

Oklahoma Senate Committee on Appropriations

2019-20 Performance Report

Oklahoma Aeronautics Commission

AGENCY MISSION STATEMENT:

Here a simple statement of the adopted mission of the agency should be provided, along with the entity or person(s) who adopted the mission statement and when it was adopted.

The mission of the Oklahoma Aeronautics Commission (OAC) is to promote aviation, which includes ensuring that the needs of commerce and communities across the state are met by the state's 108 public airports that comprise the Oklahoma Airport System, and ensuring the viability of the state's aerospace industry. Director Victor Bird and the oversight commission adopted the mission statement in 2007.

LEAD ADMINISTRATOR:

Victor N. Bird, Director of Aeronautics, 110 N Robinson, Suite 200, Oklahoma City, OK 73102, vbird@oac.ok.gov, (405) 604-6906

GOVERNANCE:

Here a brief description of the agency's governance structure should be provided. Is the agency headed by a Governor appointee? An appointee of an independent board? Who selects the board, and who are the current members of the board.

OAC is overseen by a 7-member commission appointed by the Governor. The appointments do not require Senate confirmation. 5 of the commissioners represent each of the congressional districts, and two of the commissioners are at-large. The term of a commissioner is 6 years. 3 O.S. §84

As provided by the enabling legislation for the Commission, the chief executive officer of the Commission is the Director of Aeronautics. The Director is appointed by the Commission and serves at its pleasure. By statute, the Director is the appointing authority for other Commission employees that are necessary to fulfill the responsibilities of the Commission. 3 O.S. §84

Current members of the Commission:

Chairman –Kevin Potter, CD-1
Term Expires 12-31-2024

Vice Chair –Dave Amis, III, CD-5
Term Expires 12-31-2020

Secretary –James Putnam, At-Large
Term Expires 12-31-2022

Commissioner –David Conway, CD-2
Term Expires 12-31-2022

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Commissioner –Michael Ray, CD-3
Term Expires 12-31-2019

Commissioner –Lindy Ritz, CD-4
Term Expires 12-31-2023

Commissioner –Jerry Hunter, At-Large
Term Expires 12-31-2021

Does the Board have any committees or subgroups? If so, please provide a detailed listing of the subgroups and their areas of focus.

The Commission does not have any standing committees or subgroups. From time to time, ad hoc committees are created by the Commission to address a particular issue(s). Currently, there is such a committee comprised of 4 members that is studying the serious pilot shortage and how that may be addressed at a state level and otherwise. When the committee meets, it complies with the Open Meeting Act.

GOVERNANCE ACCOUNTABILITY:

Is there an attendance policy for board members/commissioners? If so, is it being followed?

There is no attendance policy for the commissioners and historically, there has not been a need for such a policy.

MODERNIZATION EFFORTS:

Please provide a listing of all government modernization efforts undertaken by the agency in the last twelve months. Additionally, please provide any authorizing statutory changes that prompted the modernization efforts and whether those efforts have led to cost savings or additional cost burden.

- OAC has started an effort to group airport infrastructure projects together whereas the design/bid/construction of a project an airport will occur with other similar projects in the same general geographic region of the state. The goal of this process to group these airport projects together is to achieve better economies of scale, reduce the unit costs of each project, and therefore stretch the limited funding that these airports receive further than if each airport undertook the project individually.
- OAC has acted as agent for different municipal airports across the state to assist them through the federal and state grant process for airport construction projects. OAC has also acted as agent for the development of preliminary engineering reports for various airports across the state. Acting as agent to assist these airports and group projects together when possible creates efficiencies and ensures the limited infrastructure dollars that these airports receive can be stretched further and applied to more pavement, lighting, and other infrastructure items.

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- OAC has conducted the design of certain airport construction projects (usually basic maintenance, crack seal and seal coat, type projects) in house when staff work load permits. Providing OAC staff to do the design internally allows the limited local funding that airports receive to be invested into actual airport infrastructure.

What steps has the agency taken to cut costs and/or eliminate waste? Are there efforts that have been successful which you believe could serve as a model for other state agencies seeking to keep costs minimal?

The above mentioned modernization efforts have led to cost savings and efficiencies on airport projects and allowed the limited amount of funding that these airports receive to be stretched as far as possible and applied to more infrastructure items such as pavement, lighting, safety area improvements, and other vital areas of an airport. OAC has partnered with ODOT regarding communications services such as printing and video production of Commission meetings. While OAC provides the paper and bindery work, ODOT's printing of our materials has created a cost savings in the OAC printing budget while increasing our quality in our communications publications. The video services they provide creates a product for the public which ensures easy access to Commission meetings and provides government transparency at minimal cost.

CORE MISSION:

What services are you required to provide which are outside of your core mission? None

Are any services you provide duplicated or replicated by another agency? No

Are there services which are core to your mission which you are unable to perform because of requirements to perform non-core services elsewhere? No

PRIVATE ALTERNATIVES:

Are any of the services which are performed by the agency also performed in the private sector in Oklahoma?

Yes, the occasional design of airport projects that OAC does is also performed by the private sector in Oklahoma.

In other states?

Same answer as the one to the first question in this section.

Has the agency been approached by any foundation, for-profit or not-for-profit corporation with efforts to privatize some of the functions of the agency?

OAC has continued to utilize GovDelivery which is an email communications service provided by OMES which has assisted the agency in communicating with our constituency and airport community at no additional cost to the agency.

JM 01.18.2019