



AIRPORT ADVISORY COMMISSION

MINUTES

August 21, 2025

3:30 p.m.

Santiam Room, City Hall/VIRTUAL

Approved: October 16, 2025

Call to Order

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

Roll Call

Members present: Chair Mel Huffman (Online), Debbie Origer, Chuck Kratch, Rodney Moore, and Matthew Arck

Members absent: JR Beroncal (excused)

Staff present: Transportation Manager Robb Romeo and Engineering Clerk Anita Dodd

Others present: Gary Goby and Hans Boyle with Albany Democrat Herald (Online)

Election of New Vice-Chair

3:37 p.m.

After a brief pause due to technical difficulties, Rodney Moore moved to appoint Chuck Kratch as vice-chair. Debbie Origer seconded the motion, and the motion passed the commission 5-0.

Approval of April 17 and June 26 2025, Minutes

3:39 p.m.

Kratch moved to approve the April and June minutes as presented. Rodney Moore seconded the motion, and the motion passed the commission 5-0.

Staff Updates

3:40 p.m.

Transportation Manager Robb Romeo reported that there had been some issues with the fueling system at the Albany Municipal Airport, but after repairs and a reset, it is now functioning properly. Additionally, repairs were made to the north gate, and the credit card reader was upgraded. Two grants have been approved, allowing them to move forward with further repairs. Huffman asked whether Yu Takahashi, Chief Flight Instructor at Albany Municipal Airport, could attend next month's meeting to provide an FBO update if Tony Hann remains unavailable.

Romeo invited Gary Goby to attend the meeting and share an update on his collaboration with Matt Harrington on the design of a new "Albany Municipal Airport" sign, which will be visible from the freeway. Goby also extended an invitation to the commissioners to assist with the installation of the sign. Once the new sign is in place, Origer expressed interest in displaying the original airport sign at the Historic Museum. Huffman suggested adding a mural to the side of the Historic Hangar once the surface has been refurbished.

FBO Updates

3:58 p.m.

None.

Business from the Commission

3:38 p.m.

Kratch inquired about the Albany Municipal Airport budget. In response, Romeo distributed copies of the current budget and provided a summary to the commissioners.

Origer reported on behalf of the 1929 Hangar Project/Albany Air Museum that between May 1 and September 13, they will have hosted 12 events. Additionally, they have invited the Albany chapter of Young Eagles to the Art & Air Festival from August 22-24, 2025. There will also be a Young Eagles business meeting open to the public on September 13, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Matthew Arck conducted research to determine whether the Albany Municipal Airport had a social media presence and discovered that its Facebook page had not been updated in quite some time. Kratch asked if Arck would be interested in managing the page, and Arck expressed a willingness to do so.

Public Comment

3:54 p.m.

None.

Next Meeting Date

The next regularly scheduled meeting is on Thursday, October 16, 2025.

Adjournment

Hearing no further business, Chair Huffman adjourned the meeting at 4:27 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 cityclerk@albanyoregon.gov*