



**GAIL FARBER**  
Director of Public Works

# COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

## AVIATION COMMISSION

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

900 SOUTH FREMONT AVENUE  
ALHAMBRA, CALIFORNIA 91803-1331  
Telephone: (626) 458-5100  
<http://dpw.lacounty.gov>

## COMMISSIONERS

**PENELOPE CORNWALL**  
*CHAIR*

**GEORGE G. BUTTS**  
*VICE-CHAIR*

**ANGELO R. CARDONO**  
*SECRETARY*

**PETER M. AMUNDSON**  
*MEMBER*

**HARVEY HOLLOWAY**  
*MEMBER*

**DENNIS C. LORD**  
*MEMBER*

**GABRIEL PEREZ**  
*MEMBER*

**CLINTON SIMMONS**  
*MEMBER*

**STEVE A. WEEKS**  
*MEMBER*

## LOS ANGELES COUNTY AVIATION COMMISSION

**August 31, 2016, Meeting**  
**Compton/Woodley Airport**  
**901 West Alondra Boulevard**  
**Compton, CA 90220-3528**  
**(310) 631-8140**

### IN ATTENDANCE

Chair Penelope Cornwall  
Vice-Chair George G. Butts  
Commissioner Peter M. Amundson  
Commissioner Harvey A. Holloway  
Commissioner Dennis C. Lord  
Commissioner Gabriel Perez  
Commissioner Clinton Simmons  
Commissioner Steve A. Weeks

### OFFICIALLY EXCUSED

Secretary Angelo R. Cardono

### 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 Lonceteaux, Manager, Brackett Field Airport  
Mr. Carlos Diaz, Interim Airport Manager, Compton/Woodley Airport  
Mr. Jared Birch, Manager, San Gabriel Valley Airport  
Mr. Andrew Marino, Manager, Whiteman Airport

### GUESTS

Mr. Harry Reid, Compton/Woodley Airport tenant  
Mr. Henry Roy, California Black Aviation Association  
Mr. Bruce Abbott, Compton/Woodley Airport tenant  
Mr. Gary G. Golson, Compton/Woodley Airport tenant

## **CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Cornwall called the meeting to order at 7 p.m.

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

Commissioner Simmons led the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

#### **A. Minutes**

The minutes from the June 29, 2016, meeting were unanimously approved on a motion from Vice-Chair Butts, seconded by Commissioner Lord.

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

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

American Airports Corporation (AAC) and the potential restaurant operator for Whiteman Airport were not able to reach an agreement on the lease term for the restaurant; therefore, AAC will visit the option of hiring a broker to assist in finding a restaurant operator.

A draft lease agreement for the Helicopter Development at Whiteman Airport was submitted to the developer and agreement on terms is expected by next week.

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

Mr. Marino informed the Commission that several upgrades were done to the control tower, and a new air compressor was installed at the fuel pit.

AAC is working with a company affiliated with the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power to replace all exterior lighting at the airport with LED lighting.

On August 23, 2016, the annual Runway Safety Action Team meeting was held at the airport, and no safety concerns were brought up at the meeting.

Mr. Marino informed the Commission that the marketing fund committee will be increasing the vouchers for the pilots that participate in events held at the airport.

#### **• Development and Activities**

Ninety percent of the aircraft hangars are occupied, and 14 percent of the occupied hangars are used for non-aviation storage purposes. Avgas fuel

sales are down 8.4 percent, and Jet-A fuel sales are up 5.9 percent, year to date.

Aircraft operations are up 3.1 percent, year to date.

- **Meetings and Events**

The summer barbecue and Antique Aircraft Display event was held on July 10, 2016.

On Saturday, July 23, 2016, the Experimental Aircraft Association hosted its Young Eagles event and hosted a mini career day where tower staff attended and shared information with participants.

On August 13, 2016, Whiteman Airport hosted an Aviation Badge Day in the terminal building.

Whiteman Airport Association will host its monthly meeting on September 15, 2016.

