

**AVIATION & AIRPORTS ADVISORY BOARD**  
**MINUTES**  
**June 11, 2025**

Board Members:

Bruce Pelly, Chair  
Sophie M. Gaeta, Vice Chair  
Humberto Rivera  
Jerry Harrison

Representing Department  
of Airports:

Laura Beebe, Director of Airports  
Gary M. Sypek, Senior Deputy Director  
Shawna Larose, Deputy Director Real Estate & Concessions  
Lauren Scott, Deputy Director of Planning & Development  
T.K. Stewart, Deputy Director Operations & Maintenance  
Ray Walter, Deputy Director Real Estate & Concessions  
Rebeca Krogman, Manager Public Information Services

## **I. Call To Order**

Chairman Bruce Pelly called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m. A quorum was present.

Director Beebe invited attendees to introduce themselves, including newly appointed Board Member Jerry Harrison (District 6).

## **II. Approval of Minutes**

The Chair called for a motion to approve the minutes from the April 15, 2025 meeting. The motion was seconded and approved unanimously.

## **III. Airport Update – Laura Beebe**

Director Beebe presented the Airport Update, reviewing March and April air traffic data. She noted an upward trend in total passengers and commercial air carrier operations, with a decline in General Aviation activity due to multiple Temporary Flight Restrictions (TFRs).

She also shared that PBI served 8.5 million passengers in the 12-month period ending February 2025.

## **IV. Air Service Update – Laura Beebe**

Director Beebe shared current air service developments, noting the typical seasonal reductions. Key updates included:

- American Airlines is now offering year-round service to Chicago-O’Hare (ORD)
- Frontier Airlines suspending service to Islip (ISP) due to competition
- Breeze Airways adding new nonstop routes to Richmond (RIC) and Akron-Canton (CAK)
- Strong performance of Southwest’s Orlando (MCO) and Nashville (BNA) routes
- Reduced demand for Canadian routes in the U.S., with Porter Airlines’ return uncertain
- Sun Country’s suspension of service to Minneapolis (MSP), expected to return in October 2026; Delta continues to serve MSP

Director Beebe also provided industry updates, including the newly announced JetBlue-United “Blue Sky” partnership and the financial challenges facing airlines like Spirit and Silver.

## **V. Marketing Update – Rebeca Krogman**

Manager of Public Information Services Rebeca Krogman provided the Marketing update. She talked about paid social media posts that promoted the Conde Nast Traveler 2025 Readers’ Choice Awards, as well as Breeze Airways’ new routes from PBI to Richmond and Akron-Canton. She then played a radio ad presented by Virginia from 97.9 WRMF’s KJV Show and mentioned that Virginia highlights

the Providence, Nashville and Buffalo routes. She also talked about the Concourse B Expansion project and PBI's amenities. She played one radio advertisement for the Board.

Rebeca also played a video that was created by the County's Channel 20.

Rebeca showed the Board a news story by WPBF that highlights PBI's record-breaking 8.4 million passengers (December 2024-December 2025), along with updates on the Concourse B Expansion and the Main Terminal Connector.

Palm Beach Illustrated featured four routes from PBI: Marsh Harbour, Denver, St. Louis and Toronto. The article's author, Skye Sherman frequently engages with PBI's social media, which helps create opportunities for additional media coverage and features like this one.

## **VI. Construction Project Update – Lauren Scott**

Deputy Director Lauren Scott provided the Board with the Construction Project Update. The current projects under construction at PBI that she discussed included the 400Hz Ground Power Units Replacement, Preconditioned Air, 4<sup>th</sup> Level Roof Replacement, Central Airfield Improvements, Taxiway R Rehabilitation and Green Street Improvements and Related Work.

She continued the presentation by discussing PBI Central Airfield improvements with substantial completion expected in early 2026.

Director Scott talked about the 3 phases of the Concourse B Expansion Project. Phase 1 is substantially completed. Phase 2 is ongoing and expected to be completed Spring 2026. Phase 3 is expected to be completed in 2028.

Future projects she discussed were Runway 10L/28R Rehabilitation, Elevator Replacement, Air Handler Replacement Phase 2, New Aircraft Rescue and Firefighting (ARFF) Facility, Repairs to STG and LTG, Terminal Connector and Parking Revenue Control Building Replacement. Director Scott also spoke about future projects at the general aviation airports including F45 AWOS and LNA AWOS Replacement, LNA Southside Redevelopment Phases 3 & 4, and F45, LNA and PHK Surface Treatments.

Director Scott talked about two planning projects: LNA Master Plan Update and F45 EA Runway 14/32 Extension.

## **VII. Real Estate & Concessions Update – Shawna Larose**

Deputy Director Larose provided the AAAB with the Real Estate & Concessions update. She talked about the Requests for Proposals (RFP) for the two combined Retail, Food & Beverage Concession Opportunities at PBI. She informed the Board that Director Beebe received approval of the award from the Board of County Commissioners on April 22. Since this approval, both incumbents have completed walk-throughs and the initial phasing plan has started. Director Beebe said that Plum

Market and Rocco's Tacos will open first to improve passenger experience during Concourse B construction

## **VIII. Operations and Maintenance Update – T.K. Stewart**

The Operations and Maintenance update was provided by the Deputy Director of Operations and Maintenance T.K. Stewart. He began his presentation by mentioning that there are three open positions in Operations and two in Maintenance. He also talked about the Hurricane plan which was presented to tenants during the Safety and Security meeting, as well as different types of trainings for both divisions.

Director Stewart then discussed ongoing maintenance projects including taxiway rehabilitation and concourse B expansion projects.

## **IX. Matters by the Public**

Chairman Pelly opened the floor for public comment.

A commenter expressed concern about the lack of available hangar space, stating it hinders efforts to establish a maintenance facility. Director Beebe explained that hangar space is leased by the Fixed Base Operators (FBOs) and advised contacting them directly.

Another attendee raised concerns over FBOs having control over lease agreements.

## **X. Board Member Comments**

Sophie Gaeta congratulated Director Walters on his upcoming retirement.

## **XI. Adjourn**

Director Beebe noted that the next AAAB meeting is scheduled for Sept. 10, 2025.

The meeting adjourned at 2:12 p.m.