



MARK PESTRELLA, Director

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

AVIATION COMMISSION

"To Enrich Lives Through Effective and Caring Service"

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LOS ANGELES COUNTY AVIATION COMMISSION

February 22, 2017, Meeting
Compton/Woodley Airport
901 West Alondra Boulevard
Compton, CA 90220-3528
(310) 631-8140

COMMISSIONERS

VACANT
CHAIR

VACANT
VICE-CHAIR

CLINTON SIMMONS
SECRETARY

PETER M. AMUNDSON
MEMBER

PENELOPE CORNWALL
MEMBER

DENNIS C. LORD
MEMBER

HARVEY HOLLOWAY
MEMBER

GABRIEL PEREZ
MEMBER

STEVE A. WEEKS
MEMBER

IN ATTENDANCE

Secretary Clinton Simmons
Commissioner Peter Amundson
Commissioner Harvey A. Holloway
Commissioner Dennis C. Lord
Commissioner Gabriel Perez
Commissioner Steve A. Weeks

OFFICIALLY EXCUSED

Commissioner Penelope Cornwall

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, Manager Compton/Woodley Airport
Mr. Steve Irving, Manager, General William J. Fox Airfield
Mr. Andrew Marino, Manager, Whiteman Airport

GUESTS

Mr. Winn Williams, Port-A-Port Hangar, Association
Mr. George G. Butts, Former Aviation Commissioner
Mr. Henry Roy, California Black Aviation Association
Mr. Bobby Chase, Former Aviation Commissioner

CALL TO ORDER

Secretary Simmons called the meeting to order at 10 a.m.

I. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Secretary Simmons led the Pledge of Allegiance.

II. MATTERS FOR CONSIDERATION AND ACTION BY THE COMMISSION

A. Minutes

The minutes for the January 25, 2017, 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 General William J. Fox Airfield Items

Mr. Wardle informed the Commission that the runway at General William J. Fox Airfield will be closed for 2 days to restripe the runway, and this will conclude the taxiway project.

A tenant information meeting was held on February 16, 2017, and a second meeting will be held on March 2, 2017. The objective of the meetings is to ensure that tenants understand their rights and responsibilities during the air show event.

American Airports Corporation and the County will meet with the air show director to finalize the permits.

New landscaping will be installed in front of the terminal building prior to the air show, and a rolling gate will be added to the main entrance.

- **Development and Activities**

Avgas fuel sales were consistent, compared to last year. Jet-A fuel sales are down 24 percent year to date.

There are three vacant hangars, and no hangars are used for non-aviation storage purposes.

Mr. Scott Wardle Reported on San Gabriel Valley Airport Items

- **Maintenance**

Repairs to the roof of the terminal building were put through a test during the recent rains, and now the ceiling tiles will be replaced since there is no evidence of any existing leaks.

Mr. Wardle informed that future meetings and tentative dates for commencement of the next phase of the Apron Pavement Rehabilitation Project will be announced in the near future.

The Avgas pump continues to be out of service. Mr. Wardle informed that two vendors have attempted to remove the pump to replace the gasket but were unsuccessful; efforts to repair the pump will continue.

- **Development and Activities**

In January, Avgas fuel sales were down 92 percent, and Jet A fuel sales were down 72 percent, compared to last year.

Airport operations were down 11 percent, compared to last year.

- **Meetings and Events**

The San Gabriel Valley Airport Association meets every third Wednesday of every month and has an Antique Aircraft Display Day the last Sunday of every month.

Secretary Simmons asked Mr. Wardle about the amount of fuel that is pumped by the secondary provider. Mr. Smith will provide that information during his report.

Commissioner Amundson inquired about the hedge on Riverview Avenue that was reportedly being trimmed but was left without being completed.

Mr. Andrew Marino Reported on Whiteman Airport Items

- **Management and Maintenance**

On February 7, 2017, recertification for the rapid intervention vehicles was completed, and airport staff replaced sand bags throughout the airport.

The door closure lock to one of the pedestrian access gates was replaced.

County hangar inspections are scheduled for March 2 through March 6, 2017.

