WILKES-BARRE/SCRANTON INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
BOARD MEETING
OCTOBER 23, 2025

The scheduled monthly meeting of the Wilkes-Barre/Scranton International Airport Joint Board of Control was held Thursday, October 23 2025 in the Barry J. Centini Conference Room. The meeting was called to order at 10:30 A.M. with Council Member Lee Ann McDermott presiding.

PRESENT: Council Member Lee Ann McDermott
Commissioner Chris Chermak
Commissioner Brenda Sacco
Commissioner Bill Gaughan
Council Member Greg Wolovich
County Manager Romilda Crocamo

ALSO, PRESENT: Carl R. Beardsley, Jr., Executive Director
Stephen Mykulyn, Director of Engineering
BJ Teichman, Assistant Director
Chris Dalessandro, Director of Finance
Michelle Aigeldinger, Director of Human Resources
Attorney Don Frederickson, Lackawanna County Solicitor
Attorney Michael Butera, Luzerne County Solicitor
Walter Griffith, Jr., Luzerne County Controller

ABSENT: Reggie Mariani, Consultant Lackawanna County
Thomas Sokola, Luzerne County Deputy Controller

Romilda Crocamo requested to make an addition since all of the Lackawanna County Commissioners were present, to make a nomination for Vice Chair. Lee Ann McDermott recommended adding it to Other Matters. A motion was made to add this item.

ITEM 1
PUBLIC COMMENT:
(Lee Ann McDermott, Chair)

Walter Griffiths had a question regarding the issue that was raised at their meeting regarding the FAA Partnership Agreement and has concerns regarding this not being discussed publicly prior to time. Commissioner Bill Gaughan responded that it was just discussed in the Executive Session and he stated he is speaking for himself that there are two issues that are being confounded and mixed up together which he doesn't agree with. One is the LEO program that previously was funded by the federal government but is no longer being funded. He did some research and stated that airport officials feel it's a nice program to have but is not needed. The airport currently pays approximately $500,000 on airport security and it is nice to have, but not needed.
The second is the partnership agreement which if it is not signed and agreed upon the airport is at risk of loosing over $21 million in grants. He stated he is ready to sign and understands that Luzerne County is still looking at it.
The airport feels that we do not need this program that the Airport is safe and will remain safe. He represents the tax payers of Lackawanna County and feels it would be malpractice on his part to fund a program that is not needed.
Romilda Crocomo, County Manager, Luzerne County thanked Commissioner Gaughan for his statement. She went on to say that Luzerne County believes in the utmost of public safety of the Airport and if you look at Airports of similar size, they have police presence. Luzerne County has carried the burden of paying for the LEO program, they are healthy financially and she understands that Lackawanna County is not. The partnership agreement is still in the negotiation stage and she feels they are not in a position to do so publicly. Luzerne County wants to make sure that the agreement is fair to all parties and does not end up like other agreements. They will continue to negotiate in good faith.
Commissioner Chris Chermak commented that their County finally has a third Commissioner and he will need to bring Commissioner Brenda Sacco up to speed and that Commissioner Gaughan does not speak on behalf of Lackawanna County.
Mr. Griffith stated that the LEO agreement expired over two (2) years ago and this issue has been raised regarding LEO multiple times. The Board has the power to authorize the LEO contract or not. His concern is the cost to Luzerne County for the program. The airport is in a profitable status and Luzerne County is doing well also financially but it is not fair that they should bear most of the cost. He wants to see how the LEO program benefits the airport and how many incidents in the last two years have occurred to cost the amount of money that Luzerne County has paid out.

