



MARK PESTRELLA, Director

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

AVIATION COMMISSION

"To Enrich Lives Through Effective and Caring Service"

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MEMBER

STEVE A. WEEKS
MEMBER

LOS ANGELES COUNTY AVIATION COMMISSION

October 25, 2017, meeting

Whiteman Airport

10000 Airpark Way

Pacoima, CA 91331-7393

(818) 896-5271

IN ATTENDANCE

Chairman George G. Butts
Secretary Clinton Simmons
Commissioner Curt Castagna
Commissioner Harvey A. Holloway
Commissioner Gabriel Perez
Commissioner Steve A. Weeks

OFFICIALLY EXCUSED

Commissioner Penelope Cornwall
Commissioner Peter Amundson
Commissioner Dennis C. Lord

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. Steve Irving, Manager, General William J. Fox Airfield
Mr. Enrique Curioso, Manager, San Gabriel Valley Airport
Mr. Andrew Marino, Manager, Whiteman Airport

GUESTS

Mr. Dave Hopkins, Santa Monica Airport Association
Mr. Christian Fry, Santa Monica Airport Association
Mr. Gabe Lopez, San Gabriel Valley Airport Association
Mr. Ed Anhalt, Civil Air Patrol
Mr. James Miller, Civil Air Patrol
Mr. Dick Millais, Civil Air Patrol
Mr. Winn Williams, Port Hangar Association
Mr. Bruce Bosch, San Gabriel Valley Tenant

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman George G. Butts called the meeting to order at 10 a.m.

I. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Commissioner Curt Castagna led the Pledge of Allegiance.

A. Minutes

The minutes for the September 27, 2017, meeting were unanimously approved on a motion from Commissioner Castagna, seconded by Commissioner Holloway.

B. American Airports Corporation - Contract Manager Report

Mr. Scott Wardle Reported on American Airports Corporation Items

Mr. Wardle reported to the Commission that the third-party lessee at Whiteman Airport started renovating the restrooms in Hangar Row HH; access to water in the restrooms is pending.

Mr. Enrique Curioso Reported on San Gabriel Valley Airport Items

On September 25, 2017, Air Quality Management District conducted fuel island testing.

On September 29, 2017, staff provided a tour of the airport to local school children.

The annual Airport Open House event will be held on Sunday, October 29, 2017.

Mr. Wardle stated to the Commission that the commencement date for the pavement project is December 2017.

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

Avgas fuel sales were down 54 percent, and Jet-A fuel sales were down 53 percent, compared to last year. Aircraft operations on the airport were down 11 percent.

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

Mr. Irving informed the Commission that tanker companies began to utilize the grid at the airport for aerial testing, and American Airports Corporation is renting the grid for a fee.

The project to remove the underground storage tank continues at the airport.

Runway 6/24 will be closed from October 31, 2017, through November 2, 2017, to prepare for the upcoming pavement rehabilitation project.

The north perimeter fence sustained damage caused by a single vehicle accident. Repairs to the fence are complete.

On October 28, 2017, the airport association will host a pancake breakfast in the morning, and the Wings and Wheels will host an event in the afternoon.

Avgas fuel sales are up 22 percent, and Jet-A fuel sales are up 100 percent, year to date. There are four vacant hangars, and no hangars are used for non-aviation storage purposes.

Mr. Pete Lonctaux Reported on Brackett Field Airport Items

The watermain that broke on the airport began to leak after repairs were complete. Mr. Lonctaux informed the Commission that workers excavated once more and repositioned the sleeve to stop the leak.

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

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

Avgas fuel sales are consistent, and Jet-A fuel sales were down 17.7 percent, compared to last year. Aircraft operations on the airport were up 1.2 percent.

Mr. Scott Wardle Reported on Compton/Woodley Airport Items

On October 9, 2017, backflow testing was done, and nine airport staff members were recertified on underground storage tank procedures.

Compton/Woodley Airport hosted a hazardous waste and e-waste collection event on October 7, 2017.

Airport staff painted the fuel pits with paint that matches surrounding buildings.

Hangar inspections will commence the last week of October 2017.

The Experimental Aircraft Association will hold its Young Eagles Rally on October 28, 2017.

The open house planning meeting will take place on November 9, 2017.

Ninety-nine percent of the hangars on the airport are occupied. Avgas fuel sales are down 13 percent, year to date.

