



Virginia Aviation Board Meeting Minutes

The Virginia Aviation Board held a meeting on Friday, August 21, 2026, at the Williamsburg Lodge, 310 S. England Street, Williamsburg, VA 23185. The meeting documents and presentation materials are available on the Virginia Department of Aviation's website, www.daov.virginia.gov.

MEMBERS

Donald Robertson, Vice Chair	Present
Mark Nelson, Region 1	Present
Robert Bowen, Region 2	Present
Craig Parisot, Region 3	Present
Jackie Dankos, Region 4	Present
Maggie Ragon, Region 5	Present
Donald T. Robertson, Region 6	Present
Vanessa Christie, Region 7	Present

OTHER ATTENDEES

Brian K. Stevens	Office of the Attorney General
Greg W. Campbell, Director	Virginia Department of Aviation

DOAV staff, state government representatives, federal government representatives, airport sponsors and managers, consultants, engineers, business owners, and city and county representatives were also present.

1. Call to Order

Donald Robertson, Vice
Chairman

The chairman called the meeting to order at 09:06 a.m.

2. Introduction of New Board Members Don Long and Maggie Ragon

Donald Robertson, Vice
Chairman

Vice Chair Robertson introduced the newly appointed Board members. Don Long is a managing member and attorney with Flora Pettit PC and former chairman of Charlottesville Albemarle Airport Authority. Maggie Reagan serves as Commissioner of Revenue for the City of Staunton and is a returning VAB member and Shenandoah Valley Regional Airport Commission member.

3. Review and approve May 21, 2026, minutes

Donald Robertson, Vice
Chairman

Motion to approve: Bowen

Second: Parisot

Vote: Aye: Nelson, Bowen, Parisot, Dankos, Long, Ragon, Christie; Nay: none

4. DOAV Update

Greg Campbell, Director,
DOAV

Director Campbell provided a comprehensive update, beginning with welcoming the two new board members. He then summarized recent accomplishments of the Department.

He reported on Virginia's nationally significant achievement in advanced air mobility (AAM): the first AAM demonstration flight conducted under the FAA's Integration Pilot Program. Director Campbell described how Beta Technologies' electric aircraft transported a medical heart valve from Virginia Tech to Charlottesville, and then onward toward Baltimore, demonstrating a potential organ transport corridor. He emphasized that this success was made possible in part because the Board had previously implemented a funding change to 90/10 to support three-phase power and broadband infrastructure at airports—critical components for electric aircraft charging. Director Campbell reviewed the impact of the 90/10 Commonwealth Aviation Fund initiative. He noted that construction costs have escalated significantly, and that the reduced local match has enabled many projects to move forward that otherwise would have remained stalled. He highlighted the Board's work in updating the *Airport Program Manual* to improve efficiency and reduce administrative barriers.

He also summarized statewide airport operational data collection efforts. Campbell explained that recent pilot studies of traffic counting systems at non-towered airports have shown actual aircraft operations to be significantly higher than previous estimates, providing stronger data for planning, funding justification, and economic analysis. Campbell further reported on DOAV accomplishments, including completion of the statewide economic impact study; modernization of the aircraft registration system; improvements to reimbursement processes; restructuring of the aviation education division; ongoing work on the ARFF simulator refurbishment; and development of new workforce initiatives. He concluded with a preview of upcoming efforts, including an update to the *Airport Program Manual* and further coordination with statewide technology and safety initiatives.

5. VAOC Update

Mike Stewart, VAOC

Mike Stewart, President and CEO of the Roanoke-Blacksburg Airport and President of VAOC, provided an update from the Virginia Airport Operators Council.

He congratulated organizers on a successful 52nd Annual Virginia Aviation Conference and described the positive momentum seen across Virginia airports. Stewart reported record passenger levels at many commercial service airports, expanding destinations and air service, and significant economic development driven by capital projects. He discussed statewide funding challenges and emphasized the need for greater aviation investment by the General Assembly. Stewart stated that VAOC is exploring the retention of a legislative affairs firm to strengthen advocacy in Richmond. He explained the importance of ensuring that Virginia remains competitive with neighboring and national markets in attracting industry investment and supporting airport infrastructure.

He concluded by stressing the relationship between adequate funding, airport financial stability, airline cost per passenger, and long-term economic development outcomes.