The Whiteman Airport Open House event will be held on September 24, 2016, at the Vista Aviation building.

Mr. Marino informed the Commission that on Monday, August 15, 2016, the remains of a tenant were found in one of the hangars. Los Angeles Police Department investigated and it appeared that the tenant died of natural causes.

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

Weed abatement is taking place throughout the airport, and the terminal building painting project is complete.

- **Development and Activities**

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

In the month of July, Avgas fuel sales were down 22.3 percent, and Jet-A fuel sales were up 39.4 percent, compared to the same month last year.

Aircraft operations on the airport were down 18.7 percent, compared to the same month last year.

- **Meetings and Events**

The 2nd Brackett Field Airport Night meeting was held on August 18, 2016, and the attendees discussed the flight activity taking place at the airport.

The Open House event at Brackett Field Airport is scheduled for October 16, 2016. Advertisement of the air show has commenced through strategically placed banners and announcement on local radio stations.

The annual Runway Safety Action Team meeting is scheduled for September 29, 2016.

Mr. Lonctaux will be meeting with staff from the Palm Springs Air Museum regarding the C47 that will be flying during the Open House event.

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

- **Maintenance**

Mr. Birch informed the Commission that a light barrier was installed inside the new marquee to improve the visibility.

- **Projects**

Phase I of the Apron Pavement Rehabilitation Project continues. Mr. Birch informed the Commission that newly constructed apron parking was opened in July, but the project is not yet finalized.

- **Development and Activities**

Twenty-three hangars are vacant, and 31 percent of the occupied hangars are used for non-aviation storage purposes.

Avgas fuel sales were down 52.2 percent, and Jet-A fuel sales were down 57.2 percent, compared to the same month last year.

Aircraft operations on the airport were down 20.7 percent, compared to the same month last year.

- **Meetings and Events**

The annual Open House event will be held on Saturday, October 15, 2016.

Mr. Birch shared with the Commission that the San Gabriel Valley Airport provided airport tours to over 45 schools in the Community.

This past month, Mr. Robin Hou, San Gabriel Valley Airport tenant, held a small Young Eagles event and is working on establishing a Young Eagles association at the airport.

The marketing committee at the airport is working on a final poster campaign to advertise the airport to the community.

### **Mr. Carlos Diaz on Compton/Woodley Airport Items**

- **Management and Maintenance**

The County provided four light fixtures that were installed on the soundwall.

Mr. Diaz informed the Commission that a vendor will provide a quote to remove the rust on the soundwall.

- **Development and Activities**

Ninety-seven percent of the hangars on the airport are occupied, and 30 percent of the occupied hangars are used for non-aviation storage purposes.

Avgas fuel sales were up 28 percent, year to date.

- **Meetings and Events**

The Experimental Aircraft Association hosted its third Food Truck event. The next Food Truck event will be held on September 18, 2016.

The next aircraft display day is scheduled for September 3, 2016.

Commissioner Simmons inquired on the location of the future aircraft display. Mr. Diaz informed Commissioner Simmons that as soon as a location is determined, he will provide the information.

- **Miscellaneous**

Vice-Chair Butts informed Mr. Diaz that the fuel handle at the self-serve pump is not working properly. Mr. Diaz thanked the Vice-Chair for the information and will have it repaired as soon as possible.

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

- **June and July 2016 Expense and Revenue Reports**

Mr. Smith introduced the new Aviation Commissioner Gabriel Perez, representing Supervisorial District 1. Commissioner Perez introduced himself to the Commission.

Mr. Smith provided the Commission with copies of the June and July 2016 Expense and Revenue Reports and offered to answer questions.

Commissioner Simmons inquired on the geotechnical expenses. Mr. Smith informed that as long as we have underground storage tanks at the airport, we will have Geotechnical & Materials Engineering Division expenses.

Mr. Smith informed that there is an empty underground storage tank on the San Gabriel Valley Airport that will not be removed at this time due to the projects that are currently taking place.

