

# **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**

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GEORGE G. BUTTS

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PETER M. AMUNDSON MEMBER

HARVEY HOLLOWAY

MEMBER

DENNIS C. LORD MEMBER

CLINTON SIMMONS MEMBER

STEVE A. WEEKS
MEMBER

# LOS ANGELES COUNTY AVIATION COMMISSION June 29, 2016, Meeting Brackett Field Airport 1615 McKinley Avenue La Verne, CA 91750-5846 (909) 593-1395

# **IN ATTENDANCE**

# OFFICIALLY EXCUSED

Chair Penelope Cornwall
Vice-Chair George G. Butts
Secretary Angelo R. Cardono
Commissioner Peter M. Amundson
Commissioner Harvey A. Holloway
Commissioner Dennis C. Lord
Commissioner Clinton Simmons

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. Scott Wardle, Regional Director

Mr. David Price, Assistant 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. Gabe Lopez, San Gabriel Valley Association

# CALL TO ORDER

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

# I. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Vice-Chair Butts led the Pledge of Allegiance.

# II. MATTERS FOR CONSIDERATION AND ACTION BY THE COMMISSION

#### A. Minutes

The minutes from the May 25, 2016, meeting were unanimously approved on a motion from Commissioner Lord, seconded by Vice-Chair Butts.

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

# Mr. Scott Wardle Reported on American Airports Corporation Items

Mr. Wardle informed the Commission that American Airports Corporation and Mr. Hasroun, the potential restaurant operator for Whiteman Airport, will resume negotiations when he is back in town to move forward toward finalizing a lease-term agreement. Mr. Wardle will brief the Commission on the outcome at the August meeting.

Still pending execution of an agreement, American Airports Corporation continues to work with the selected developer to work out the details for the helicopter operations area at Whiteman Airport.

# Mr. Andrew Marino Reported on Whiteman Airport Items

On June 6, 2016, the annual underground storage and fire inspections were completed at the airport.

As part of its Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) program, on June 15, 2016, an inspector from the State of California Department of Transportation's Division of Aeronautics performed the annual Form 5010 Airport Master Records inspection. The results of the inspection were favorable.

# Development and Activities

Ninety-two percent of the aircraft hangars are occupied, and thirteen percent of the occupied hangars are used for non-aviation storage purposes. Avgas fuel sales are down 8 percent, and Jet-A fuel sales are up 5.9 percent, year to date.

Aircraft operations are up 4.6 percent, year to date.

# Meetings and Events

On Thursday, June 16, 2016, the Whiteman Airport Association held its monthly meeting.

The summer Barbecue and Antique Aircraft Display event will be held on July 10, 2016.

On June 18, 2016, Mr. Marino hosted a booth at the American Heroes Air Show and had the opportunity to share information about drones and the upcoming open house at Whiteman Airport.

The Experimental Aircraft Association will host its Young Eagles event on the airport on Saturday, July 23, 2016.

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

The Whiteman Airport Open House will be on September 24, 2016.

# Mr. Marino Reported on Compton/Woodley Airport Items

# Management and Maintenance

Mr. Marino reported to the Commission that the south security lights were repaired, and new door closers were installed in all the restrooms.

#### Development and Activities

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

Avgas fuel sales were up 13.7 percent, year to date.

# Meetings and Events

On June 19, 2016, the Experimental Aircraft Association hosted its first Food Truck event and had 74 attendees. The next Food Truck event will be held on July 17, 2016.

#### Miscellaneous

Vice-Chair Butts thanked Mr. Marino for expediting the repairs and replacement of restroom door closers.

Commissioner Simmons expressed his concern with the lighting in the restrooms, as a result of the added door closers. Mr. Wardle will look into

the lighting situation in the restrooms and report back next month with his findings.

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

#### Maintenance

Mr. Birch shared with the Commission a photograph of the newly completed marquee. Mr. Birch also added that the names of some businesses are displayed on the new marquee.

On June 29, 2016, the annual hangar inspection was completed, and future scheduling will be arranged for those tenants that were not available.

# Projects

Phase I of the apron pavement rehabilitation project continues. Mr. Birch informed the Commission that the project is scheduled for completion by July 15, 2016; and construction of the tiedowns, water testing, and markings on asphalt will follow.

# Development and Activities

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

American Airports Corporation's Avgas fuel sales were down 54 percent; and Jet-A fuel sales were down 55.1 percent, compared to the same month last year.

Aircraft operations on the airport were down 24 percent, compared to the same month last year.