6. VABA Update

Bud Oakey, President,
VABA

Bud Oakey delivered an extensive update on behalf of the Virginia Aviation Business Association.

Mr. Oakey began by welcoming new board members and emphasizing the strong partnerships between DOAV, other state agencies, and industry stakeholders. He reflected on the competitive national landscape of aerospace development, noting Virginia's recent effort to attract a major AAM manufacturer and explaining why that project ultimately located in Ohio. He emphasized that other states have invested strategically in aviation ecosystems and stated that Virginia must adopt similar coordinated approaches to attract and retain aerospace companies.

Mr. Oakey highlighted ongoing work to strengthen cross-agency collaboration and discussed the growing importance of sustainable aviation fuels (SAF), describing statewide efforts to develop refinery capacity and align agricultural, economic development, and aerospace interests.

He described the statewide aviation and aerospace workforce study, noting that demand exists across nearly all career categories. Mr. Oakey outlined challenges in K-12 preparation, the need for both technical certifications and college education, and the importance of soft skills development.

He introduced a new statewide internship toolkit designed to help employers create structured and accessible internship programs. Mr. Oakey explained that the program will assist small businesses, provide grant-supported student stipends, and establish pipelines between students and employers.

He closed with a reminder of the upcoming 2027 legislative reception and encouraged continued advocacy for aviation initiatives statewide.

7. Old Business

A. Falwell Airport License Waiver

Maria Ferello, DOAV

Chief Engineer Maria Ferello provided an update on the Falwell Airport state license. She summarized the airport's history of conditional licensing dating back to 2013, including waivers approved in 2014 and subsequent extensions tied to runway object free area (OFA) issues.

Ms. Ferello explained that the driveway and taxiway located within the OFA existed before October 1, 1995. Based on legal counsel and state code, these conditions qualify as grandfathered rather than requiring a continued waiver. As a result, the license renewal will include a grandfathered OFA condition, and no Board action was required at this meeting.

8. New Business

A. Appointment of VAB Representatives to Airport Program Manual Committee

Donald Robertson, Vice
Chairman

Maggie Reagan and Jackie Dankos volunteered to serve.

Motion to approve: Parisot

Second: Bowen

Vote: Aye: Nelson, Bowen, Parisot, Dankos, Christie, Long, Ragon Nay: none

B. Abandoned Aircraft Form – Code Requirements

John Hart, DOAV

John Hart, Deputy Director of the Airport Services Division, provided an update regarding the newly enacted Code of Virginia provisions for abandoned and derelict aircraft. He explained that House Bill 446 was approved, establishing procedures for the identification, tagging, and removal of abandoned or derelict aircraft. The new code section specifically requires a form prescribed by the Virginia Aviation Board to be attached to the aircraft in accordance with statutory requirements.

Mr. Hart stated that DOAV staff had reviewed the legislation and prepared the required form, which had been presented to the Board earlier in the week. He noted that the form had also been reviewed and approved by the Office of the Attorney General's representative to ensure compliance with the new law. Because the statutory language is already in effect, Mr. Hart emphasized the need for the Board to approve the form so that airport sponsors can begin using it immediately. He requested Board approval of the form as submitted

Motion to approve: Nelson

Second: Long

Vote: Aye: Nelson, Bowen, Parisot, Dankos, Christie, Long, Ragon Nay: none

C. Consideration of FY26 Entitlement Utilization Reports

Mike Swain, DOAV

Mike Swain presented the FY26 entitlement utilization report, noting 111 closed-out projects totaling \$16.6 million with no issues reported.

Motion to approve: Dankos

Second: Long

Vote: Aye: Nelson, Bowen, Parisot, Dankos, Christie, Long, Ragon Nay: none

D. Consideration of FY27 Entitlement Utilization Plans

Mike Swain, DOAV

Swain presented the FY27 entitlement plans. There were 76 projects totaling approximately \$25.8 million. All eight commercial service airport plans were recommended for approval, with the exception of a contingency required for Charlottesville: state funding could only be applied to GA ramp areas not

leased to the FBO. The Board approved the FY27 plans with the stated exception of a required contingency.