Mr. Griffith also stated that his biggest issue is with the Executive Session where items may be discussed that are not Executive Session privilege.
Commissioner Gaughan agrees and said he has asked the solicitors from both counties to provide clarity regarding the items discussed as he understands that only personnel issues and those types of items are the only things that should be discussed. Commissioner Gaughan then asked Mark Bailer, Director of Public Safety and BJ Teichman, Assistant Director to talk about the numbers for the LEO program and comment on why we need it or don't need it.
County Manager Crocamo objected since DA Sanguedolce, who runs the LEO program, was not invited to the Executive Session and is not present at this meeting. There are issues that do need to discussed in public since it affects both counties and the people who use the airport. She welcomes the District Attorneys of both counties to engage publicly with airport security personnel at the airport to have a discussion along with Luzerne County Council. She went on to say that there has to be a level of preparedness and if anything happens, not only will the airport get sued but both counties will as well. If the airport and Lackawanna County is willing to hold Luzerne Couty harmless and indemnify them if anything should happen. One of the charges as government officials is to do what they can to make any public building safer. Commissioner Gaughan ask Public Safety Director Bailer if the airport was safe. Mr. Bailer replied "It is safe". Commissioner Gaughan then asked "Do we need the LEO program?" to which Mr. bailer replied "The LEO program is not required by law, TSA has indicated that it is not required." Commissioner Gaughan then asked Mr. Beardsley and Ms. Teichman if the LEO program is warranted and they both replied "No." He then went on to say that he does not know how to run an airport but the ones who do state that the program is not needed and if Luzerne County wants to pay for it, have at it. County Manager Crocamo commented "Nothing like a partnership."
Commissioner Saco commented that it is her second day and she will need to be educated on this issue before commented.
Mr. Griffith closed his public comment by asking if the Board put it on the next agenda for a vote and have the DA here. The Board voted to have this program and they should be the one to remove it by majority rule if that is what happens.
Councilmember Lee Ann McDermott stated that a public meeting on the issue needs to take place first and that one will be scheduled.

ITEM 2
APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FROM SEPTEMBER 25, 2025 BOARD MEETING:
(Lee Ann McDermott, Chair)

MOTION:	To accept and approve the minutes of the September 25, 2025 Bi-County Airport Board Meeting minutes.
MOVED BY:	County Manager Romilda Crocamo
SECONDED:	Council Member Greg Wolovich
VOTE:	Unanimous

ITEM 3
AIRPORT FINANCIAL REPORT:
(Chris Dalessandro, Director of Finance)

A. Financial Report:

(1) Revenue – Expense Report

As noted on the attached profit/loss statements, for the month of September 2025, Airport Operations had an income totaling $201,169 compared to income of $70,875 in September 2024 which is a difference of $130,294.

Year to date, our profit is $1,887,841 as compared to a profit in 2024 of $142,310 a difference of $1,745,531.

Invoices received since the last meeting for supplies and services totaling $1,455,920.08 are presented on the attached sheets for review and approval of the Board. These invoices include major construction project costs of $1,162,140.41.

(2) Project Invoices

The following Airport Capital Project Invoices and Applications for Payment have been received since the last Board Meeting and are recommended for payment.

MOTION: To accept and approve the above-mentioned transactions.
MOVED BY: Commissioner Chris Chermak
SECONDED: County Manager Romilda Crocamo
VOTE: Unanimous.

ITEM 4
ENGINEERING REPORT
(Stephen Mykulyn, P.E., Director of Engineering)

A. Change Order:

ACP 18-03 Taxiway B Extension to the Runway 4 Approach End – Paving and Lighting Contract

Change Order No. 1

Recommend the Airport Board Approve Change Order No. 1 increasing our Contract with Leeward Construction, $67,913.42 from $6,691,500.00 to $6,759,413.42, subject to solicitor's concurrence.

This change order is necessary to repair deteriorated pavement on the main runway. Airport Operations has been tracking pavement deterioration along the main runway center-line that has been progressively worsening. Work on the Taxiway Extension Project afforded an opportunity to take advantage of a contractor currently under contract and mobilized at the Airport to complete the needed repairs and assure aircraft safety in the future.

We request that the Board approve this change order.

