

COLES COUNTY AIRPORT AUTHORITY
REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 9, 2025
COLES COUNTY MEMORIAL AIRPORT
COLES COUNTY, ILLINOIS
8:00 A.M.

The meeting of the Board of Commissioners of the Coles County Airport Authority was convened at Coles County Memorial Airport, Coles County, Illinois, on Tuesday, September 9, 2025. Chairman Nelson called the meeting to order at the hour of 8:00 a.m.

PRESENT:

Commissioners Rasmussen, Campbell, Schaefer, Nelson, and Sauget. Manager Fearn, Administrative Assistant Little, and Attorney Smallhorn. FBO Manager Doug Paige of Coles County Aviation, Nick Helton, and Logan Carlson of Kemper CPA Group were also present.

Open

There were no other members of the public present, Chairman Nelson moved the meeting forward.

Annual Audit Report – Kemper CPA

Logan Carlson from Kemper CPA Group addressed the Board, outlining the Auditors report for the 2025 Annual Audit.

Minutes

Upon a motion made by Commissioner Schaefer and seconded by Commissioner Sauget, the minutes for the August 2025 meeting were approved on a roll call vote.

The results were as follows:

Sauget	Yes
Schaefer	Yes
Rasmussen	Yes
Campbell	Yes
Nelson	Yes

Financial Report

The Board reviewed the financial report.

Commissioner Nelson asked if the Property Tax payment was an installment. Manager Fearn explained that it was the 2nd installment.

Upon a motion made by Commissioner Sauget and seconded by Commissioner Campbell, the financial report for August 2025 was approved on a roll call vote.

The results were as follows:

Sauget	Yes
Schaefer	Yes
Rasmussen	Yes
Campbell	Yes
Nelson	Yes

FBO Ops Report

Doug Paige reviewed the Ops Report with the Board members, noting that the increase in operations was traffic from Effingham Airport, as they have limited service while their runway extension project is in place.

The Flight School is doing well, with 6 students and 5 certified renters.

The 172 Trainer plane had new tires installed.

Capital Account Certificate of Deposit

Manager Fearn requested that the Board grant approval to move \$125,000.00 in the Washington Savings Capital Account to a CD at Washington Savings Bank for a 5-month term at a 4% return. Commissioner Rasmussen made a motion to accept the request, and it was seconded by Commissioner Schaefer. The motion carried on a roll call vote.

The results were as follows:

Sauget	Yes
Schaefer	Yes
Rasmussen	Yes
Campbell	Yes
Nelson	Yes

Air Show 2026 Semi-Quincentennial

Manager Fearn outlined his intention to organize a special event that would celebrate the 250th Anniversary of The Signing of the Declaration of Independence. The event would combine the Annual Fireworks Display

hosted by the Charleston and Mattoon Tourism Departments, which is held at the airport with the 2026 biennial Airshow. Tentative plans would include a late afternoon abbreviated Air Show followed by an evening Air Show Performance that would include a nighttime drone show and the Firworks at dusk. A meeting was held with both Tourism Departments on September 5, 2024 to begin planning and scheduling preparations. A deposit has been made with the drone company to secure the date, and a second deposit will be made before the end of this year. At this time, Manager Fearn asked for a commitment from the Board for the Airport to reserve \$85,000.00 for the event. Commissioner Rasmussen made a motion to approve the \$85,000.00. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Schaefer. The motion was approved on a roll call vote. The results were as follows:

Sauget	Yes
Schaefer	Yes
Rasmussen	Yes
Campbell	Yes
Nelson	Yes

Manager's Report

Airfield Crack-fill Project

Crack-fill on the Airfield has been completed. Airfield Marking is being scheduled and will be completed before cold weather sets in.

MTO-4816 Hangar Replacement

A pre-construction meeting was held on August 25, 2025. McCarthy plans to start soon. Gate installation should be completed this year. The next phase for paving will likely be delayed until 2026 as the contractor awaits paperwork approval from the FAA.

Mass Casualty Drill Table-Top Meeting

The Mattoon Fire Chief hosted a tabletop meeting at the Airport. Manager Fearn and Administrative Assistant Billie Little attended. Representatives were present from SBLHS, Fire, Police, and FAA.

Fiber Install

Groundwork has started for the installation of fiber on the airport grounds.

Fire Station Roof Replacement

Replacement of the roof on the fire station has been completed. No major additional repair was needed. The insulation cost was an additional \$7,000.00

Illinois Aviation Hall of Fame

Manager Fearn will be inducted on October 16, 2025.

Touch-A-Truck

The Third Annual Event was held on September 6, 2025 in the FBO parking lot at the airport. The event was well attended.

Trades Expo

The Construction Trades Expo will be held at Lakeland College this year on September 17th and 18th.

Our new flight instructor, Mya Cobb, plans to attend both days.

Young Eagles

Our last Young Eagles event of the year will be held on September 20, 2025.

IAMA- Illinois Maintenance Association Conference

Manager Fearn, Bill White, and Rod Symonds will attend in Rockford, Illinois, on September 17th and 18th.

IPAA Fall Conference

Galena, September 28th-Oct 1st. Chairman Mark Nelson and Manager Fearn will attend, along with Commissioners Ronda Sauget, and Curt Schaefer.

Facebook

16,567 views, 6,919 reach, and 225 interactions.

Website

603 visits, 1,318 page views, and 146 engagements.

Out of the Office

Manager Fearn will be out of the office September 11th-15th and October 22nd-24th.

Vacation

Maintenance Technician Rod Symonds will be out on vacation from October 14th to 17th.

Executive Session

An executive session was not necessary..

Commissioner's Comments & Questions

Chairman Nelson asked if there were any further comments or questions; there were no further comments or questions. Commissioner Sauget addressed the Board with updates on the Enterprise Zone and County Developments.

Adjournment

There being no further business before the Board, a motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner Campbell and seconded by Commissioner Schaefer. The motion carried on a roll call vote.

Results were as follows:

Sauget	Yes
Schaefer	Yes
Rasmussen	Yes
Campbell	Yes
Nelson	Yes

Recorder