



MARK PESTRELLA, Director

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

AVIATION COMMISSION

"To Enrich Lives Through Effective and Caring Service"

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MEMBER

LOS ANGELES COUNTY AVIATION COMMISSION

August 30, 2017, meeting
Compton/Woodley Airport
901 West Alondra Boulevard
Compton, CA 90220-3528
(310) 631-8140

IN ATTENDANCE

Chairman George G. Butts
Secretary Clinton Simmons
Commissioner Peter Amundson
Commissioner Curt Castagna
Commissioner Penelope Cornwall
Commissioner Harvey A. Holloway
Commissioner Dennis C. Lord
Commissioner Gabriel Perez
Commissioner Steve A. Weeks

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. Ed Sause, President, American Airports Corporation
Mr. Scott Wardle, Regional Director
Mr. Pete Lonctaux, Manager, Brackett Field Airport
Mr. Carlos Diaz, Manager, Compton/Woodley Airport
Mr. Steve Irving, Manager, General William J. Fox Airfield
Mr. Enrique Curioso, Manager, San Gabriel Valley Airport
Mr. Andrew Marino, Manager, Whiteman Airport

GUESTS

Ms. Leanne Powers, MB Thrill Squadron
Dr. James Haney, San Gabriel Valley Airport Association
Mr. Jon Smalldridge, San Gabriel Valley Airport Association

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman George G. Butts called the meeting to order at 7 p.m.

I. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Commissioner Gabriel Perez led the Pledge of Allegiance.

A. Minutes

The minutes for the May 31, 2017, meeting were unanimously approved on a motion from Commissioner Lord, seconded by Commissioner Perez and the minutes for the June 28, 2017, meeting were unanimously approved on a motion from Secretary Simmons, seconded by Commissioner Lord.

B. American Airports Corporation - Contract Manager Report

Mr. Scott Wardle Reported on American Airports Corporation Items

Mr. Wardle presented a summary of the marketing fund expenditures for each of the five airports.

Commissioner Simmons asked Mr. Wardle if the allocated marketing fund can be interchanged between airports. Mr. Wardle stated that the fund money is distributed evenly among the five airports, but it could be moved around.

Mr. Andrew Marino Reported on Whiteman Airport Items

The main belt on the airport's beacon tower light was replaced and repair of a security gate arm is complete.

The annual runway safety action team meeting was held on August 23, 2017. No new action items were added to the airport.

A mailing list and flyers were purchased with the marketing fund money.

The perimeter fencing along Osborne Street was damaged by a hit-and-run vehicle. Repairs to the fence are complete.

American Airports will be installing LED lights throughout the airport.

The Whiteman Airport Association held its annual barbecue picnic on Sunday, July 9, 2017, and will hold its next meeting on September 21, 2017. The next Antique Aircraft Display Day will be held on September 10, 2017.

The Whiteman Airport Open House will be held on September 23, 2017, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and the American Heroes Air Show will take place at Hansen Park on November 4, 2017.

On July 13, 2017, there was an aircraft incident on Runway 12. The aircraft sustained minor damage, and no injuries were reported. The runway was briefly closed.

On July 25, 2017, there was a minor aircraft incident on one of the runways at the airport, and operations were not affected.

Commissioner Castagna asked Mr. Marino if there is any relation between based and itinerate operations on the increase in operations that he reported. Mr. Marino stated that there is nothing recorded with that information.

Commissioner Castagna requested an update on the restroom issue that he addressed concerning Whiteman Airport. Mr. Marino stated that the contractor is working on a plan.

Ninety-two percent of the hangars on the airport are occupied, and 15 percent of the occupied hangars are used for non-aviation storage.

Avgas fuel sales are up 11.1 percent, and Jet-A fuel sales are down 1.6 percent, year to date. Aircraft operations on the airport were up 11.8 percent.

Mr. Enrique Curioso Reported on San Gabriel Valley Airport Items

Nine plants and a water timer were added to the hedge on Riverview Drive and a large glass panel in the terminal building's office area was replaced.

New decals were added to the fuel trucks to identify the type of fuel the truck provides and nozzle was installed on the rescue truck.

The card readers that face the sun at the airport are not working properly. The contractor was notified and is researching a solution.

Signs and a lock were added to the oil tank after it was contaminated by improper disposal.

Mr. Curioso informed the Commission that the asphalt on the north side of the airport was surveyed.

On July 14, 2017, there was a fatal aircraft accident. Commissioner Weeks inquired on the process that took place related to the fatal accident. Mr. Wardle stated that it is a standard process, and the airport is not involved.

