



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

October 26, 2016, Meeting

Whiteman Airport

10000 Airpark Way

Pacoima, CA 91331-7393

(818) 896-5271

### IN ATTENDANCE

Vice-Chair George G. Butts  
Commissioner Harvey A. Holloway  
Commissioner Dennis C. Lord  
Commissioner Clinton Simmons  
Commissioner Steve A. Weeks

### OFFICIALLY EXCUSED

Chair Penelope Cornwall  
Secretary Angelo R. Cardono  
Commissioner Gabriel Perez  
Commissioner Peter Amundson

### 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. Steve Irving, Manager, General William J. Fox Airfield  
Mr. Jared Birch, Manager, San Gabriel Valley Airport  
Mr. Andrew Marino, Manager, Whiteman Airport

### GUESTS

Mr. James Miller, Civil Air Patrol Squadron 137  
Mr. David Sayder, tenant  
Ms. Latanya Collier, Department of Public Works, Aviation Division  
Ms. Jessie Coté, Department of Public Works, Aviation Division  
Mr. Don Hagopian, Whiteman Airport Association  
Ms. Shellie Hagopian, Whiteman Airport Association  
Mr. Michael Freed, Civil Air Patrol Squadron 35  
Mr. Brian Thornson, Whiteman Airport Association  
Mr. Richard Mend, Mend Aviation

## **CALL TO ORDER**

Vice-Chair Butts called the meeting to order at 10 a.m.

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

Commissioner Weeks led the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

#### **A. Minutes**

Approval of the minutes of September 28, 2016, meeting was deferred for the next Commission meeting for lack of a quorum.

#### **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 (AAC) and the County will approve an extension to the lease with ARC Machines, Inc., with the stipulation that ARC Machines, Inc., releases to the County the secondary parcel under its current lease terms.

Mr. Wardle informed the Commission that the Antelope Valley College is still interested in leasing the old museum to expand its A&P Program. AAC has provided a draft lease to the College for its review and expects a response by January 2017. At Brackett Field Airport, a lease renewal is in the negotiating stage for Norm's Restaurant.

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

- **Development and Activities**

A & E Consultants and Ara Martirosyan of the Aviation Division conducted a preliminary review of a future pavement rehabilitation project at the airport.

Eighty-two 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 down 18.8 percent, and Jet-A fuel sales were up 30.4 percent, compared to the same month last year.

Aircraft operations were down 14 percent, compared to the same month last year.

- **Meetings and Events**

The Brackett Field Airport Open House event was held on October 16, 2016. Mr. Lonctaux shared with the Commission that despite the different advertisement efforts, they only had 500 attendees. Mr. Lonctaux added that the banners outside the airport were the best advertisement for the event.

The annual Runway Safety Action Team meeting was held on September 29, 2016.

Mr. Lonctaux informed the Commission that the City of La Verne's Fire Department, airport traffic control, and the airport manager are working together to develop a letter of agreement to emplace an alerts system and proper protocol that can be activated in case of an emergency situation.

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

Mr. Irving informed the Commission that the east gate had recently malfunctioned but has been repaired, and it is now working properly.

The California Department of Transportation performed an Airport Master Record 5010 Form inspection on the airport, and no issues were reported.

Mr. Irving informed the Commission that the taxiway project is on hold. Therefore, if the situation continues, the plan is to backfill and restripe in order to restore the runway to its usable full length.

- **Development and Activities**

Avgas fuel sales are down 16 percent, compared to last year. Jet-A fuel sales are down 26 percent, year to date.

There are three vacant hangars, and no hangars are used for non-aviation storage purposes. Airport operations are down 32 percent from over last year's operations.

Aircraft operations are down 38 percent overall.

- **Miscellaneous**

The Rotary Club will host the Chili Cook-off event on Saturday, October 29, 2016.

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

- **Maintenance**

Mr. Birch informed the Commission that the trees that were obstructing Runway 01 on Santa Anita Avenue were removed on October 11, 2016.

The shower in the pilot's lounge was hot-mopped and retiled.

- **Development and Activities**

Twenty-four hangars are vacant, and 29 percent of the occupied hangars are used for non-aviation storage purposes.

Avgas fuel sales were down 49 percent, and Jet-A fuel sales were down 63 percent, compared to the same month last year.

Aircraft operations on the airport were down 4.5 percent, compared to the same month last year.

- **Meetings and Events**

On October 12, 2016, the annual Runway Safety Action Team meeting was held. There are no new related action items.

The annual Airport Open House event was held on Saturday, October 15, 2016, and had approximately 1,500 attendees. Mr. Birch informed the Commission that, as part of the Marketing Fund, 500 posters were ordered that advertise the airport year-round. Mr. Birch thanked Mr. Gabe Lopez for his assistance in developing the posters.

## **Mr. Andrew Marino Reported on Compton/Woodley Airport Items**

- **Management and Maintenance**

Mr. Marino informed the Commission that 225 feet of perimeter fencing were replaced.

Mr. Marino informed the Commission that AAC is currently negotiating with a contractor to determine the type of material that will be used to replace 30 panels on the sound wall.

- **Development and Activities**

Ninety-seven percent of the hangars on the airport are occupied, and 34 percent of the occupied hangars are used for non-aviation storage purposes.

Avgas fuel sales were up 7 percent, year to date.

- **Meetings and Events**

The Experimental Aircraft Association Chapter 96 hosted its Remote-Control Model Expo on October 1, 2016, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

The next aircraft display date is November 5 and 6, 2016.