# Meetings and Events

On June 24 2016, airport staff gave 10 students from the Junior Blind of America a tour of the airport and afforded them the opportunity to sit in the cockpit of the airplanes and touch the controls.

Commissioners Simmons and Amundson inquired on the current information displayed on the sign, and Mr. Birch provided an explanation.

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

Mr. Irving updated the Commission on the taxiway project status and the surrounding fires. Mr. Irving added that U. S. Forest Services was offered use of the runway at Fox Airfield but opted to use Porterville Municipal Airport instead.

The taxiway project is coming to an end and should be finalized by end of July 2016.

Northrop Grumman will expand its current G-3 operation in place at Fox Airfield.

# Development and Activities

Avgas fuel sales are consistent, compared to last year; and Jet-A fuel sales are down 52 percent, year to date. There is one vacant hangar, and no hangars are used for non-aviation storage purposes. Airport operations are down 11 percent from over last year's operations.

#### Miscellaneous

Commissioner Simmons asked Mr. Irving if he had any updates on the air show. Mr. Irving shared information about the air show with the Commission, and Commissioners Simmons and Lord engaged in a brief discussion on the subject.

# Mr. David Price Reported on Brackett Field Airport Items

Mr. Price informed the Commission that Daniel Rodriguez was promoted to Operations Supervisor.

# Projects

Renovations to the terminal building commenced, and Southern California Edison continues with the incandescent and fluorescent lighting upgrade.

# Development and Activities

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

Avgas fuel sales were down 24.6 percent, and Jet-A fuel sales were up 10.6 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 Open House event at Brackett Field Airport is tentatively scheduled for October 16, 2016.

Mr. Price informed the Commission that the U.S. Fire Forest and Cal Fire were operating out of the airport during the recent fires.

A meeting concerning the aircraft noise issue was held on June 15, 2016, between airport operators, airport managers, and control tower staff to discuss noise abatement procedures and possible mitigation. A future meeting is tentatively scheduled for July 2016.

Secretary Cardono asked who supplied the fuel and water for fire operations. Mr. Wardle answered that the fuel was partially supplied by the airport, and some water was used from the airport, as well. Mr. Smith informed Secretary Cardono that American Airports Corporation will be paid for the water that was utilized during the fire activity.

Commissioner Simmons asked what type of noise is generating complaints, and Mr. Price and Mr. Wardle provided a brief explanation.

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

# May 2016 Expense and Revenue Report

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

#### Annual Rental Rate Increase

Mr. Smith informed the Commission that the annual rental rate increase, which included an increase of non-aviation surcharge to 65 percent of the aviation rate, was approved by the Board of Supervisors.

Mr. Smith added that construction of the Compton runway and taxiway projects dated for July 19, 2016, and the Brackett southeast ramp design dated for August 2, 2016, are two additional items scheduled to go to the Board for approval.

#### Air Show

Mr. Smith also informed the Commission that under the new director, the Air Show Board has shown response to information requests, and there are still a few items remaining.

Commissioner Amundson asked about other options to produce the air show. Mr. Smith replied that there are many event organizers that are qualified and could be an option for us.

### Marketing Fund

Mr. Smith provided to the Commission a final list of the marketing priorities and percentage allocation for each task listed and informed the Commission that any remaining monies would be rolled over to the next fiscal year.

# D. Review of Federal Aviation Administration Policy on the Non-Aeronautical Use of Airport Hangars.

Mr. Smith provided to the Commission a brief history of the Commission's involvement in FAA rule-making policy and shared an adopted FAA policy for Non-Aeronautical Use of Airport Hangars. Inferably, it is the County's intend continue enforcing the current policy at all five airports as expected by the FAA.

Chair Cornwall suggested to Mr. Smith that current rates and charges should be updated. Mr. Smith will provide a report at the August meeting.

Commissioner Lord asked for clarification on the dates for the Compton/Woodley Airport projects. Mr. Smith provided a summary of the tentative dates for future projects at airport.

# E. Brackett Field Airport Items

None

#### III. PUBLIC COMMENT – OPEN FORUM

Mr. Gabe Lopez, San Gabriel Valley Airport Association, shared with the Commission information that he gathered from a hangar survey that he conducted on various airports. Commissioners and Mr. Lopez engaged in a brief discussion.

# IV. NEXT COMMISSION MEETING WILL BE ON:

Wednesday, August 31, 2016, at 7 p.m. Compton/Woodley Airport 901 West Alondra Boulevard Compton, CA 90220-3528 (310) 631-8140

Chair Cornwall adjourned the meeting at 7:56 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Angelo Cardono, Secretary Los Angeles County Aviation Commission

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