Motion to approve: Bowen

Second: Parisot

Vote: Aye: Nelson, Bowen, Parisot, Dankos, Christie, Long, Ragon Nay: none

- E. Consideration of Consent Agenda – Approval of Use of Consent Agenda for Approval of Staff-Recommended Projects

Donald Robertson, Vice Chairman

Motion to approve: Parisot

Second: Bowen

Vote: Aye: Nelson, Bowen, Parisot, Dankos, Christie, Long, Ragon Nay: none

- F. Approval of Consent Agenda for Staff - Recommended Projects

Donald Robertson, Vice Chairman

Motion to approve: Parisot

Second: Dankos

Vote: Aye: Nelson, Bowen, Parisot, Dankos, Christie, Long, Ragon Nay: none

- G. Virginia Aviation Board Review – Tentative Allocations from Commonwealth Aviation Fund

Mike Swain, DOAV

Virginia Tech - Montgomery Executive Airport	Apron Rehabilitation (Construction) - MISSED OPPORTUNITY	\$ 123,254.92
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Staff explained that the request was submitted after the June 13 deadline due to the sponsor not yet knowing the final FAA funding amount. Under the “missed opportunity” procedure, the Chairman, Region 1 Board Member, and DOAV Director reviewed the late submission and accepted it. Staff recommended approval due to the pending FAA grant award.

Motion to approve: Nelson

Second: Long

Vote: Aye: Nelson, Bowen, Parisot, Dankos, Christie, Long, Ragon Nay: none

Bridgewater Air Park	Replacement Precision Approach Path Indicators (PAPI) & Rotating Beacon (Construction)	\$ 352,000.00
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Staff recommended disapproval, explaining that Bridgewater is a privately owned airport and therefore must have a deed of trust, bond, or letter of credit meeting policy requirements on file at the time of request. Although a letter of credit exists, it is

insufficient to cover the project amount. The sponsor intends to provide a revised instrument for future submission.

Motion to disapprove: Bowen

Second: Nelson

Vote: Aye: Nelson, Bowen, Parisot, Dankos, Christie, Ragon Nay: none

Washington Executive - Stafford Regional Airport	Terminal Building Partial Renovation (Design)	\$ 3,400.00
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A request for Terminal Building Partial Renovation (Design) in the amount of \$3,400 was presented. Staff recommended disapproval due to a late design task order, which was not received by the deadline of May 14. Mr. Parisot, Region 3 Board Member, noted that funds were available and asked the Board to approve the project as an exception to the deadline policy.

Motion to approve: Parisot

Second: Nelson

Vote: Aye: Nelson, Bowen, Parisot, Dankos, Long, Christie, Ragon Nay: none

Louisa County Airport	Southside Taxiway (Construction Overrun) (Non-AIP) - INCREASE	\$ 31,500.00
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The Board reviewed an increase request of \$31,500 for Southside Taxiway (Construction Overrun).

Staff recommended approval, explaining that FAA Non-Primary Entitlement (NPE) and IJA grants do not cover cost overruns, and although VAB policy does not normally allow post-construction funding, an exception was warranted. The Board had previously approved similar situations when federal flexibility was limited.

Motion to approve: Dankos

Second: Ragon

Vote: Aye: Nelson, Bowen, Parisot, Dankos, Long, Christie, Ragon Nay: none

Dinwiddie County Airport	Terminal Apron Expansion (Construction) (Non-AIP) (Multi-Year)	\$ 700,000.00
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The Board considered a multi-year funding request of \$700,000 (Year 1 of 2) for Terminal Apron Expansion (Construction), part of a larger funding plan totaling \$1,616,136.62 over two fiscal years.

Staff explained that the engineering task order had been submitted late, and the Board could either grant a policy exception or require resubmission at a later meeting. Staff recommended approval and asked the Board to designate the project as highest priority when the airport submits the second-year request in August 2027.

Motion to approve: Ragon

Second: Long

Vote: Aye: Nelson, Bowen, Parisot, Dankos, Long, Christie, Ragon Nay: none

Franklin Regional Airport	Runway Marking & Threshold Relocation - Planning & Environmental	\$ 31,500.00
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The Board reviewed the request for Runway Marking & Threshold Relocation (Planning & Environmental) in the amount of \$43,388.18.

Staff recommended disapproval due to a late task order and because the FAA had not yet determined the environmental coordination level required.