On October 14, 2016, a vehicle crashed into the airport on Alondra Boulevard and damaged 225 feet of perimeter fencing and three hangars.

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

Two stadium lights were repaired, and a third stadium light was requested.

Mr. Marino reported to the Commission that a major overhaul was done to the sweeper, and it is now working properly.

The annual fire extinguisher recertification and replacement will take place on November 14, 2016.

As a safety measure, 20 feet of handrail was added to the entrance of the terminal building.

Trees along the Osborne Street entrance and on the side of the terminal building were trimmed.

Mr. Marino informed the Commission that he continues to work on replacing old signs along Airpark Way and the addition of new signage. The signs will be purchased with funds from AAC's Fiscal Year 2016-17 Marketing Fund.

A space designer was contracted to design the future kitchen area in the terminal building.

- **Development and Activities**

Ninety-one 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 8.3 percent, and Jet-A fuel sales are up 1.6 percent, year to date.

Aircraft operations are up 1.5 percent, year to date.

- **Meetings and Events**

On September 21, 2016, Larger-than-Life, an organization with a focus on improving the lives of children with cancer, held an event on the airport.

On September 22, 2016, the Explorer Post 747 held its pancake sale, and the Experimental Aircraft Association Young Eagles held its event simultaneously.

On October 20, 2016, the Whiteman Airport Association held its monthly meeting. The next meeting will be held on November 17, 2016.

The annual holiday party will be held on Thursday, December 8, 2016, and will include collection of canned goods for donation.

The next Antique Aircraft Display event will be held on November 13, 2016 and the Young Eagles event on November 26, 2016.

On Saturday, October 22, 2016, the Experimental Aircraft Association will host its Young Eagles event.

The annual Santa Fly-In will be held on Saturday, December 10, 2016.

Mr. Marino informed the Commission that an hour prior to the meeting, a tenant accidentally drove his vehicle into the main entrance gate. The tenant has accepted fault, and his insurance adjuster was contacted.

Commissioner Weeks questioned whether or not a restaurant in the terminal building is the most logical plan given the difficulty of finding a tenant and the cost to reconfigure the space. Mr. Marino stated that he and Mr. Wardle would meet further to evaluate his concerns. Commissioner Weeks stated that he would like to be included in these discussions.

Vice-Chair Butts opened the floor to the tenants at the meeting for them to voice their thoughts regarding space for a restaurant facility.

Mr. Don Hagopian, tenant at Whiteman Airport, shared with the Commission that during the holiday parties and other events, the designated space in the terminal building becomes too small for the amount of participants who attend the events.

Mr. Richard Mend, tenant at Whiteman Airport, suggested that renovating the old restaurant space would be a less costly investment than would be to accommodate a new location.

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

- **September 2016 Expense and Revenue Reports**

Mr. Smith introduced Ms. Latanya Collier as the new Airport Project Coordinator and announced Ms. Gail Farber's resignation as Director of Public Works.

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

- **Request for Federal Aviation Administration Grants**

Mr. Smith informed the Commission that the County will meet with the Federal Aviation Administration to secure funding for current year and upcoming fiscal year. Mr. Smith identified the projects that were not funded and projects that should be included in the 2017-18 Fiscal Year.

- **Fiscal Year 2017-18 Budget**

Mr. Smith informed the Commission that the projected budget fund for the Aviation Enterprise Fund is \$4.18 million with a fund balance of \$1.3 million.

- **Trees at Rio Vista Park**

The tree removal at Rio Vista Park is scheduled for December 26 through December 30, 2016.

- **General William J. Fox Airfield Air Show**

Patches for the 2017 air show are being developed, and the County will not order new shirts this year.

- **Whiteman Airport Terminal Building Space**

Mr. Smith revisited the space in the terminal building and stated that the old facility is still scheduled for demolition according to the master plan. He also stated that the County will meet with the Civil Air Patrol to coordinate their temporary use of the old terminal building.

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

Commissioner Holloway inquired on the status of the taxiway project. Mr. Smith provided the Commission with a summary of what the Federal Aviation Administration requires and the process where the contractor is not able to meet at this time.

**D. Whiteman Airport Items**

Mr. Smith announced to the Commission that electric vehicle-charging stations will be installed in the new parking area.

Commissioner Lord asked Mr. Marino if the meeting space on the second floor terminal building is utilized as a meeting/conference area and suggested utilizing the area as a source of revenue by offering it to the community.

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

Lt. Colonel James Miller, Civil Air Patrol Squadron 35, thanked the Commission for its continuous support and shared the types of services Civil Air Patrol volunteers provide to the surrounding communities and events. Lt. Colonel Miller elaborated further on their involvement in sending at least one cadet to the Air Force Academy. Mr. Smith offered to assist Lt. Colonel Miller with promoting these accomplishments.

Mrs. Shellie Hagopian, Whiteman Airport Association, expressed her concern regarding the lack of County signage on doors and around the terminal building and would like to see the County emblem displaced throughout the terminal building.

Mr. Don Hagopian, shared with the Commission and attendees the two new Whiteman Airport buttons that were designed for the annual open house.

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

**Wednesday, November 30, 2016, 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 in memory of Mr. Bob Hoover. Vice-Chair Butts shared memorable details about Mr. Hoover's lifetime accomplishments. The meeting was adjourned at 11:07 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Angelo R. Cardono, Secretary  
Los Angeles County Aviation Commission

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