- **Development and Activities**

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

Avgas fuel sales are down 25 percent, and Jet-A fuel sales are down 4.8 percent, year to date.

Aircraft operations on the airport were up 18 percent, compared to the same month last year.

- **Meetings and Events**

Crosswind landings was the topic of discussion at the Whiteman Airport Association meeting held on February 16, 2017. The next meeting will be held on March 16, 2017.

The Experimental Aircraft Association will host its Young Eagles fly-in day on February 25, 2017.

The Aviation Explorers 747 will hold their second annual fundraising gala on March 26, 2017.

Mr. Pete Lonctaux Reported on Brackett Field Airport Items

- **Management and Maintenance**

Mr. Lonctaux informed the Commission that there were no significant water issues at the airport during the rain that needed to be addressed.

The Jet-A truck is still having circuit board problems and is currently inoperative. Mr. Lonctaux informed that the company addressing this issue will continue to troubleshoot the problem.

Airport staff continues to paint and perform some repairs to the trim board surrounding the buildings and also replacing signage.

One of the signs on the airfield sustained significant water damage that caused the circuit to short during the heavy rains. The sign was replaced.

The crack-seal project is scheduled to start as soon as the rains cease. Public Works' Road Maintenance Division staff requires a minimum of 10 dry days before they can start the project.

- **Development and Activity**

Eighty-one 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 up 18 percent, and Jet-A fuel sales were down 19 percent, compared to last year.

Aircraft operations were consistent, year to year.

- **Miscellaneous**

The Brackett Airport Association meets the first Thursday and the third Sunday of every month.

Mr. Loncteaux informed the Commission that Marketing Fund will purchase a banner and internet to advertise for additional exposure.

Sky Aviation is looking into renting the Nostalgia hangar, which is 6,400 square feet.

Hangar inspections are scheduled for March 6, 2017.

Mr. Carlos Diaz Reported on Compton/Woodley Airport Items

- **Management and Maintenance**

Mr. Diaz reported to the Commission that there was flooding on the taxiway during the heavy rains, and he passed that information along to the County.

The security lighting on the airport stopped working. Airport staff made the necessary repairs for the lighting to start working again. Mr. Diaz informed the Commission that additional parts were purchased and will check all the lighting to ensure they continue to work properly.

Mr. Diaz introduced Mr. Enrique Curioso as the new airport manager.

Painting and repairs to the sound wall will commence in March, and estimates for the installation of bollards for the end hangars were received and submitted to the County for approval.

- **Development and Activities**

Ninety-nine percent of the hangars on the airport are occupied, and 35 percent of the occupied hangars are used for non-aviation storage purposes.

Avgas fuel sales are down 17 percent, year to date.

- **Meetings and Events**

On March 11, 2017, the Compton/Woodley Airport Open House will take place from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., and Mr. Diaz informed the Commission that banners and flyers promoting the event were distributed.

On February 3, 2017, the police department requested the airport be closed during a foot pursuit of a suspect. The suspect crossed the runway and was apprehended in a nearby home. The airport was opened soon after.

Commissioner Lord inquired on the types of repairs planned for the sound wall. Mr. Smith informed Commissioner Lord that the sound wall will be patched and painted.

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

January 2017 Expense and Revenue Report

Mr. Smith provided the Commission with copies of the January 2017 Expense and Revenue Report. Secretary Simmons inquired on Public Works' Flood Maintenance Division's expenditures. Mr. Smith informed Secretary Simmons that noted charges are for fence repairs, and work is being performed for the tree-removal project at Rio Vista Park.

Commissioner Lord mentioned to Mr. Smith that there is a large puddle of water at the end of the runway that needs to be addressed.

Commissioner Weeks asked about the expenditures concerning County contracts; Mr. Smith explained that the expenditure amount increase is due to the Airport Project Coordinator's position that is no longer vacant.

Mr. Smith informed the Commission that effective January 31, 2017, Vice-Chair Angelo Cardono and Chairman Butts were removed from the Commission by Supervisor Janice Hahn.

