TWEED NEW HAVEN AIRPORT

TWEED NEW HAVEN AIRPORT AUTHORITY
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 18, 2026

BOARD MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

Robert Reed, John Picard, Serena Neal-Sanjurjo, Carlos Eyzaguirre, Mark Sklarz, Ray Pompano, David White, Michael Fimiani, Kevin Rocco and Charles Page.

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT

Linda Hennessey, Ken Dagliere, Jesse Phillips, Mark Scussel and Dean Johnson.

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE

Tom Rafter, Tom Cavaliere, Malena Zanjani, Jeremy Nielson, Brian C. Courtney, Bryan Hoffman, Diane Proto, Eliot Jameson, Hugh Manke, Jeremiah Wilhite, Katherine Bennett, Lisa Brandes, Lorena Venegas, Mark Zaretsky, Michael Giordano, Toni Lorenti, Trina Yoxall, Mark Lewandowski, and Gloria Bellacicco.

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 4:04 PM by the Chairman. A quorum was confirmed as present.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion to approve the minutes of the January 2025 Board Meeting was made by Mr. Fimiani and seconded Mr. Rocco. There were no corrections or amendments. Motion carried unanimously.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Chairman Reed introduced Charles "Chuck" Page, newly appointed by the Town of East Haven. The Board welcomed Mr. Page. There were no questions or comments.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Executive Director Rafter provided updates on several key areas:

- Prior Action Item: Mr. Cavaliere will provide an update on public outreach engagement statistics during his report.
- Resolution 631: Amendment to the Executive Director's retirement transition agreement to extend the term of service.
- Resolution 632: Ratification of a $4 million FAA grant for terminal foundation piles. The application was submitted December 17, 2025; the grant offer was received January 28, 2026, executed electronically, and ratified by the Executive Committee. Full Board ratification is requested.

- DHS Funding: Ongoing federal funding disruptions may affect TSA screening operations. Appreciation was expressed to TSA personnel for maintaining operations.
- Statistics: HVN continues to experience significant passenger growth. November enplanements increased 15% year-over-year. Year-to-date enplanements are up 30%. Total enplanements for the twelve months ending in November were 734,856.

FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

DECEMBER 2025 FINANCIALS

Prior to the meeting, Ms. Neal-Sanjurjo reviewed the financials and requested that Mr. Rafter present the Finance Committee Report for the period ending December 31, 2025. Mr. Rafter provided an overview of the report.

- Airfield Fund
  - Total revenues for December, excluding the Lessee subsidy of $191,490, were $94,113.
  - The subsidy required was under budget by $128,619 for the month.
  - Year-to-date (YTD) actual revenues, excluding the $1,340,598 subsidy, totaled $574,197, which is $4,945 below budget.
  - December expenses were $285,603, under budget by $131,030.
  - YTD expenses totaled $1,914,795, which is $585,002 below budget.
- Administration Fund
  - Total revenues for December were $106,652, which is over budget by $19,048.
  - YTD revenues totaled $433,400, under budget by $32,203.
  - Administrative expenses for December were $77,014.
  - YTD expenses totaled $393,999, which is $129,248 under budget.
- Net Results:
  - The net result for December was a positive $29,638.
  - The YTD net result remains positive at $39,402.
- Balance Sheet
  - Fund Balance as of December 31, 2025: $41,629.
  - Total liabilities and fund balances: $2,194,840.

AIRPORT MANAGER'S REPORT

AIRFIELD OPERATIONS

Mr. Cavaliere presented on behalf of Mr. Nielson and reported the following:

- Maintenance Garage Update: A heating system issue was identified on January 23 in the east-side maintenance garage. Carbon monoxide detectors were installed as a precaution. After a reported elevated reading on January 27, the East Haven Fire Department responded and detected no measurable CO levels. The building was temporarily closed out of caution. A subsequent inspection by the Connecticut State Boiler Inspector required a boiler repair, which was completed, and the facility reopened within 24 hours. No further elevated readings were detected.
- Snow Operations: The operations and maintenance team was commended for maintaining safe and continuous airfield, landside, and parking operations during recent snow events.

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Mr. Sklarz commended airport, TSA, and Avports staff for their professionalism during post-storm operations. Mr. Pompano requested clarification regarding the CO reading; Mr. Cavaliere confirmed that follow-up inspections found no measurable levels. This concluded the Airfield Operations report.

LESSEE'S REPORT – THE NEW HVN LLC

THE NEW HVN LLC

Mr. Cavaliere presented on behalf of Mr. Nielson and reported the following:

- Passenger Growth and Parking: Presidents Day weekend traffic was strong. The Long Wharf park-and-ride facility was well utilized, expanding parking capacity and reducing traffic along Townsend Avenue and Fort Hale Road through shuttle consolidation.
- Passenger Comfort: Heating curtains were installed at terminal walkways and entrances to improve comfort and temperature control during colder months.
- Food and Amenities: Tropicana Bowls has joined Don Empanadas outside arrivals on select days, expanding pre-security food options.
- Valentine's Day Event: For the second year, the airport partnered with Petonito's Pastry and Cupcake Shoppe of East Haven to distribute complimentary cannolis to passengers.

