

AIRPORTS COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

May 6, 2026

9:00AM

MEMBERS PRESENT: Jamie Gustafson, Chair, Dalton Anthony, Gary Hahn, Nathan Stock, Greg Jones, Jay Churchill, Brittany Beckstrom

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

GUESTS: John Machemer Deputy Director of DPF – Airports
Brian Bates, Assistant Manager - Airports
Nikki Adams Administrative Asst
Steven Barrett – Airport Operations
Mike Zamborik – Airport Operations
Matt Abbey – Airport Operations
Tara Blauth – Centric Aviation (virtual)
Andrew Hartman – Centric Aviation (virtual)
Brian Chase – Chase Aviation
Matt Newton – Archies Diner
Lisa Jukes – Allan Fuller Flying Scholarship Committee
Mike Kirchoff – Chautauqua Aircraft Sales
Lou Nalbone – Chautauqua Aircraft Sales
Lou Horschel – Chautauqua Aircraft Sales
Gerry Buccheit – Accent Stripe/Baron North G58 LLC
Tom Atwell - guest
Randy Elf - guest

CALL TO ORDER

Meeting called to order at 9:01am by Jamie Gustafson, Chair

APPROVAL OF MARCH MINUTES

Motion made by Dalton Anthony, second by Gary Hahn, none opposed

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

- Lou Nalbone announced that Lou Horschel is now a 100% stakeholder in CAS and Lou no longer holds a stake in it. He introduced Lou to the group as well as Gerry Buccheit who is a stakeholder in Dunkirk (Accent Stripe).
- Gerry discussed his concerns with the under utilization of the DKK airport due to the obstructions at the end of 24. He said there could and would be much more jet traffic if those obstructions were taken care of and said it is truly a hazard/dangerous for any pilots flying into Dunkirk. There has to be a way to get this rectified peacefully and quickly as this has been going on for nearly a decade. Whether it be us talking to the homeowners for that area or exercising our right to eminent domain which he knows no one wants to do. John spoke about this and gave an update on this very project letting everyone know that they only have 1 more easement that they need to have signed. He agrees 100% with Gerry's points and wants to get this taken care of ASAP however, said it's difficult to put a timeline on it realistically with all of the legal steps needed. It is definitely not going to

happen within the next couple of months. He said potentially within the next year it could be rectified.

- Gerry said he is in a good position to help with federal funding from congress all the way up to the president's office if that is what it will take to get this done. He is willing to help, especially now when he has the right connections.
 - Lou Horschel echoes Gerry's concerns and said we need to get it done, it's been going on for way too long. John agreed. Jamie thanked both of them for their attendance and bringing the concerns to the group. He also brought up the instrument approach – not able to be used due it being dangerous as the pilots have to stay high and ultimately possibly overrun the other end of the runway.
 - Lou Nalbone – DKK could be an alternate to JHW. 34/1 is impossible but needed for a straight on approach. They are currently looking at 20/1 which is doable. Gerry echoed what Lou said – DKK could be a great alternate to JHW, especially in the winter months as it is easier to access, etc.....would bring people to CHQ instead of Buffalo or Erie.
 - Jamie thanked both Lou and Gerry for their concerns and agreed that this needs to get taken care of. She gave John kudos as more progress has been made with this project since he came on board than the entire time she's been on the commission. Jay Churchill inquired if there was anything the commission could do to help expedite. Unfortunately, everything has been done that can up to this point other than John being diligent about continuing the open conversation with property owners, getting the easements signed, etc.....he is working daily to push this to the finish line as he, as a pilot himself understands the importance of it.
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- Lisa Jukes – came to introduce herself to the group and talk about the fly-in she is having here at JHW in July. The proceeds from the event will go towards the Alan Fuller Memorial Flying Scholarship. Alan Fuller is the pilot who unfortunately passed at JHW in 2020 when his plane crashed, killing he and 2 others. The scholarship is given to anyone (adult or student) who wants to take flying lessons and potentially go into a career of aviation. It is solely given to those at JHW and DKK. She is bringing in Whiskey 7 who will be offering rides. They will be doing 2 rides depending on how many tickets are sold – the price per ticket is \$180 and if both flights are sold out, they will reimburse her the cost of them coming down which is \$2800.

AIRPORT MANAGERS REPORT

John reviewed the report with the group and answered questions that were asked regarding various things. One item was the revenue for April of 2026. The revenue on paper increased by \$15,000 due to them putting the occupancy grant in our budget for this year however, that is not TRULY revenue for us as we will be using it for the Airshow expenses. Based on this, we are at 45% of our revenue budget for the year.

Financial Posture

- 33% of the budget through 4/30/2026 - \$499,696 of \$1,541,243

FBO Flowage

- March 2026 Flowage & Usage up at both airports for over 2025.

Regulatory Compliance

- Nothing to report

Grants

- Terminal building renovation construction project at JHW
- New snow removal equipment (broom/plow truck combination)
- Rehabilitation of Runway 13/31 (construction)

April Resolutions

- All resolutions presented at April Legislative meeting were approved.