On July 8, 2017, the Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association held the Rusty Pilot Seminar at the airport. Mr. Curioso thanked Ms. Leanne Powers for taking the lead in organizing this event.

Mr. Curioso informed the Commission that the conference room in the terminal building is being used for private and public events.

The annual open house will be held on Sunday, October 29, 2017.

Commissioner Simmons inquired on the process for tenants to dispose the oil waste. Mr. Curioso informed Commissioner Simmons that tenants can call the office, and airport staff will unlock the tank.

Avgas fuel sales were down 4 percent, and Jet A fuel sales were down 40 percent, compared to last year. Aircraft operations on the airport were up 4 percent.

Mr. Pete Lonctaux Reported on Brackett Field Airport Items

An electrical unit in the terminal building was not functioning properly and affected the airport stadium lights. The unit will be returned to the manufacturer.

The water heater in the terminal building was repaired.

One of the oil waste bins had to be treated as hazardous material after it tested positive with a banned substance. As a precaution, a lock was added to the oil waste bin, and tenants were informed via the airport's newsletter.

Commissioner Perez inquired on the annual cost to remove waste oil material from the airport. Mr. Wardle stated that this is an isolated incident and does not see it as a reoccurring problem.

The apron/ramp pavement design project rehabilitation continues on the airport and on June 9, 2017, the crack-sealing project for the transient ramp was completed.

The LED stadium lights conversion project was completed on July 7, 2017.

The Brackett Airmen Association holds its monthly meeting on the first Thursday of every month and Display Day on the third Sunday of every month.

Mr. Lonctaux provided a summary to the Commission on the expenditures under the marketing fund. Secretary Simmons asked Mr. Lonctaux to provide details on the 9-hole golf course incentive under the marketing fund budget.

The City of La Verne will host its Taste of La Verne – Wine and Festival event at the airport on October 10, 2017, and the annual open house will be held on October 14, 2017.

Mr. Lonctaux informed the Commission that he continues to work with the Gilead Foundation on the possibility of operating out of the airport.

The Brackett Field 99s will not repaint the compass rose as planned.

Secretary Simmons asked Mr. Lonctaux if tenants were informed of the chemical that was dumped in the oil waste bin, and if a listing of the chemicals

that are not allowed can be posted. Mr. Wardle stated to Secretary Simmons that the only oil waste is oil only.

Commissioner Amundson asked the managers to e-mail airport event flyers to the Commissioners to be shared through social media.

Eighty percent of the aircraft hangars are occupied, and 23 percent of the occupied hangars are used for non-aviation storage purposes.

Avgas fuel sales were down 1.3 percent, and Jet A fuel sales were down 17.2 percent, compared to last year. Aircraft operations at the airport were down 1.7 percent.

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

Airport staff continues with weed control throughout the airport and is in the process of restoring the lawn in front of the terminal building.

A C-17 aircraft landed on the airport and departed with no incidents to report.

Planning for the air show has commenced and date cards with performances are being printed. The scheduled date for the air show will be announced at the next Commission meeting.

The new rescue truck was damaged while an airport staff member was exiting the gate and hit a bollard. The truck will be sent to the shop for repairs.

In plans with the marketing fund, the airport and the Pilots Association are joining efforts to build a ground school. The plan will be presented to the Commission at the next meeting.

A proposed development is taking place across from the airport. This construction may impact parking accommodations for the upcoming air show.

Avgas fuel sales are up 18 percent, and Jet A fuel sales are up 22 percent, year to date. There are four vacant hangars, and no hangars are used for non-aviation storage purposes.

Mr. Carlos Diaz Reported on Compton/Woodley Airport Items

Surveying at the airport is taking place for the Runway and Taxiway Rehabilitation Project. Mr. Smith confirmed that the work will begin in October 2017 and night operations will be restricted. Tenants on the south side of the airport will be able to taxi to the accessible runway.

Landscaping projects on the airport commenced. The sprinkler systems were repaired in the lawn area of the airport, and drought-resistant plants were added along the perimeter fence.

Annual inspection of the rescue truck is complete, and certification was issued.

All terminal doors were repaired, and steel plates were added to the bottom of the doors to protect them from daily use.

The fence line along Alondra Boulevard was damaged by a hit-and-run incident. Damages to the fence were paid by the airport, and repairs are complete.

Tomorrow's Aeronautical Museum held a car show and hosted a backpack give-a-way for kids in the community.

The Experimental Aircraft Association will host its fly-in model expo on September 23, 2017, and the airport will be closed from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Ninety-seven percent of the hangars on the airport are occupied, and 35 percent of the hangars are used for non-aviation storage purposes. Avgas fuel sales are down 18 percent, year to date.

