



GAIL FARBER, Director

# COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

## DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

*"To Enrich Lives Through Effective and Caring Service"*

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### LOS ANGELES COUNTY AVIATION COMMISSION

April 27, 2016, Meeting  
Whiteman Airport  
10000 Airpark Way  
Pacoima, CA 91331-7393  
(818) 896-5271

#### IN ATTENDANCE

Secretary Angelo R. Cardono  
Commissioner Peter M. Amundson  
Commissioner Harvey A. Holloway  
Commissioner Dennis C. Lord  
Commissioner Clinton Simmons  
Commissioner Steve A. Weeks

#### OFFICIALLY EXCUSED

Chair Penelope Cornwall  
Vice-Chair George G. Butts

#### COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES - DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS STAFF

Mr. Richard Smith, Aviation Division Chief  
Mrs. Claudia Delgado, Staff Assistant

#### AMERICAN AIRPORTS CORPORATION - AIRPORT SERVICES STAFF

Mr. Scott Wardle, Regional Director  
Mr. Pete Lonctaux, Manager, Brackett Field Airport  
Mr. Jared Birch, Manager, San Gabriel Valley Airport  
Mr. Steve Irving, Manager, General William J. Fox Airfield  
Mr. Andrew Marino, Manager, Whiteman Airport

#### GUEST

Mr. Richard Millais, Civil Air Patrol Squadron 35  
Mr. Richard Wollrich, Whiteman Airport Association  
Mr. Don Hagopian, Whiteman Airport Association  
Mr. Jeff Jeibert, Whiteman Airport Association  
Mr. Shellie Hagopian, Whiteman Airport Association  
Mr. Eduardo Pabon, Whiteman Airport Association  
Mr. Tim Quinn, Whiteman Airport Association

Mr. Hal Reinstra, Whiteman Airport Association  
Mr. James Miller, Civil Air Patrol Squadron 137  
Mr. Brian Thomson, Airport tenant

## **CALL TO ORDER**

Secretary Cardono called the meeting to order at 7 p.m.

### **I. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Secretary Cardono led the Pledge of Allegiance.

### **II. MATTERS FOR CONSIDERATION AND ACTION BY THE COMMISSION**

#### **A. Minutes**

The minutes for the March 30, 2016, meeting were unanimously approved on a motion from Commissioner Lord, seconded by Commissioner Amundson.

#### **B. American Airports Corporation - Contract Manager Report**

##### **Mr. Scott Wardle Reported on American Airports Corporation Items**

Mr. Wardle informed the Commission about the Request for Proposals for the Whiteman Redevelopment Project, and that American Airports Corporation (AAC) will finalize the terms of the deal with the proposer selected for the lease.

Reconfiguration of the new Whiteman terminal building administration offices is complete. Mr. Wardle introduced Mr. Andy Hasroun, who has been negotiating for a new restaurant concession in the terminal space.

The Compton/Woodley Airport Manager position is now open, and AAC has received two applications, one application is from an internal candidate and the other one is from an outside applicant.

##### **Mr. Pete Lonctaux Reported on Brackett Field Airport Items**

Mr. Lonctaux informed the Commission that Brackett Field Airport is submitting a special project request to add solar lighting on the rooftop, repaint the terminal building exterior, replace water fountains, and remodel the pilot's lounge.

- **Projects**

Mr. Lonctaux reported to the Commission that Southern California Edison completed the incandescent and fluorescent lighting upgrade at Global Aviator, the terminal building, and restaurant.

- **Development and Activities**

Eighty-eight percent of the aircraft hangars are occupied, and 22 percent of the occupied hangars are used for non-aviation storage purposes.

Avgas fuel sales were down 36.2 percent in March, and Jet-A fuel sales were down 23.8 percent, compared to the same month last year.

Aircraft operations on the airport were down 26.5 percent, compared to the same month last year.

- **Meetings and Events**

Mr. Loncteaux informed the Commission that talks on joining events with the Fairplex ended for 2016, and this idea will be reconsidered for next year.

The first marketing fund meeting took place on April 26, 2016, in the Aviation Division office.

A fuel spill occurred during the delivery of Jet-A fuel on April 15, 2016. The spill was mitigated and cleaned up in the interim until hazmat scrubbed and pressure-washed the contaminated location.

### **Mr. Jared Birch Reported on San Gabriel Valley Airport Items**

- **Maintenance**

A pressure washer was purchased to detail-clean the restrooms and any additional areas on the airport.