Mr. Smith attended a meeting with the Brackett Field Airport Association. During the meeting, it was recommended that a suggestion form be added to the Aviation Division website. Mr. Smith informed the Commission that the recommendation was considered, and a suggestion form is now available on the Aviation Division website.

The Sheriff's Department's Memorandum of Understanding was received by the County, and Mr. Smith announced to the Commission that the Sheriff's Department will continue as a tenant at Brackett Field Airport for another year.

Marketing Fund

The Marketing Fund will reset, and Mr. Smith is requesting that airport managers meet with airport leadership to develop a list of recommendations for fund disbursements.

Congresswoman Grace Napolitano's visit to San Gabriel Valley Airport

Mr. Smith reminded the Commission that Congresswoman Grace Napolitano (D-32) currently sits on the House Transportation Infrastructure Committee and was reappointed to the Aviation Subcommittee. Mr. Smith informed the Commission that he met with Congresswoman Napolitano and her staff to tour the San Gabriel Valley Airport.

Compton/Woodley Airport Improvements

Mr. Smith announced to the Commission and meeting attendees that any project or structure improvement done on the airport must be discussed and approved by the County and permitted prior to the start of construction.

The south runway and taxiway project plans and specifications for Compton/Woodley Airport received clearance from the Federal Aviation Administration, and the project is scheduled for advertisement in March 2017. Mr. Smith informed the Commission that, once reconstruction starts, improvements to the drainage system on the airport will be evident; and the flooding on the intersection of F and E Runways should no longer be an issue.

Pavement Rehabilitation Project Phase II

Mr. Smith announced to the Commission that Phase II of the pavement rehabilitation project is set to start in June/July and the total cost of the project will be \$13 million.

Tree Replacement Project

On February 27, 2017, the tree-replanting project will begin, and Mr. Smith informed the Commission that an irrigation system is currently being built. This project was initially estimated at \$60,000 to \$70,000, but the final cost of irrigation is \$9,000.

Freeway Signage

Mr. Smith informed the Commission that signs take 6 weeks to manufacture, which would be complete at the end of February 2017. Installation should take place soon after.

D. Scott Tatro – MetroPlex Presentation

Mr. Scott Tatro of the Los Angeles World Airports shared a presentation on Southern California MetroPlex implementation. Mr. Tatro shared some of the procedural changes taking place in the airspace and Southern California to optimize use of the air space.

III. PUBLIC COMMENT – OPEN FORUM

Mr. Winn Williams, Port Hangar Association, commented on the upcoming hangar inspection scheduled for March 6, 2017, and is hopeful that this will lead to negotiations for a new lease at Brackett Field Airport.

Mr. Henry Roy, California Black Aviation Association, Inc., announced that the display date is held on the first weekend of the month; and it is for anyone interested in the tax-exemption program and elaborated on what the tax exemption entails. Mr. Roy inquired on the reclaimed water and requested that if it is available, Compton/Woodley Airport needs it.

Mr. Roy informed the Commission that he was interested in any available marketing funds. Mr. Smith explained to Mr. Roy that these funds will be replenished in April, and it is a program put together by the leadership at each airport. Once plans are approved, the money is disbursed for that plan. Secretary Simmons also elaborated on the extent of what the Marketing Fund Program includes.

Former Commissioner Bobby E. Chase shared his concern with the Commission regarding senior pilots who continue to fly and asked the Commission to share with senior pilots to self-evaluate; and, if it is time to stop flying, to do so.

Former Commissioner George G. Butts shared with the Commission that he was notified by Public Works staff that he was removed as a Commissioner of the 4th Supervisor District and thanked the Commission for the opportunity to serve for 12 years. Mr. Smith presented the outgoing Chairman with the Chairman Award.

IV. NEXT COMMISSION MEETING WILL BE ON:

**Wednesday, March 22, 2017, at 10 a.m.
at General William J. Fox Airfield
4725 Barnes Avenue
Lancaster, CA 93536-8401
(661) 940-1709**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:47 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Clinton Simmons, Secretary
Los Angeles County Aviation Commission

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