Mr. Long, representing Region 6, made a motion to approve the project contingent on receiving FAA environmental requirements and updated documentation, with DOAV to hold the allocation until the scope and funding level could be confirmed.

Motion to approve: Long

Second: Christie

Vote: Aye: Nelson, Bowen, Parisot, Dankos, Long, Christie, Ragon Nay: none

Norfolk International Airport	Deicing Pad (Construction) (Multi-Year) INCREASE	\$ 8,001,314.00
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The Board reviewed Year 2 of 2 funding for the Deicing Pad (Construction) project, totaling \$8,001,312.67, following a previous allocation of \$2,193,386.63 approved in May 2026.

Staff clarified the funding mix for the balance—approximately \$4.7 million from FY27 entitlements and \$3.26 million from discretionary funds—and noted a minor correction to the entitlement and discretionary split.

Motion to approve: Christie

Second: Ragon

Vote: Aye: Nelson, Bowen, Parisot, Dankos, Long, Christie, Ragon Nay: none

9. Public Comment Period

Donald Robertson, Vice
Chairman

No public comments were offered.

10. Board Member Comments and Reports

Donald Robertson, Vice
Chairman

Region 1: Mr. Nelson shared appreciation for the individuals who work within and alongside Virginia Aviation, noting how their efforts strengthen aviation across the Commonwealth. He emphasized the importance of embracing new technologies, including artificial intelligence, to support ongoing progress and improve aviation services. He thanked all involved and expressed gratitude for the successful conference.

Region 2: Mr. Bowen congratulated the organizers of the conference, noting it had been an informative and enjoyable event.

Region 3: Mr. Parisot reflected on the 2026 Virginia Aviation Conference and emphasized that Virginia aviation is an interconnected system whose continued success depends on strengthening foundational capabilities, including infrastructure, leadership, relationships, energy, and collaboration. He highlighted Advanced Air Mobility and Regional Air Mobility as significant opportunities and encouraged continued investment in enabling infrastructure, a coordinated whole-of-government approach to aviation economic development, and greater recognition of aviation's future energy requirements. Mr. Parisot also reiterated the importance of DOAV leadership and coordination regarding Counter-UAS capabilities and the broader management of an increasingly complex low-altitude air domain. He encouraged Virginia to build upon its existing governance, information-sharing, infrastructure, and cross-sector partnerships to create an integrated foundation supporting c-UAS, AAM, emergency response, critical infrastructure protection, and future aviation capabilities. Finally, Mr. Parisot welcomed new Board members and expressed his appreciation for the opportunity to serve, as well as for the Department, Board, airports, and aviation stakeholders across the Commonwealth. He encouraged attendees to carry the lessons and momentum of the conference back to their communities.

Region 4: Mr. Dankos thanked conference organizers and DOAV staff, noting how much easier Board service has become compared to when he served on the Board 25 years ago. He expressed appreciation for the continued improvements and support provided by DOAV.

Region 5: Ms. Ragon echoed appreciation for DOAV staff and conference organizers. She shared that she enjoyed reconnecting with airport sponsors and looked forward to visiting airports in her region. She thanked the Board for the opportunity to serve.

Region 6: Mr. Long expressed appreciation for the opportunity to participate on the Board. He noted his observations from the conference, especially those related to statewide competitiveness, and stressed that Virginia must continue working to highlight its strengths and opportunities to remain competitive with other states attracting aviation and aerospace investment. He expressed eagerness to continue working with DOAV and industry partners.

Region 7: Ms. Christie thanked DOAV staff, VAOC, VABA, and the conference organizers, stating that they consistently do an excellent job. She shared that she looked forward to future meetings and ongoing collaboration with aviation stakeholders across the Commonwealth.

Director: Director Campbell echoed the Vice Chairman's comments and stressed the importance of early engagement and timely submissions. He highlighted how legislative changes to the Commonwealth Aviation Fund allowed the Board to fund four major projects during this meeting that would otherwise have been delayed until February. He thanked the Board for their continued leadership.

Vice Chairman: Vice Chairman Robertson concluded the comment period by expressing appreciation for DOAV staff, airport sponsors, conference organizers, and all individuals who dedicated time and effort to support the conference and the Board's work. He encouraged sponsors and consultants to submit their documentation on time, noting that while the Board has been able to accommodate exceptions due to available

funding, this may not always be possible in the future. He reminded everyone of the next meeting on November 19, 2026, at the DOAV hangar in Richmond.

11. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 10:46am.

Donald Robertson, Vice
Chairman

Motion to approve: Ragon

Second: Parisot

Vote: Aye: Nelson, Bowen, Parisot, Dankos, Long, Christie, Ragon Nay: none

Consent Agenda August 2026

Airport Name	Project Name	State Share Amount
Warrenton-Fauquier Airport	Taxiway 'A' Pavement & Lighting Rehabilitation (Construction) (AIP)	\$139,442.00
Richmond Executive - Chesterfield County Airport	Runway 15-33 Extension - Phase 2 (Grading & Drainage) (Construction) and Phases 3A & 3B (Bid Documents & Bidding) (AIP)	\$206,954.00
Richmond Executive - Chesterfield County Airport	Runway 15-33 Extension - Phase 2 (Wetland & Stream Credits) (IIJA)	\$12,000.00
Winchester Regional Airport	Taxiway 'A' Rehabilitation - Section 3 - Part 2 (Construction) - INCREASE	\$122,255.16
Richmond Executive - Chesterfield County Airport	T-Hangar 'E' & 'F' Taxilanes Rehabilitation (Construction) - INCREASE	\$219,853.91
Washington Manassas Airport	Replacement Air Traffic Control Tower - Phase 3 (Construction) (IIJA)	\$1,094,736.84
Culpeper Regional Airport	Runway 4-22 & Runway Lighting Rehabilitation (Design) (AIP)	\$18,468.23
Mountain Empire Airport	East End Hangar Site Preparation (Construction) (AIP)	\$40,199.74
Blue Ridge Regional Airport	Replacement Terminal Building (Construction)	\$2,991,627.11
Blue Ridge Regional Airport	Terminal Area Site Preparation (Construction)	\$2,045,947.07
Winchester Regional Airport	Northside Site Preparation (Additional Design/Construction)	\$2,196,225.00
Virginia Highlands Airport	Terminal Building Renovation (Construction)	\$1,729,145.60
Danville Regional Airport	Runway 2-20 & Taxiway 'A' Lighting Rehabilitation (Design) (AIP)	\$18,520.00
Hanover County Municipal Airport	CATEX - Land Acquisition, Obstruction Removal, & Taxiway 'B' Extension	\$4,830.00
Warrenton-Fauquier Airport	Runway 15-33 and Lighting Rehabilitation (Design) (AIP)	\$19,526.00
Hanover County Municipal Airport	Apron Rehabilitation (Design) (AIP)	\$3,392.93
Virginia Highlands Airport	Hangar Site Preparation (Design / Construction) - INCREASE	\$32,463.00
Virginia Highlands Airport	Parallel Taxiway and Lighting Rehabilitation (Design) (AIP)	\$19,800.00
Culpeper Regional Airport	Maintenance Equipment Storage Building (Design) (IIJA)	\$4,693.20
Hanover County Municipal Airport	T-Hangar Site Preparation (Design) (IIJA)	\$3,305.22
Washington Manassas Airport	Fuel System Upgrade (Study)	\$108,050.40

Accomack County Airport	T-Hangar Taxiway Rehabilitation (Design) (IIJA)	\$5,400.00
Culpeper Regional Airport	Maintenance Equipment Storage Building (Design) (Non-AIP)	\$87,997.43
Farmville Regional Airport	Replacement Precision Approach Path Indicators (PAPI) (Construction) (AIP)	\$5,229.59
Farmville Regional Airport	Replacement Precision Approach Path Indicators (PAPI) (Construction) (IIJA)	\$15,844.21
New Kent County Airport	Obstruction Removal (Design) (AIP)	\$14,160.00
Lee County Airport	Terminal Building Roof Replacement (Construction)	\$34,830.51
New Kent County Airport	T-Hangar Site Preparation (Construction)	\$1,322,052.30
Franklin Regional Airport	Runway Crack Seal (Design) (IIJA)	\$1,200.00
Franklin Regional Airport	SWPPP & SPCC Plan Updates	\$22,959.49
Crewe Municipal Airport	Runway 15-33 Rehabilitation (Construction)	\$1,657,750.00