



MARK PESTRELLA, Director

# COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

## AVIATION COMMISSION

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

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Telephone: (626) 458-5100  
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### LOS ANGELES COUNTY AVIATION COMMISSION

June 27, 2018, meeting  
Brackett Field Airport  
1615 McKinley Avenue  
La Verne, CA 91750-5846  
(909) 593-1395

## COMMISSIONERS

CLINTON SIMMONS  
CHAIRMAN  
DENNIS C. LORD  
VICE-CHAIRMAN  
PETER M. AMUNDSON  
SECRETARY  
CURT CASTAGNA  
MEMBER  
PENELOPE CORNWALL  
MEMBER  
HARVEY HOLLOWAY  
MEMBER  
GABRIEL PEREZ  
MEMBER  
STEVE A. WEEKS  
MEMBER  
VACANT  
MEMBER  
VACANT  
MEMBER

### IN ATTENDANCE

Vice-Chairman Dennis Lord  
Commissioner Peter Amundson  
Commissioner Curt Castagna  
Commissioner Harvey A. Holloway  
Commissioner Steve A. Weeks

### OFFICIALLY EXCUSED

Chairman Clinton Simmons  
Commissioner Penelope Cornwall  
Commissioner Gabriel Perez

### 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. Ed Sause, American Airports Corporation  
Mr. Joe Micalizzi, Skycam Joe  
Mr. Frank Owens, Brackett Field Airport Tenant  
Mr. Jeff Strouse, Aerial Sim Training  
Mr. Joe Labrie, San Gabriel Valley Airport Association  
Mr. Scott Wolfe, Brackett Field Tenant  
Mr. Robert Head, San Gabriel Valley Airport Tenant  
Mr. Winn Williams, Port Hangar Association Brackett  
Mr. Stuart Desbrisay, Cable

## **GUESTS** (Cont.)

Mr. Gary Wilt, Brackett Field Airport  
Mr. Carl J. Miller, Brackett Field Airport  
Mr. Bruce Busch, San Gabriel Valley Airport  
Mr. Jon Smalldridge, San Gabriel Valley Airport  
Mr. Thomas Hall, San Gabriel Valley Airport Pilot  
Mr. Mauricio Gonzalez, San Gabriel Valley Pilot  
Mr. Don Brandon, San Gabriel Valley Airport

## **CALL TO ORDER**

Vice-Chairman Lord called the meeting to order at 7 p.m.

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

Commissioner Curt Castagna led the Pledge of Allegiance.

#### **A. Minutes**

Approval of the minutes of the May 30, 2018, was deferred to the next Commission meeting due to the lack of a quorum.

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

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

Mr. Wardle updated the Commission on a Request for Proposals to redevelop the old entrance at Whiteman Airport. The person selected for this project was unable to obtain the necessary funds. Therefore, American Airports Corporation will re-issue a request for proposal to redevelop the old entrance at Whiteman Airport.

AAC issued four notices to non-aviation tenants to vacate hangars in order to accommodate aviation tenants San Gabriel Valley Airport.

##### **Mr. Scott Wardle Reported on San Gabriel Valley Airport Items**

The footings for the awning at the wash rack were replaced.

The Aircraft Swap meet and the Mission Flight Seminar event will be held at the airport on Sunday, July 22, 2018.

The San Gabriel Valley Remote Control Association meets every fourth Thursday of the month.

The San Gabriel Valley Airport Association meets every third Wednesday of the month at 7 p.m., and the Civil Air Patrol meets every Thursday at 7 p.m.

On May 27, 2018, there was an incident on the runway involving a Cessna 172. No injuries or damage were reported.

Fourteen hangars at the airport are vacant, and 19 percent of the occupied hangars are used for non-aviation storage.

Aircraft operations at the airport were down 3 percent compared to the same month last year.

Electricity use at the airport was down 3 percent compared to the same month last year.

Avgas fuel sales were up 16 percent, and Jet-A fuel sales were down 27 percent, compared to the same month last year.

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

Batteries for the vehicle gate at the terminal building and on Orbital Way were replaced.

To encourage environmental sustainability, a recycling station was placed in the airport terminal building.

On June 12, 2018, the annual Monitoring Certification and Spill Bucket Testing for the underground storage tanks took place, completing the annual storm water reporting for 2017-18.

On June 9, 2018, the San Fernando Valley 99s hosted their annual Awards Banquet and on June 21, 2018, the Whiteman Airport Association held their monthly meeting.

The annual summer BBQ for the Whiteman Airport Association members will be held on Sunday, July 11, 2018.

The next Experimental Aircraft Association Young Eagles Day will be held on July 28, 2018, and the next Antique Aircraft Display day will be held on Sunday, July 9, 2018.

The Annual Whiteman Airport Open House will be held on September 22, 2018.

Ninety-two percent of the hangars on the airport are occupied, and 10 percent of the occupied hangars are used for non-aviation storage.

Avgas fuel sales were up 1.1 percent, and Jet-A fuel sales were down 13.6 percent, compared to the same month last year. Aircraft operations on the airport were down 1 percent, compared to the same month last year.

Electricity use for the month of May 2018 was down 3 percent and water consumption was down 32.8 percent, compared to the same month last year.

Commissioner Weeks asked Mr. Marino for a status on the restaurant at the terminal building. Mr. Marino informed Commissioner Weeks that the individual who expressed interest in the restaurant is still interested.

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

Mr. Diaz informed the Commission that airport staff has repaired and repainted the terminal building ramp.

On June 25, 2018, the annual inspection of the Underground Storage Tanks took place; results are pending.

