



Michael J. Landguth, A.A.E.
President & CEO

1000 Trade Drive • P.O. Box 80001 • RDU Airport, NC 27623
tel: (919) 840-7700 • fax: (919) 840-0175 • www.rdu.com

RALEIGH-DURHAM AIRPORT AUTHORITY BOARD OF MEETING MINUTES MAY 21, 2026

Chair Hall-Roberts presided. Present: Asante-Smith, Hankins, Ghosh, Kushner, Polanco-Galdamez, Szlosberg-Landis and Winters. Staff present included: President and CEO Landguth, and General Counsel Locklear, and other staff members and guests¹.

I. CLOSED SESSION

Motion by Asante-Smith to enter into a closed session to consult with an attorney in order to preserve the attorney-client privilege between the attorney and the public body pursuant to NCGS §143-318.11(a)(3); Second by Ghosh

ADOPTED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE

II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion by Kushner to amend the agenda to pull item 2 from Old Business and to pull the consent agenda item under New Business for discussion; Second by Winters

ADOPTED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE

Motion by Kushner to approve the amended agenda; Second by Winters

ADOPTED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Secretary Polanco-Galdamez noted her review of the minutes of the committee work sessions held on April 9, 2026, and regular meeting of the Board held on April 23, 2026, and asked if any edits were needed.

Motion by Polanco-Galdamez to adopt the minutes; Second by Ghosh

ADOPTED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE

¹ The meeting was live streamed on YouTube.

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Nana Asante-Smith

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Shelley Winters, **Treasurer**

DURHAM COUNTY
Yesenia Polanco-Galdamez, **Secretary**
Nil Ghosh

WAKE COUNTY
Ellis Hankins
David Kushner



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IV. CHAIR COMMENTS

Welcome

- Chair Hall-Roberts welcomed everyone.

RDU's Birthday

- RDU marked a major milestone this month when the airport celebrated its 83rd birthday.
- The runways at what was then known as Raleigh-Durham Army Air Field became operational on May 1st, 1943.
- Eastern Airlines began service to New York and Miami that year.
- What began as a small airfield has grown into a vital international gateway for our region, thanks to the support of our passengers, partners and dedicated employees.
- As we celebrate more than eight decades of service, we look forward to continuing to welcome travelers for many years to come.

Memorial Day Weekend

- As we head into Memorial Day weekend, let's pause to remember the brave men and women who made the ultimate sacrifice in service to our country.
- While the holiday weekend often marks the beginning of summer travel and gatherings with family and friends, Memorial Day is first and foremost a time to honor those who gave their lives in defense of our nation and the freedoms we enjoy today.
- I also want to thank the members of Team RDU who have served or continue to serve in the military.
- Your dedication, leadership and commitment to service are deeply appreciated, and we are grateful for all you have done for our country and our community.

Wrap-Up

- That concludes my remarks. Now let's turn to today's business.

V. PUBLIC COMMENTS²

Natalie Lew

Actually, I'm just coming here today just to thank you regarding public comments, because I probably haven't said that very often, but really deep hearted, thank you for having public comments instituted into the meetings. As you well know, during the Vision 2040 process, there were none. So, I feel like a lot of us feel like the public got left out of the Vision 2040 process. But I know in talking to people that they're very, very appreciative of the fact that there are now public comments. As you know, there's really not that many. It would be helpful, maybe if we go to three minutes since usually there's only a few people, you know, who are here. We are pretty

² Generated with AI.

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nice, so if maybe consider going to three minutes and we would appreciate that. The other thing I wanted to say thank you about and I really appreciate this as a female, but just all the discussions in the last year where you've really put effort into trying to include the small businesses, women owned businesses, minority businesses. You know until we have a seat at the table, you know you can't have our voices heard. So just listening to you guys debate and talk about these things when you're doing the construction, all the other contracts, again, it's just a deep hearted thank you again. Vision 2040, as you well know, there's one contract that has no minority women or anything like that and so, I feel like if we would have been able to have that discussion back in Vision 2040, then maybe we wouldn't have a rock quarry next to Umstead. But you know, in the long run, it's again, those two things are very much appreciated, not just by myself, but I do know from the public in general. So, thank you very much.

VI. OLD BUSINESS

1. Finance Committee – Winters reported Board members met during the Committee work session on May 14, 2026, and discussed the following:
 - a. Consideration of Proposed FY26-27 Internal Audit Plan

Motion by Winters for approval of the FY26-27 Internal Audit Plan and authorization for the Internal Audit Department to proceed according to the Plan; Second by Ghosh

ADOPTED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE

2. Law and Personnel Committee – Polanco-Galdamez reported Board members met during the Committee work session on May 14, 2026, and discussed the following:
 - a. Consideration of Revised Employee Incentive Payment Policy for FY26/27

No board action was taken.