Commissioner Weeks inquired on the M02 Enterprise Fund Report's year-to-date section. Mr. Smith provided a brief explanation on the types of revenues and transfers that take place in this fund.

- **Federal Aviation Administration 14.5 – Month Authorization Bill Extension**

Mr. Smith provided to the Commission information on the 14.5 – Month Reauthorization Federal Aviation Administration. Mr. Smith informed that the extension will be in effect through September 30, 2017. Mr. Smith and the Commissioners were engaged in a brief discussion, which included the topic of numerous safety and security provisions included in the bill.

- **Pilot's Bill of Rights**

Mr. Smith provided a brief explanation to the Commission on the recent updates to the Pilot's Bill of Rights and a brief discussion that took place between the Commissioners regarding the benefits of the new program.

- **California Drought Update**

Mr. Smith informed the Commission that the drought in California continues but strict conservation requirements have slackened. Mr. Smith also mentioned that trees should continue to be watered but not lawns.

- **Air Show**

Planning for the 2017 show is proceeding well. The Air Show Board has shown to be responsive with weekly meetings and the inclusion of the County as part of the meetings. Currently, Mr. Steve Irving, Fox Airfield Airport Manager, and Mr. Smith are attending the meetings. Mr. Smith also informed that long-time professional air boss; Mr. Ralph Royce was also hired to produce the flying portion of the event.

- **General William J. Fox Airfield Taxiway**

The taxiway project is on hold due to the contractor's inability to perform the work required by the contract. Public Works provided the contractor additional time to complete this project and is working with the contractor closely to find solutions.

- **Motion for Aviation Commission to Issue Certificates of Appreciation**

Commissioner Weeks made a motion to issue Aviation Commission Certificates of Appreciation to individuals or organizations that make significant contributions to general aviation County airports. A motion was seconded by Commissioner Amundson and unanimously approved by the Commissioners.

**D. Compton/Woodley Airport Items**

None.

**III. PUBLIC COMMENT – OPEN FORUM**

Mr. Harry Reid, Compton/Woodley Airport tenant, shared with the Commission his concern with the fluctuation of fuel prices at the airport. Mr. Reid suggested that AAC purchase fuel in bulk for all airports when prices are low. Mr. Wardle informed that AAC will continue their efforts in purchasing fuel at a lower price. Mr. Reid also suggested that the County invest in a new terminal building for Compton/Woodley Airport.

Mr. Henry Roy, Compton/Woodley Airport tenant, shared with the Commission that he is pleased with the job that Mr. Carlos Diaz, Compton/Woodley Airport Interim Manager, is doing. His second comment was pertaining to possibly having a July 4th event with professional firework exhibition.

Mr. Gary G. Golson, Compton/Woodley Airport tenant, shared with the Commission his concern with participating in the Antique Display Day and having to pay taxes on his aircraft. Vice-Chair Butts suggested that aircraft owners make sure to have at least 13 signatures to ensure exception. Vice-Chair Butts suggested displaying it at other airports, not only at Compton/Woodley Airport.

Mr. Bruce Abbott, Compton/Woodley Airport tenant, expressed his concern with the Commission regarding civil litigation and airport security. Mr. Abbott shared his concern with a tenant who has clandestine events on the runways and would like AAC to empower their workers and allow them to call the police when these events take place. Mr. Wardle stated he has exhausted all administrative options to gain compliance, but the tenant continues to ignore letters issued by AAC.

Vice-Chair Butts expressed his concern with the lack of security that is in place at Compton/Woodley Airport.

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

**Wednesday, September 28, 2016, at 7 p.m.  
General William J. Fox Airfield  
455 West Avenue G  
Lancaster, CA 93536-8401  
(661) 940-1709**

The meeting was adjourned in memory of the August 31, 1986, Cerritos airplane accident, Commissioner Lord shared details of the accident and safety measures as a result of this accident. The meeting was adjourned by Chair Cornwall at 8:18 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Angelo Cardono, Secretary  
Los Angeles County Aviation Commission

CD:cb

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