



CRETE AIRPORT ADVISORY BOARD MEETING

February 12th, 2026 at 8:15 AM
Crete City Hall, 243 East 13th Street

MINUTES

Notice of the meeting was given by posting, the appointed method for giving notice as shown by the attached notice, at the following locations:

City Hall, 243 East 13th Street
Post Office, 1242 Linden Avenue
City Bank and Trust, 1135 Main Avenue

Advance notice of the meeting was also given to committee members. Pursuant to Section 84-1412(8) of the Nebraska Open Meetings Act, the City has posted a current copy of the Open meetings Act, Laws of the State of Nebraska, in the back of the council chambers. All proceedings shown were taken while the meeting was open to the attendance of the public.

1. Open Meeting

2. Roll Call

Greg Hier: Present
Kirk Keller: Present
James Dux: Absent
Howard Nitzel: Present
Blaine Spanjer: Present
Present: 4 Absent: 1

Also present: City Administrator Tom Ourada, City Attorney Anna Burge, Airport Manager Samantha Haack, IT Director Mike Kalkwarf, City Clerk Nancy Tellez, Finance Director Wendy Thomas and there were also multiple visitors from the Electric Department.

3. Items of Business

3.A. January 8th, 2026 Airport Advisory Board Meeting Minutes

Greg Hier motioned to approve the January 8th, 2026 minutes and Kirk Keller seconded the motion.

Howard Nitzel: Aye, Blaine Spanjer: Aye, Greg Hier: Aye, Kirk Keller: Aye

3.B. Airport Project and Engineer recommendation

Chris Corr Lead Engineer with Olsson explained that there is still no idea officially with grants but are closer now that the budget has been passed and got through legal. Thinking June or July time frame but no official answer. Corr explained that with the bidding process there is 90 day hold period. The key there is executing the contract within the 90 days. The recommendation is don't execute the contract until you know the grant funds are available. The key is to not issue the notice to proceed until the funds are available.

There was discussion on getting a notice in the paper before contractors start filling up. City Administrator Tom Ourada stated that this could be an agenda item at the next City Council meeting. Once the City Council approves the notice then it can be sent to Crete News to be published.

Corr explained that Federal Aviation Administration comments included a recommendation to remove a small portion of pavement and to update some things on the Airport Improvement Plan. Corr explained that there was a pre-design meeting and discussed how funding works and it has been a 90 10 grant. For FY2025-2026 it will be 95% and 2027 it will also be 95%. It will be 95% across the whole grant. Corr also explained the federal provisions that have come up with Buy American and with Disadvantaged Business Enterprise. City Administrator Tom Ourada explained there is discussion with the gas company on running gas over to the airport.

Kirk Keller motioned to recommend to the City Council the Engineer recommendation and Howard Nitzel seconded the motion.

Howard Nitzel: Aye, Blaine Spanjer: Aye, Greg Hier: Aye, Kirk Keller: Aye

Howard Nizel asked optional doors. Corr explained that would be a possibility but there would be additional costs and they would not be covered by the grant.

4. Petitions - Communications - Resident Concerns

5. Officers' Reports

5.A. Airport Manager Report

Airport Manager Samantha Haack stated that she will be starting hangar inspections this week.

City Administrator Tom Ourada stated that the way they have been pricing fuel works but they will be adjusting it.

Haack is getting bids for the beacon and Corr mentioned keeping Davey Jones updated with the beacon project.

6. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 8:41 a.m.