Mr. Fimiani noted reduced traffic congestion near the airport. Mr. Cavaliere attributed improved flow and passenger experience to operational enhancements, including revised traffic patterns, roundabout installation with the City of New Haven, a third TSA screening unit, and increased staffing.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT REPORT

Mr. Cavaliere provided the following updates:

- Letter Writing Campaign: The airport expansion advocacy campaign has generated over 120 signatures to date and continues to gain support.
- Residential Indoor Air Purifier Program: A second outreach letter increased participation. To date, 540 purifier codes have been issued, benefiting 474 eligible households. The program concludes March 15, with final metrics to be reported thereafter. Management will issue reminder notices via newsletter and social media prior to the deadline.
- Noise Monitoring Program: One portable monitor remains deployed at a residence on Upson Terrace, with data available via WebTrak. A second monitor will be deployed in the spring as weather permits.
- CT DEEP Public Meeting: The informational meeting has been rescheduled for February 25, 6:00–7:30 p.m. at East Haven High School to review the application process and public engagement opportunities, with participation from CT DEEP and project consultants.
    - *Note: After the meeting, the February 25, 2026 Public Information Session was converted to a virtual format due to anticipated weather conditions. Click **here** or visit flytweed.com for more information.*

REPORTS AND ACTION ITEMS

RESOLUTION #631: AMENDMENT TO RESOLUTION #628 TRANSITION PLAN FOR THOMAS RAFTER

Chairman Reed introduced the resolution. There were no comments. A motion to approve the resolution was made by Mr. Fimiani and seconded by Mr. Picard. The resolution was unanimously approved by the Board.

RESOLUTION #632: RESOLUTION RATIFYING ACCEPTANCE OF FEDERAL GRANT

Chairman Reed introduced the resolution. There were no comments. A motion to approve the resolution was made by Mr. Page and seconded by Mr. Picard. The resolution was unanimously approved by the Board.

OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Please note that the following comments reflect the speaker's personal opinions and concerns, not established facts. Public Comment is intended for remarks from the public, not for a question-and-answer session. For inquiries, members of the public are encouraged to reach out directly to the Tweed New Haven Airport Authority or Avports.

Trina Yoxall – New Haven, CT: Commenter expressed disagreement with statements regarding improved traffic conditions, stating that congestion remains a concern for residents living near the airport. Commenter also raised concerns about the airport's letter-writing campaign, suggesting that outreach should reflect a broader range of community perspectives. Commenter further claimed aircraft noise and fumes continue to negatively affect nearby residents and that conditions have not meaningfully improved.

Katherine Bennett – East Haven, CT: Commenter raised concerns regarding the airport's use of aircraft deicing fluids containing propylene glycol, referencing a peer-reviewed article and asserting that such substances can contribute to oxygen depletion in nearby waterways and potential harm to aquatic life, wildlife, and human health. Commenter expressed concern that expanded airport operations could negatively affect environmental conditions and stated opposition to any potential degradation of recent improvements in regional water quality.

Gloria Bellacicco – New Haven, CT: Commenter encouraged other residents to contact elected officials to express opposition to the airport expansion. Commenter referenced independently organizing outreach efforts to state and local representatives.

Lisa Brandes – New Haven, CT: Commenter expressed support for the airport and encouraged the Board to promote Tweed as a gateway to southeastern Connecticut tourism, colleges, and industry. Commenter suggested greater engagement with the Eastern Regional Tourism District and participation in the upcoming Eastern Connecticut Tourism Conference. Commenter also referenced a January 2026 U.S. Government Accountability Office (GAO) report regarding airport access to public transit and encouraged consideration of expanded transit connectivity, including rail connections, as part of future airport planning.

Toni Lorenti – ALPA (Airline Pilots Association): Commenter raised concerns regarding the misuse of personal information shared during public comment and suggested the Board consider alternative identification procedures to protect privacy. Commenter expressed public discourse regarding the airport has been predominantly negative and asserted that both perspectives are widely represented. Commenter referenced an independent study related to air quality and questioned the validity of claims regarding environmental impacts. Commenter also emphasized the importance of general aviation as part of airport operations and encouraged consideration of its role alongside commercial airline activity.

After consultation with legal counsel, it was determined that because the public comment period is offered as a courtesy and is not in the nature of testimony that is part of a contested or licensing proceeding, or for some purpose for which federal or state law calls for such identification, commenters are not required to provide their full name or address. The Chair will request that speakers state their name and town for the record with the expectation that a speaker's communicating such information will

promote community dialogue and give the Authority context with respect to the speaker's concerns; however, individuals may decline to do so and still provide comment during the public comment period.

Lorena Venegas – East Haven, CT: Commenter alleged deficiencies in the airport's wetlands application to CT DEEP and asserted that the application process was not properly followed. Commenter also raised concerns regarding wetlands impacts, a proposed fuel tank application, Board representation, media coverage, and discrepancies in publicly reported project cost estimates.

Michael Gordano – Juno Beach, FL: Commenter stated that Avelo Airlines is expected to transition from operating Boeing 737-700 aircraft to an all-737-800 fleet beginning in March, based on information available on the airline's website. Commenter expressed support for the airport and its continued operations.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Mr. Page and seconded by Mr. White. Motion passed. The meeting adjourned at approximately 4:54 PM. The next meeting will be held on March 18, 2026, at 4:00 PM.

MINUTES PREPARED AND SUBMITTED BY

Malena Zanjani

2/23/2026

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