- **Projects**

Phase I of the apron pavement rehabilitation project continues at the airport, and Mr. Birch informed the Commission that tenants have been very cooperative and understanding of the construction.

Mr. Birch informed the Commission that the new monument sign is complete. Mr. Birch also informed the Commission that one of the LED panels was disabled after the recent storm.

- **Development and Activities**

Twenty-two hangars are vacant, and 29 percent of the occupied hangars are used for non-aviation storage purposes.

American Airports' Avgas fuel sales were down 38.5 percent in March, and Jet-A fuel sales were down 72.1 percent in March, compared to the same month last year. Mr. Smith added that combined with Billion Air fuel sales, Avgas total was 34,480 and Jet-A total was 15,976.

Aircraft operations on the airport were down 25.9 percent, compared to the same month last year.

- **Meetings and Events**

On April 12, 2016, a marketing fund meeting was held at the Aviation Division office. Topics included marketing the airport use, open house advertisement, and community involvement.

The San Gabriel Valley Airport Association held their meeting on April 20, 2016.

On May 21, 2016, the Sunburst Youth Academy Foundation will host an event at the airport; guest speakers will include Metta World Peace and Congresswoman Grace Napolitano.

On April 10, 2016, there was an incident where a Cessna did a gear up landing on Runway 19, no injuries or damages were reported; Runway 19 reopened within an hour.

**Mr. Steve Irving Reported on General William J. Fox Airfield Items**

Mr. Irving informed the Commission that they recently had a revision for four large executive style hangars that are located on the west end of the airport and ownership of the hangars will revert back to the County.

Mr. Irving informed the Commission that the taxiway project commenced and mentioned that this project is between the parallel taxiway and the runway.

- **Development and Activities**

Avgas fuel sales are consistent, compared to last year. Jet-A fuel sales are down 70 percent, year to date. There are two vacant hangars, and no hangars are used for non-aviation storage purposes.

Airport operations are consistent over last year's operations.

- **Meetings**

The Pilot's Association will host a pancake breakfast on Saturday, May 14, 2016, at 8 a.m. at the Barnes Aviation hangar.

**Miscellaneous**

Mr. Irving informed the Commission that a Titan T-51 had a minor incident on the airport, no damages or injuries to report.

## **Mr. Marino Reported on Compton/Woodley Airport Items**

- **Management and Maintenance**

On April 22, 2016, a coded pedestrian gate opener was replaced adjacent to the Experimental Aircraft Association hangar.

On April 19, 2016, an underground storage tank compliance inspection took place and no deficiencies were noted.

Mr. Marino reported to the Commission that the tailgate lights on the ARFF truck and a tire on the CFR were replaced.

- **Development and Activities**

Ninety-eight percent of the hangars on the airport are occupied, and 29 percent of the occupied hangars are used for non-aviation storage purposes.

Avgas fuel sales were up 8.4 percent, compared to March 2015.

- **Miscellaneous**

The Antique Aircraft Display was held on April 2 and April 3, 2016. The next one is scheduled on May 7 and May 8, 2016.

The EAA held their Young Eagles event on April 23, 2016, and flew from 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

The Tomorrow's Aeronautical Museum is hosting their Career Expo on Saturday, May 14, 2016.

## **Mr. Andrew Marino Reported on Whiteman Airport Items**

A new rain switch was installed at the wash rack for the purpose of diverting rain water from the tanks to the storm drains.

On April 26, 2016, the operations parking area was striped, and the installation of signage was added throughout the airport and terminal building.

Interior and exterior lighting at the terminal building and surrounding areas were repaired with new ballast, and the replacement of light bulbs was required.

On April 17, 2016, a marketing fund meeting was held at the Aviation Division office. Mr. Marino shared with the Commission the goals and ideas that were discussed at this meeting.

- **Projects**

Phase I for the Terminal Building Project is complete, and parking stripes and stops were installed.

Mr. Marino thanked Mr. Smith for the new Rescue Truck that was received this month and went into service on Friday, April 22, 2016.

- **Development and Activities**

Ninety-one percent of the aircraft hangars are occupied, and 12 percent of the occupied hangars are used for non-aviation storage purposes. Avgas fuel sales are down 4 percent, and Jet-A fuel sales are up 2.5 percent, year to date.

Aircraft operations are up 4.7 percent, year to date.