3. Operations Committee – Asante-Smith reported Board members met during the Committee work session on May 14, 2026, and discussed the following:
 - a. There was a closed session and no action to report.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

1. Consent Agenda
 - a. Consideration of Expanded Alcohol to Go Sales Program

Motion by Kushner to extend the To Go Sales Alcohol Pilot Program for 6 more months; Second by Winters

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FAILED BY 2-6 VOTE

*Motion by Asante-Smith to approve the To Go Sales Alcohol Program as requested by staff;
Second by Hankins*

ADOPTED BY 6-2 VOTE

VIII. GENERAL COUNSEL'S REPORT

No items were reported.

IX. PRESIDENT AND CEO'S REPORT – President and CEO Landguth reported on recent Airport activities

Welcome

- Good afternoon, Board members, Team RDU, business partners and guests who are joining us today.

Passenger Traffic

- RDU recorded two of the busiest days in airport history in May as Mother's Day and college graduations brought thousands of passengers to the region.
- More than 32,000 travelers passed through security checkpoints on both Sunday, May 10 and Monday, May 11 – making them the second and fourth single busiest days on record at RDU.
- April was also a busy month as families wrapped up their spring break getaways. More than 1.3 million passengers flew through the airport – an increase of two percent over March 2026 and nearly two percent over April 2025.
- Delta had 27 percent of market share in April, with American at 25 percent and Southwest at 12 percent.

Air Service

- Breeze Airways continues to offer new options for travelers in the Triangle region, with seven new routes launching in May and June.
- In early May, the airline began service to:
 - Bangor, Maine;
 - Stewart-Newburgh, New York;
 - Vero Beach, Florida;
 - San Antonio, Texas;
 - and Madison, Wisconsin.
- Breeze will add Orange County-Santa Ana, California and Atlantic City, New Jersey to its route map in late May and mid-June.

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- Breeze now serves 40 nonstop destinations from RDU – more than any other airline.

Spirit

- Spirit Airlines ended all flight operations nationwide on May 2nd, marking the conclusion of service across its network.
- Spirit represented approximately one percent of passenger traffic at RDU and had been flying to two destinations.
- Both of those cities are served by other airlines, and RDU will continue to offer a record 87 nonstop destinations.
- While we are disappointed to see their operations end, we appreciate Spirit's partnership and the service they provided to our community since they launched at RDU in 2019.

Park Economy 3

- As we continue to make significant progress on the Transform RDU capital program, I'd like to update you on one of our most visible projects – the expansion of the Park Economy 3 lot.
- Almost half of the nearly 11,000 planned spaces are now open, with additional sections scheduled to become available throughout the summer and fall.
- The new Customer Amenity Building is nearing completion and is expected to open in late summer.
- The building will provide restrooms and vending options that give travelers more amenities closer to where they park.
- The lot is also getting greener as solar panels are installed across the facility.
- You can learn more about the PE3 expansion and other capital projects at TransformRDU.com.

Birthday Message

- Finally, I'd like to wish a happy birthday to our Board Chair, who celebrated hers earlier this week.
- Madame Chair – your leadership and dedication continue to guide RDU forward.
- Thank you for your ongoing support and commitment to our mission.
- We wish you a wonderful year ahead.

Wrap Up

- That concludes my remarks.

X. MEMBER COMMENTS

Hankins congratulated all college graduates in North Carolina and high school graduates in Wake County and across the state line, including his youngest granddaughter on her graduation. Ghosh wished Chair Hall-Roberts a Happy 30th Birthday. Asante-Smith expressed her excitement about the new Breeze flight to her hometown, Madison, Wisconsin. Asante-Smith also congratulated Ghosh on his Under 40 award from the Triangle Business Journal. Kushner

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expressed his comments about his Ireland trip being such an easy flight and also gave thanks to David Freedman and his team. Polanco-Galdamez congratulated her nephew, all of the graduates and Ghosh on his award. Chair Hall-Roberts stated it is Internal Audit Month, Military Appreciation Month, her birthday month and it is also Small Business Month, so it is important that we continue looking for meaningful ways to support and engage the small business community. This commitment has been a consistent focus throughout her career and said she was greatly influenced by the late great Dr. Andrea Harris in her work to expand economic opportunities across North Carolina.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Winters to adjourn; Second by Polanco-Galdamez

ADOPTED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE

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