

COLES COUNTY AIRPORT AUTHORITY
REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 2026
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 the Coles County Memorial Airport, Coles County, Illinois, on Tuesday, February 11, 2025. Chairman Mark Nelson was absent. Commissioner Campbell called the meeting to order at the time of 8:00 a.m. PRESENT: Commissioners Campbell, Sauget, and Rasmussen. Manager Fearn and Administrative Assistant Billie Little. Attorney Jake Smallhorn and Manager Douglas Paige of Coles County Aviation. Commissioner Schaefer was also absent. Also present were Jerry, Mike, Drake, Don and Kaden Sweeney of Sweeney Farms.

Open

Commissioner Campbell moved the meeting forward noting no members of the public were present.

Annual Farm Report – Sweeney Farms

Jerry Sweeney addressed the board and provided handouts to the board outlining the annual crop yields on airport grounds, answering board member questions. Sweeney also presented a proposal to the board for their upcoming land lease renewal.

Minutes

Upon a motion made by Commissioner Sauget and seconded by Commissioner Rasmussen, the minutes for the January 2026 meeting were approved on a roll call vote. The results were as follows:

Sauget	Yes
Rasmussen	Yes
Campbell	Yes

Financial Report

Upon a motion made by Commissioner Rasmussen and seconded by Commissioner Sauget, the financial report for January 2026 was approved on a roll call vote.

The results were as follows:

Sauget	Yes
Rasmussen	Yes
Campbell	Yes

FBO Report

Manager Douglas Paige presented the monthly report to the Board. The FBO had low VFR Traffic for the month due to the weather.

Manager Fearn update the board members on the Cessna 172 maintenance.

Strategic Planning- Ronda Sauget

Ronda Sauget addressed the board with updates on the IDOT Grant, ATIP Grant and the DCEO Site Readiness Grant.

Manager's Report

Airfield Lighting Project

Programming letter sent out in January for replacing both runway lighting systems and nav aids, this includes the Strobes and PAPI on Runway 11.

Wilson Property Reimbursement

Working with the state to review the submission for reimbursement.

FAA Part 139 Inspection Findings

Topographic Survey Required by FAA Inspector. The inspector has agreed that the existing Drone Surveys completed by Hanson Engineering will suffice for the requirement. Hanson will provide the Inspector with the information.

Snow Event

Severe cold and snow events. Nine inches of snow accumulated. No broken equipment.

New Phones and Fiber Internet

Fiber was installed in the Authority office, SRE Building, and FBO. We are familiarizing ourselves with the new phone system.

Rural Electric Directors Conference – Coles Moultrie Electric

Manager Fearn attended January 24th-29th. The focus was on Artificial Intelligence and Power Supply.

IDOT Economic Impact Webinar

A new study is in progress; the last one was in 2019.

First Mid Illinois Bank and Trust

Interest statement for 2025 recorded \$15,221.00 for the Airport Authority.

Facebook

64,694 views, 19,290 reach, and 892 interactions.

Website

558 visits, 1,493 views, and 46 engagements.

Executive Session 2 (C) 6 Lease of Property

Upon a motion made by Commissioner Rasmussen and seconded by Commissioner Sauget, the Board went into Executive Session to discuss 2(C)6 Lease of Property at the time of 9:10 a.m.

The motion carried on a roll call vote.

The results were as follows:

Sauget	Yes
Rasmussen	Yes
Campbell	Yes

Upon a motion made by Commissioner Rasmussen and seconded by Commissioner Sauget, the Board ended the Executive Session at the time of 9:18 a.m. The motion was carried out on a roll call vote.

The results were as follows:

Sauget	Yes
Rasmussen	Yes
Campbell	Yes

Leases

Lease negotiations with Aerinova Aerial are now complete; a new lease with the revised terms and rent amounts will be drafted and take mediation.

The Airport Steakhouse requested permission to change its hours of operation from what is currently listed in their lease. The Board agreed with the reduction of hours temporarily.

The Board reviewed the Sweeney Farms proposal for \$330.00 per acre for cash rent of the 523.3 acres farmed. Manager Fearn recommended that an adjustment be considered for the reduction of .96 acres that is now occupied by the new Rural King Hangar.

Commissioner Rasmussen made a motion to accept the proposal with the reduction considered in the annual rent amount. Commissioner Sauget seconded the motion. The motion carried on a roll call vote.

The results were as follows:

Sauget	Yes
Rasmussen	Yes
Campbell	Yes

Commissioner’s Comments & Questions

No further comments or questions.

Adjournment

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

The results were as follows:

Sauget	Yes
Rasmussen	Yes
Campbell	Yes

Recorder