports. In fiscal year 2026 the supplemental budget increased annual Georgia airport funding by \$11 million, bringing the total to \$41 million for airports in Fiscal Year 2026. Efforts continue each year to strengthen funding for Georgia's airports. In the FY 27 main budget, funding increased \$10 million for a total of \$40 million, with conditions associated with ADS-B implementation requiring that projects supported by state funds align with ADS-B standards. Funding may be limited or withheld if an airport does not meet these requirements.

TSA Support – Brunswick Golden Isles Airport – Katherine Kissling explained that although the TSA officers did not receive their regular pay during the government shutdown, they continued to come to work at BQK. Attendance was excellent throughout this time. There were no operational disruptions. Topsy McFly's lunches were provided to the TSA officers by the Airport Commission, Second Harvest delivered food donations to the airport. Okefenokee Electric agreed to make special payment arrangements for TSA employees. Community groups and local citizens called the airport to inquire how they could help support the TSA staff. Many generous community groups and people donated gift cards. Chairman Farley thanked Ms. Kissling for her leadership role in this effort.

Community Presentation– Golden Isles Rotary April 8, 2026

Robert Burr and Katherine Kissling attended the Golden Isles Rotary meeting April 8, 2026. The audience was very engaged and asked many questions about the airports. Sherri Pruitt of the Golden Isles Rotary was in attendance and thanked them for a great and informative presentation. It was very well received by the Rotary members.

Fiscal Year 2026/2027 Budget Update

Staff is currently preparing the budget for fiscal year 2026/2027. It will be presented and finalized at the May meeting.

Activity Report

Enplanement Report – Enplanements are trending upward. March enplanements totaled 5,130.

Flight Reliability Report -Total flights on-time was 72%. Delayed flights totaled 26% due to maintenance, weather and crew. Cancellations were 2%. These numbers are in line with Delta and other airlines. Delta has one of the best records in the industry.

Airport Operations – In March there were 1,894 operations at BQK which is trending higher. Operations at the St. Simons Island Airport were lower in March at 2,603 compared to 3,431 last year.

Rental Cars Report – In February, the rental cars gross receipts were \$261,848.

Parking Lot Capacity – Brunswick Golden Isles Airport – The average number of cars in the BQK parking lot was 264 in March. The maximum capacity is 350. The parking lot expansion project has been approved and the contract for construction has been awarded.

Upcoming Events

- **Glynn County Airport Commission Monthly Meeting – Tuesday, May 19, 2026 – Brunswick Golden Isles Airport**
- **Coastal Georgia Honor Flight – Revised Date: Saturday June 13, 2026 – Brunswick Golden Isles Airport**
- **Woody Woodside Memorial Terminal Dedication & Bust Unveiling – Monday, June 22, 2026 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. – Brunswick Golden Isles Airport**

Executive Session

Discuss possible Real Estate Items as permitted by O.C.G.A §50-14-3(b)(1)(B), Legal Items as permitted by O.C.G.A. § 50-14-2 and Personnel Itmes as permitted by O.C.G.A. §50-14-3(b)(2).

Commissioner Hutson made a motion to enter Executive Session at 9:23 a.m.
Commissioner Culwell seconded the motion, and it carried: 5-0.

Return to Open Session

Commissioner Culwell made a motion to return to Open Session.
Commissioner Furnish seconded the motion, and it carried: 5-0.

Adjournment

Commissioner Hutson made a motion to return to Open Session.
Commissioner Furnish seconded the motion, and it carried: 5-0.

The meeting adjourned at 11:17 a.m.



Ed Farley, Chairman



David Furnish, Vice Chairman



Attest, Katherine Kissling



AFFIDAVIT – CLOSED MEETING

AFFIDAVIT AS REQUIRED UNDER O.C.G.A. §50-14-4(b) (1)

GLYNN COUNTY, GEORGIA

Personally appeared before me the undersigned attesting officer, duly authorized to administer oaths, **Ed Farley** who, after being duly sworn, deposes and, on oath, states the following:

- (1) I was the Chairman of a meeting of the Glynn County Airport Commission meeting held on April 21, 2026.
- (2) The subject matter of the closed portion of the meeting, which was closed for purpose of the discussion of Real Estate matters as allowed under O.C.G.A. §50-14-3(b)(1)(B), Personnel matters as allowed under O.C.G.A. §50-14-3(b)2 and Legal matters as allowed under O.C.G.A. §50-14-2and were devoted to matters within these exceptions as provided by law.
- (3) This affidavit is being executed for the purpose of complying with the mandate of O.C.G.A. §50-14-4(b) (1) that such an affidavit be executed.

This 21st day of April, 2026.

Sworn to and subscribed before me, who is personally known

this 21st day of April, 2026.

Ed Farley, Chairman

Notary Public
My Commission Expires May 29, 2029

NOTARIAL SEAL