MOTION: To accept and approve the above-mentioned change order.
MOVED BY: Council Member Greg Wolovich
SECONDED: Commissioner Bill Gaughan
VOTE: Unanimous

B. Projects:

ACP 18-03

Taxiway B Extension (Runway 4 Approach End)
Design Services – McFarland-Johnson, Inc.
Construction Phase Services – McFarland-Johnson, Inc.
ATCT Access Road & Localizer Site Prep Contractor – JBS Dirt, Inc.
Taxiway B Extension Site Preparation Contractor – Leeward Construction, Inc.
Localizer Relocation Contractor – Joyce Electric, Inc.
Taxiway B Extension Paving and Lighting - Leeward Construction, Inc.
Construction Observation/Construction Administration Services – McFarland-Johnson, Inc.

On the Taxiway B Extension Site Preparation; Work on borrow area and haul route restoration is being completed. The new access road has been paved. The stormwater infiltration basin is being finish graded and topsoiled and prepared for seeding along with other stormwater management features. Final punch lists for the project are being prepared and reviewed with the Contractor. The contract is expected to be completed along with the Paving and Lighting Contract.

On the Localizer Relocation; no change in status, working with consultant on grant closeout.

On the Taxiway Paving and Lighting – Work on signs, lights and grading continues in the Taxiway Extension, Taxiway B-1 and A-1 areas. Work on the Contract is nearly complete and we expect that the new portion of the taxiway will be opened in the next few weeks. Final punch lists for the project are being prepared and reviewed with the Contractor. We continue to meet with the Consultant, the Contractor, Air Traffic

Control and Operations, and the FAA to coordinate work and review progress on the project.

ACP 20-04

GA Hangar (Emergency Medical Response Facility)
Design Services - Borton-Lawson
PEMB Procurement – Rise Construction
General Construction – D & M Construction
Construction Observation/Construction Administration Services – Borton-Lawson

We continue to work with the Consultant and the Contractors to complete the work on the Crane Beam in the Hangar Bay, in order to close out the contracts.

ACP 22-01

Terminal Expansion – COVID Mitigation
Design Services – McFarland-Johnson, Inc.

The project was advertised for bid on September 30, 2025. A pre-bid conference was conducted on October 9, 2025 and bids for the project are due October 29, 2025. Questions regarding the bidding are being addressed by the Consultant Team and addendums are being issued as necessary. We will continue to seek opportunities to fund the project that would then free up currently scheduled funds for other projects.

ACP 22-02

HVAC System Replacement – Joseph M. McDade Terminal Building
Design Services – C&S Engineers
General & Mechanical Prime – Scranton Electric Heating and Cooling
Electrical Prime – Everon Electrical Contractors
Construction Observation/Construction Administration Services – C&S Engineers

Work on the project is complete. We are working with the consultant and the contractors on contract and grant closeouts.

ITEM 5
PERSONNEL:
(*Michelle Aigeldinger, Director of Human Resources*)

A. Recognition:

1. AVP would like to recognize Robert Murphy, Taylor PA, for five (5) years of service and dedication.

ITEM 6
DIRECTORS REPORT:
(Carl R. Beardsley, Jr., Executive Director)

A. Passenger Activity:

As noted on the attached "Airport Quick Look" charts, passenger enplanements for the month of September 2025 increased 2.5% to 20,215 from 19,730 in the month of September 2024.

In September 2025, 0 departing flights were cancelled. This accounts for 0 (0%) out of a total of 21,190 departure seats. Also, 0 arriving flights were cancelled.

B. General Aviation Operations:

For September 2025, General Aviation had 1605 operations (one take-off or one landing) which is an increase of 35.8% from August 2024, General Aviation Operations.

General Aviation revenues decreased $14,777.14 or 49% to $15,352.20.

ITEM 7
OTHER MATTERS
(Carl R. Beardsley, Jr., Executive Director)

A. FAA Part 139 Live Burn

ARFF held their annual fire training from October 6th – October 10th. This eight (8) hour certification course is part classroom / part structure training and included participants from nearby airports.

Bill Aruscavage, ARFF Supervisor, spoke about what the training entailed, what simulations were completed and how the purpose of this annual training is to depict an actual aircraft emergency. Photos were also shown of the actual training.