- **Meetings and Events**

On April 1, 2016, Mr. Marino and Mr. Birch hosted a booth at the 11th Annual Van Nuys Career Expo.

On April 9, 2016, the Aviation Explorer Post 747 hosted their first annual Gala event, and Mr. Marino reported that the event was a success.

The Whiteman Airport Association held their meeting on April 21, 2016, and the Antique Aircraft Display will take place on Sunday, May 8, 2016. Mr. Marino thanked Commissioner Weeks for his attendance and the opportunity to meet airport users. The next meeting will be held on May 19, 2016.

C. **County Aviation Division Report – Mr. Richard Smith Reported on the Following Items**

- **March 2016 Expense and Revenue Reports**

Mr. Smith provided the Commission with copies of the March 2016 Expense and Revenue Report and offered to answer any questions.

Commissioner Simmons requested additional information on the Operational Services Division expenses. Mr. Smith provided a brief summary on the expenditures that were noted on the report.

Commissioner Weeks requested additional information on the clothing expenditures. Mr. Smith explained to the Commission that these expenditures pertain to the air show shirts and the commemorative badges that are given to air show participants.

Commissioner Simmons inquired on the expenditures for Road Maintenance Division. Mr. Smith provided to the Commission a breakdown with detailed note expenditures.

Commissioner Simmons inquired on the parking lot project at Fox Airfield and asked if Mr. Smith had the opportunity to meet with the air show executives to discuss the Commissioners' and the County's concerns. Mr. Smith informed the Commission that the air show's Executive Director resigned, but that he will be meeting with one of the air show founders to relay concerns.

- **Mental Health Awareness**

Mr. Smith shared with the Commission that May is Mental Health Awareness month in the County and announced that one of their events will take place at the San Gabriel Valley Airport, Billion Air building.

- **Air Mapping Geofencing**

Mr. Smith shared an update with the Commission regarding air mapping geofencing and mentioned that the County is on board with the project along with other surrounding airports.

- **2016 Customer Service Survey**

Mr. Smith reminded attendees that the annual Airport Customer Service Survey will end on April 30, 2016.

- **Marketing Fund Meetings**

Mr. Smith informed the Commission that all five airports have met and discussed the planning on how to handle the use of funds set aside for marketing purposes. Mr. Smith also informed the Commission that all the information was collected, and the next step will be to share it with the airport associations and tenants to prioritize the thoughts and ideas collected.

- **Annual Rental Rate Adjustment Summary**

Mr. Wardle informed the Commission that AAC submitted their recommendation for the annual rental rate adjustment. Mr. Wardle provided a summary on the recommendation that includes a non-increase of aviation rates and an increase for the current non-aviation surcharge of 37 percent to a 50 percent surcharge.

Commissioner Lord reminded everyone that keeping non-aviation tenants on the airport is a way of maintaining lower rental rates for the aviation community.

- **San Gabriel Valley Airport**

Mr. Smith informed the Commission that the Federal Aviation Administration postponed the name change for unknown reasons and mentioned that it should be announced by July 21, 2016.

The City of El Monte completed Phase I of the Tree Trimming Project which included the trees that are closest to the wash.

Mr. Smith shared with the Commission that he has received positive reviews regarding the sign. Despite the reviews, Mr. Smith informed the Commission that during the late afternoon, it is difficult to read the letters on the sign; therefore, a solid partition will replace the existing mesh to avoid the filtering of light and allow the letters on the monument to be seen.

**D. Whiteman Airport Items**

Mr. Smith informed the Commission that the County received some complaints regarding the heights hangar doors. Therefore, Building and Safety Division will evaluate the structure to determine a solution.

Mr. Smith informed the Commission that there are two potential locations that can be utilized to create a gathering space for tenants at the airport.

**III. PUBLIC COMMENT – OPEN FORUM**

Mr. Richard Millais, Civil Air Patrol Squadron 35, expressed his concern with the lack of uncertainty regarding their location at the airport. Mr. Smith listened to his concern and assured everyone that he will have a stable location.

**IV. NEXT COMMISSION MEETING WILL BE ON:**

**Wednesday, May 25, 2016, at 7 p.m.  
San Gabriel Valley Airport  
4233 Santa Anita Avenue  
El Monte, CA 91731-1670  
(626) 896-5271**

Secretary Cardono adjourned the meeting at 7:56 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Angelo Cardono, Secretary  
Los Angeles County Aviation Commission

CD:cb

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