Mr. Smith attended an Experimental Aircraft Association meeting where he addressed questions and concerns expressed by tenants. Mr. Diaz informed the Commission that the meeting was a success.

On Monday, June 25, 2018, Runway 25L was opened for daytime operations. It will be fully re-opened following an upcoming official flight check from the Federal Aviation Administration. Runway 25R and Taxiway G will remain closed until the project is complete.

Ninety-eight percent of the hangars are occupied, and 35 hangars are used for non-aviation storage. Avgas fuel sales are up 9.8 percent, compared to the same month last year.

Electricity use for the month of May 2018 was 36,685 kWh and water consumption was 132 hundred cubic feet.

Vice-Chairman Lord mentioned that the Experimental Aircraft Association meeting held with Mr. Smith as a guest speaker was helpful and tenants look forward to having a meeting with the design consultant.

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

Mr. Irving informed the Commission that airport staff is working on weed abatement throughout the airport.

Commissioner Weeks inquired on the type of abatement being used for weed control. Mr. Irving explained the process that they use at the airport.

The Jet-A fuel truck is currently out of service. Parts to repair the vehicle were ordered and the truck is expected to be back in service soon.

Certifications for the air tanker companies were postponed until October 2018. Tanker companies will continue to utilize the airport as a location for certifying new air tankers.

The Wings and Wheels Chili cook-off will be held on October 27, 2018.

Mr. Irving informed the Commission that the planning for the upcoming 2019 Los Angeles County Air Show should officially commence in the month of July 2018.

Ninety-six percent of the hangars on the airport are occupied, and no hangars are used for non-aviation purposes.

Electricity use was down 7.7 percent and water consumption was up 2.2 percent at the airport, compared to last year.

Avgas fuel sales were consistent, and Jet-A fuel sales were up 51 percent, compared to the same month last year. Aircraft operations on the airport were up 4 percent, compared to the same month last year.

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

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.

The Academy of Model Aeronautics West Coast will host their convention at the Fairplex from November 2, 2018 through November 4, 2018.

The Taste of La Verne event will be held on October 16, 2018, and the Annual Airport Open House will be held on October 20, 2018.

On June 21, 2018, La Verne Police Department held an Active Shooter presentation for airport staff.

On June 18, 2018, an individual jumped the fence on the north side and ran through the airport. The individual was detained and arrested.

Eighty-five percent of the aircraft hangars are occupied, and 25 percent of the occupied hangars are used for non-aviation storage purposes.

Water consumption for the month of May 2018 was not available, and electricity consumption was down -1,100 kWh, compared to the same month last year.

Avgas fuel sales were down 9.9 percent and Jet-A fuel sales were up 21.5 percent, compared to the same month last year. Aircraft operations at the airport were up 10.41 percent, compared to the same month last year.

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

Copies of the May 2018 Expense and Revenue Report were presented to the Commission.

In response to a request from Commissioner Castagna, Mr. Smith provided the Commission with an approximate amount of recent expenses for County Counsel services.

The Department of Water and Power will be utilizing an area on Whiteman Airport as a staging area for one of their projects.

Mr. Smith presented a summary of capital improvement projects taking place at all five County-owned airports and a fact sheet with project information.

#### **D. Brackett Field Airport Items**

Mr. Smith invited the Commission and tenants to visit the San Gabriel Valley Airport for a preview of the upcoming rehabilitation project at Brackett Field Airport.

Consistent with the Customer Service Survey responses received from airport tenants and users, Mr. Smith informed the Commission that improvements will be made soon to the parking lot in front of the terminal building.

The Sewer Pump station at the airport will need to be replaced. This is a project that will cost approximately \$300,000.

## **II. PUBLIC COMMENT – OPEN FORUM**

Mr. Joe Micalizzi, Skycam Joe, informed the Commission about a group effort between the Airport Traffic Control Tower manager, Mr. Pete Lonctaux, Airport Manager, and himself to assist a local business with funding a \$1,000 scholarship for a local student. Mr. Micalizzi also requested that the Commission establish a policy addressing concerns related to a recent hangar fire at the airport. Vice-Chairman Lord shared that American Airports Corporation is addressing these concerns and invited him to attend the upcoming Commission meeting to hear how AAC is addressing these concerns.

Mr. Carl Miller, Brackett Field Airport tenant, shared his concern about the trees lifting the asphalt near hangars. Vice-Chairman Lord advised Mr. Miller to speak with Mr. Smith about his concerns.

Mr. Gary Wilt, Brackett Field Airport tenant, informed the Commission about abandoned planes left on the airport and provided pictures of the aircraft. Vice-Chairman Lord briefly explained the reasons why American Airports Corporation has not removed the aircraft.

Mr. Jon Smalldridge, San Gabriel Valley Airport, shared with the Commission his desire to obtain a lease for a larger hangar and requested the current guidelines. Mr. Wardle confirmed that there are available hangars. Vice-Chairman Lord asked Mr. Smalldridge to speak to Mr. Wardle for assistance.

Mr. Stuart Desbrisay, a tenant of Cable Airport, asked the Commission why fuel prices at the County airports are higher than at airports outside of Los Angeles County. Vice-Chairman Lord invited Mr. Desbrisay to speak to Mr. Wardle as he would elaborate on the factors impacting fuel prices at the County airports.

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

**Wednesday, August 29, 2018, at 7 p.m.  
at Compton Airport  
901 West Alondra Boulevard  
Compton, CA 90220-3528**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Clinton Simmons, Chairman  
Los Angeles County Aviation Commission

RS:cd