B. Motion to nominate Vice Chair:

Airport Chair, Lee Ann McDermott, asked for a motion to open nominations.

MOTION: County Manager Romilda Crocamo
SECONDED: Councilman Greg Wolovich
VOTE: Unanimous.

Airport Chair, Lee Ann McDermott, asked for nominations.

MOTION: County Manager Romilda Crocamo nominated Commissioner Chris Chermak as the AVP Board Vice-Chair.
SECONDED: Councilman Greg Wolovich

Commissioner Gaughan asked if this was allowed to occur since it was not on the agenda. He was under the impression that it needed to be made public so they can potentially speak up. Atty. Donald Frederickson, Lackawanna County, replied that the Board voted to add it to the agenda so it can be voted on.

Motion to close nominations.

MOTION: Councilman Greg Wolovich
SECONDED: County Manager Romilda Crocamo
VOTE: Unanimous.

Motion to appoint Chris Chermak as Vice Chair of the Airport Board.

MOTION: Councilman Greg Wolovich
SECONDED: Commissioner Brenda Sacco
VOTE: 5 in favor; 1 opposed

ITEM 8
ADJOURNMENT:
(Lee Ann McDermott, Chair)

Commissioner Gaughan asked when the final date is to have the Parnership Agreement signed so that the Airport does not loose funding. BJ replied "By the end of the year because we will be going into fiscal year 2026." He then asked about the tabulations that were compiled as to when the LEO officers are here and asked for the analysis to be discussed.
County Manager, Romilda Crocamo objected since the person in charge of the program is not present.
Councilmember Lee Ann McDermott, stated that since we are not voting on this today, we will set up a meeting and have all sides present for a discussion.

Commissioner Gaughan said he has the right, as a member of the Board, prior to the end of any meeting to ask the Airport officials any questions. We are not in a courtroom so objections do not matter and the LEO program is not anything secret or privileged. County Manager, Romilda Crocamo stated for the record that the agenda was only distributed 2 days ago and the person running the LEO program was not invited to the meeting. She would like the information distributed to all of the Board so they would have the time to review it and have the DA here to discuss the findings.

Commissioner Gaughan asked Assistant Director, BJ Teichman, to discuss the findings of the report she talked about regarding the LEO officers. She stated that the officers are Part-Time and her report went from April 2025 to present. In the last six (6) months, there were six (6) days out the month where there were none present, 24 days out of the month where they were present eight (8) hours or less. They are not responsible to cover the full twenty-four (24) hours as we have our security on the premises.

Commissioner Gaughan then restated that the facts are the facts and he rested his case.

Bill O'Boye from the Scranton Times asked what was the reason that the Board was able to discuss this issue in Executive Session. County Manager, Romilda Crocamo replied "There was no reason." Mr. O'Boyle asked if there was an Executive Session before the meeting was convened and Commissioner Gaughan stated "Correct". Mr O'Boyle commented that the state said that is not proper procedure that they should convene first and then have Executive Meeting. Commissioner Gaughan then made a motion that they get a legal opinion from the solicitors to see if it is appropriate to discuss thing not related to personnel or litigation. Councilmember Lee Ann McDermott seconded the motion and all were in favor.

County Manager Crocamo stated that her position is those discussions should be made in public with all of the Councilmembers.

Councilmember Greg Wolovich asked if Commissioner Gaughan can made a motion as ask for votes as a regular Board Member, to which Atty. Frederickson stated that if a motion is made and gets a second then it can be accepted.

Attorney Harry Skene, Luzerne County commented regarding the Partnership Agreement that there are three (3) options and they were only given the one.

Commissioner Gaughan asked when Luzerne County was initially sent the Agreement, Atty. Skene replied there have been a few revisions sent, the original one was in March. Commissioner Gaughan stated that it has been seven (7) months and if it is not signed by December the Airport looses $21 million in funding.

MOTION:	Chair, Lee Ann McDermott made a motion to adjourn the meeting.
MOVED BY:	County Manager Romilda Crocamo
SECONDED:	Council Member Greg Wolovich
VOTE:	Unanimous.