May Resolutions

- Agreement with Schultz Airshows LLC
- Authorize Supplemental Agreement for MOA and FAA for NAVAIDS
- Ground and Taxiway Lease at DKK with Baron North G58 LLC, a subsidiary of Accent Stripe

Business Development

- **Hangar A** – Working with legal on Master License Agreement. Intent is to have one master agreement approved by resolution then individual aircraft owners/tenants' information and aircraft specs would be added/subtracted from the Appendix without the need for a new contract each occurrence.
- **JHW Fly-In** – We have been working with Matt Newton and Lisa Jukes in planning the Great Mid-Summer Fly-In/Drive-In planned for Saturday July 18, 2026. Lisa spoke to this earlier.
- **DKK Fly-In Breakfast** – We have been working with the Dunkirk Rotary in coordinating use of DKK for the 59th Annual Fly-In Breakfast on Sunday 7/26/26.

Airports' project status

- JHW
 - **EAS Application** – No new information at this time. Still hoping to hear something relatively soon
 - **Runway 13/31** – Legislature approved at April meeting and award letter has been sent out to contractor. Brian Chase did inquire if this will cause a closure. Yes, while they work near the intersection. They are hoping it will be a max of 2 weeks but less and won't be all at once.
 - **Replace 34 Airfield Guidance Signs** – Met with contractor to review final contract requirements, etc....work is planned for August of 2026.
 - **Terminal Building Rehabilitation** – No update from last month
 - **Terminal Apron Reconstruction** – No further update at this time
 - **Pursuing purchase of new snow removal equipment** – Award letter will be going out to winning company. We were going with a local company however, when presented to the FAA, they advised we needed to go with another company with a lower bid even though both companies had varying non-compliance issues with their bids.

- **Hangar L heat and Terminal building renovations (STATE ONLY)** – 35% design submission meeting held with C&S on 5/4. Weighing 3 different options for new Hangar L heating system. Also evaluating restaurant upgrades to include new washable ceiling tiles, grease trap system, hot water tank system, entry/exit doors, and testing of the fire suppression system.

DKK

- **Runway 06-24 Easement Acquisition/obstruction removal for approaches and RSA:** Meeting with as many landowners as possible this week to hopefully finalize paperwork to allow recording of easements.
- **DKK Taxiway A (West) rehabilitation** – PW Laboratories, geotechnical consultant completed pavement cores/soil borings/test pit work at DKK.
- **Security Gate Upgrades** – Received multiple quotes for project. Looking to award work soon and looking to be substantially under budget.
- **Hangar 1 and 2 door replacement** – Project has been awarded by NYS. Anticipate construction this summer.
- **Newell Rd culvert failure** – A large culvert and creek run under Newell Rd perpendicular to the touchdown zone on RWY 24 in DKK. Town of Sheridan removed the culvert and has closed Newell Road. This has impacted our security fence which spanned the length of the culvert. We have installed temporary fencing and with the flow of the creek have had to re-engineer at different points. Currently working on designing a new permanent fence to tie into the existing RWY 24 culvert. Unfortunately, through no fault of the County we have incurred additional expense in materials and manpower and currently have a less than ideal fencing situation. With that said I want to thank Brian and the team for being proactive in installing temporary fencing on very short notice and keeping up with the maintenance on the temporary fence to ensure security.

MAINTENANCE OPERATIONS –

- Started mowing at both locations
- Newell Rd temporary fence install & maintenance
- Clean out sand storage building for parks
- Light and sign repair
- AC repair FBO
- Clearing scrap and loading into dumpster

AIRPORT OPERATIONS

- Reviewed ADS-B – both airports are now back up and running properly.

LEGISLATIVE REPORT

- No issues or concerns. Thanked John again for his diligent work on the Easement project.

STAKEHOLDERS' UPDATES

- **Civil Air Patrol** – Ellen was not in attendance

- **Archies Airport Diner** – Things are continuing to go great, they have weekly reservations for some groups that come in, have some large parties coming in, the fly-in, etc.....he's very happy.
- **Centric Aviation** – Tara and Andrew both said that whatever the FBO can assist with when it comes to fly-ins, they Everything is going well, nothing to report
- **Chase Aviation** – Business is doing well. His PC-12 is back in Jamestown which he's happy about.
- **Chautauqua Aircraft Sales** – nothing to report

OTHER NEWS/UPDATES

- Nikki gave an update on the airshow for 2027. Currently looking at a 1-day show (August 14, 2027) with a rain date of Sunday, August 15, 2027. We met with David Schultz from Schultz airshows and talked about ticketing structure, sponsorship levels, logistics, etc.....he is VERY knowledgeable. Also connected us to a company called Ticket Socket which will handle all of the ticket sales for the event. Gary from the Comedy Center advised that there is a VERY slight chance (depending on comedian availability) that the Lucy Fest will be that same weekend. Jamie and Nikki both agreed that could be a BENEFIT to both events! Talked about having Justin Gould put out a survey to get an idea for attendance and ticketing structure. Great idea. John talked about partnering with a non-profit (possibly the Lucille M. Wright Museum) to funnel all of the monies through as it will be MUCH easier all around. Will look into this. Brian Chase said they have a meeting coming up (he's on the Board) and said John should attend. May 13th.

NEXT MEETING

- **June 3, 2026 – Jamie talked about Dennis Webster mentioning having the meeting at the Lucille M. Wright Museum. September or October would work well. We also need to schedule one meeting in DKK. Will figure that out as well.**

ADJOURNMENT

- Meeting adjourned at 10:20am by way of motion by Dalton Anthony, second by Nathan Stock.