

2017 AIRPORT OF THE YEAR

This year's winning airport has been a fixture in its community for many years. Today, the city and county currently own the airport of which several improvements have been made, and more are on the horizon.

Recently, the airport was awarded a 75% state and 25% local grant to install an Automated Weather Observing System which was commissioned in 2016.

The airport also teamed up with a local foundation to fund and construct a new 1,900 square-foot terminal building, which formally opened in early January of 2016. The new terminal is fully equipped with a flight briefing room, an airport manager's office, and a waiting room equipped with a conference table and furniture. There is also an attached two car garage which is being used to store the airport courtesy car and other airport equipment.

The airport is planning to team up with the state to fund design for pavement rehabilitation of all their pavements this summer with the construction to follow next summer.

The airport board was recently made aware of deficiencies resulting from the state's 5010 inspection which they quickly resolved. The airport board remains focused to make the airport a priority and to work with the city, county, and state to make improvements where needed.

Our winning airport is busy with activity including flight training, corporate activity, and recreational flying operations. Among the airport's most important activities, aerial applicators utilize the airport to provide critical support to agri-businesses in the region. The airport also supports area correctional facilities, law enforcement, and rangeland firefighting services.

A recent visitor to the airport had this to say, "In addition to having one of the best prices for fuel, they now have a brand new modern building with all the comforts. A coffee bar, conference table, nice restrooms and a flight planning room make this a great stop in the middle of west Texas 24 hours a day. I'm impressed."

Please join me in congratulating Lamesa Municipal Airport as our 2017 Airport of the Year!