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

Mr. Smith provided the Commission with copies of the June and July 2017 Expense and Revenue Reports. Mr. Smith provided a summary of the revised format report presented to the Commission.

Commissioner Cornwall requested that the report sent to the Commissioners on a spreadsheet where she could click on a field with expenditures noted and a dropdown box would appear with a list of services rendered and the dollar amount for each service cost.

- **Non-Aviation Rental Rate Increase**

The non-aviation rental rate increase was presented to and approved by the Board of Supervisors on August 15, 2017.

- **ARC Machines, Inc., Lease Amendment Progress**

Mr. Smith informed the Commission that he and Mr. Wardle are discussing various ways to develop and market the vacant undeveloped parcel returned by ARC Machines, Inc., as part of the new lease agreement.

- **Garber Street Project, Pacoima**

The Department of Water and Power will be introducing a low-impact development plan concerning a recycled water tank that will be located off Garber Street. Mr. Smith shared with the Commission that Public Works' Administration is reviewing the project.

- **Visit/Tour at General William J. Fox Airfield**

Mr. Smith shared with the Commission that Mr. Trevor Smith, Legislative Analyst to Congressman Kevin McCarthy, visited the airport. Mr. Smith provided a tour and discussed privatization of air traffic control and increasing the passenger facility charge.

- **Capital Project Updates**

Mr. Smith provided a summary on capital projects taking place at all five County airports and a factsheet with capital project information.

- **Port Hangar Association at Brackett Field Airport**

The Association filed a formal Part 16 complaint with the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA). Aviation Division is waiting for the FAA to request a response from the County.

Mr. Smith stated that it would be appropriate for the Commission to develop an official policy regarding portable hangars, which would include tenant input, management practices, and standards addressing portable hangars. Chairman Butts suggested a subcommittee address this topic and appointed Commissioner Castagna to Chair the committee.

- **Portable Hangars at San Gabriel Valley Airport**

The County has opted not to remove two rows of portable hangars as part of the project.

D. Presentation on Airport Development – Commissioner Curt Castagna

Commissioner Castagna shared a PowerPoint presentation, providing an overview on the process related to airport developments, challenges that the industry is facing, lease agreements, and resource information for the Commission to review. Commissioner Castagna mentioned the importance of following protocols when an airport receives FAA monies, the pressure on rates and fees, and the obligation that airport sponsors have in obtaining fair market value on hangars used for nonaeronautical uses.

E. San Gabriel Valley Airport, South FBO Building Discussion

Mr. Wardle informed the Commission that American Airports Corporation received three submissions, which he shared with the Commission.

Mr. Smith suggested to the Commission that the next step should be a Request for Proposal since there is more than one interested party.

F. Discussion of ATC Privatization

Commissioner Lord provided information on air traffic control, explaining how general aviation would be impacted if privatization detailed in HR 2997 passes. Commissioner Lord recommended a Board memo stating the Commission's opposition to HR 2997.

G. Compton/Woodley Airport Items

Secretary Simmons asked Mr. Diaz to schedule the first meeting to start the plans for the next airport open house.

The Compton/Woodley Airport Runway and Taxiway Rehabilitation Project will mobilize by December 2017.

II. PUBLIC COMMENT – OPEN FORUM

Dr. James Haney, San Gabriel Valley Airport Association, requested from the Commission the opportunity to have a seat on the subcommittee. He also provided an update on his investigation of the possessory interest tax increase.

Mr. Jon Smallbridge, Mission Aviation Fellowship, informed the Commission that their event was postponed to a later date and also expressed a concern about the vehicle gates that are regularly out of service. Mr. Wardle provided an explanation on the gate access system and stated that he is looking for a different vendor to service the system.

Ms. Leanne Powers, MB Thrill Squadron, invited the Commission to their association meeting to provide information pertaining to the airport system and expressed her concern that the master plan at San Gabriel Valley Airport is 20-plus years old. Mr. Smith and Commissioner Castagna shared with Ms. Powers that there are other tools that can be used to guide development.

Commissioner Lord recommended to Ms. Powers to invite her representatives, which are Commissioners Cornwall and Perez. If the two representatives agree, Commissioner Lord is willing to participate in assisting the association.

NEXT COMMISSION MEETING WILL BE ON:

**Wednesday, September 27, 2017, at 7 p.m.
at General William J. Fox Airfield
4725 William J. Barnes Ave
Lancaster, CA 93536-8401
(661) 940-1709**

The meeting was adjourned in memory of Mr. Jeffrey Yin at 8:49 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

George G. Butts, Chairman
Los Angeles County Aviation Commission