Mr. Andrew Marino Reported on Whiteman Airport Items

On October 10, 2017, a CPR and first aid recertification training was held for Whiteman and Compton/Woodley Airport staff.

A new lawn was planted by the old terminal building, and a motherboard was replaced on a security gate.

A potential restaurant operator and American Airports Corporation are discussing plans to lease the restaurant area in the terminal building.

The American Heroes Air Show will take place at Hansen Park on November 4, 2017.

Mr. Marino informed the Commission that graffiti is an issue around the airport, and airport staff and city services are working hard on removing the graffiti.

On October 14, 2017, an air rally was held at the airport, and an event was hosted for Larger than Life in the month of October.

On October 30, 2017, a Federal Aviation Administration Safety Team meeting will be held at the airport to discuss drones in the national air space.

The next Whiteman Airport Association meeting will be held on November 16, 2017, and the next Young Eagles meeting will be held on October 28, 2017.

Ninety-one percent of the hangars on the airport are occupied, and 13 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 3 percent, year to date. Aircraft operations on the airport were up 12.4 percent.

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

Mr. Smith provided the Commission with copies of the September 2017 Expense and Revenue Report and provided an explanation on the revenue that is generated by the fuel sold by American Airports Corporation and competitive fuel sales at San Gabriel Valley Airport.

Mr. Smith informed the Commission that Mr. Henry Zepeda will retiring from the Aviation Division after 31 years of service.

- **Air Traffic Control Privatization Memo**

A copy of the air traffic control privatization memo signed by Chairman Butts was shared with the Commission, and Commissioner Castagna elaborated on the content of the discussion that took place at the National Airports Conference.

- **Assembly Bill 483 Air Pollution**

On November 2, 2017, Assemblyman Bocanegra's staff will be touring the airport.

- **Meeting at San Gabriel Valley Airport**

Mr. Smith informed the Commission that Congresswoman Grace Napolitano held a meeting at the airport with Supervisor Kathryn Barger and Director of Public Works, Mark Pestrella.

- **Capital Project Updates**

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

- **Portable/Temporary Hangar Policy Subcommittee**

The subcommittee will develop a formal policy to address portable and temporary hangars at all five County-owned airports. Commissioner Castagna will chair the subcommittee, and Commissioners Cornwall, Weeks, and Lord were nominated as members of the subcommittee. Meetings will be held in the Public Works' Aviation Division Conference room in Alhambra.

D. Whiteman Airport Items

None.

II. PUBLIC COMMENT – OPEN FORUM

Mr. Hopkins, Santa Monica Airport Association, updated the Commission on the situation that is taking place at Santa Monica Airport and requested the support from the Commission in efforts to keep the airport open. Mr. Hopkins commended the Commission on their involvement and knowledge in aviation.

Mr. Christian Fry, Santa Monica Airport Association, expressed his concerns with the Commission on the plans to close Santa Monica Airport. Mr. Fry explained to the Commission the impact that the surrounding airports and community would have if Santa Monica Airport were to close. He requested support from the Commission.

Mr. Gabe Lopez, San Gabriel Valley Association, informed the Commission that the restaurant owner at the San Gabriel Valley Airport would like to request an alcohol

permit for the restaurant. The Commission agreed with the request and suggested that the restaurant owner move forward with his request.

Mr. James A. Miller, Civil Air Patrol Squadron 137, provided to the Commission a summary of the activities that took place at the Civil Air Patrol building at Whiteman Airport.

Mr. Ed Anhalt, Civil Air Patrol Squadron 35, provided a detailed report on the activities that took place in Squadron 35 and presented an award to Mr. Smith, Mr. Andrew Marino, and Mr. Ernie Umana for the support they have extended to Civil Air Patrol.

Mr. Winn Williams, Port Hangar Association, expressed his concern with the Commission regarding the access to the airport with keycards that are not functioning. He is requesting to stay on the airport until the Federal Aviation Administration responds to their complaint.

III. NEXT COMMISSION MEETING WILL BE ON:

**Wednesday, November 29, 2017, at 10 a.m.
at San Gabriel Valley Airport
4233 Santa Anita Avenue
El Monte, CA 91731-1670
(626) 448-6129**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:30 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

George G. Butts, Chairman
Los Angeles County Aviation Commission

RS:cd
ADMIN\COMMISSION\MINUTES\MINUTES_OCTOBER 25, 2017