



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

October 31, 2018, meeting

Whiteman Airport

10000 Airpark Way

Pacoima, CA 91331-7393

(818) 896-5271

## COMMISSIONERS

CLINTON SIMMONS  
CHAIRMAN

DENNIS C. LORD  
VICE-CHAIRMAN

PETER M. AMUNDSON  
SECRETARY

CURT CASTAGNA  
MEMBER

PENELOPE CORNWALL  
MEMBER

HARVEY HOLLOWAY  
MEMBER

JEFF MORT  
MEMBER

CHRISTINA PASCUCCI  
MEMBER

GABRIEL PEREZ  
MEMBER

VACANT  
MEMBER

### IN ATTENDANCE

Chairman Clinton Simmons  
Vice-Chairman Dennis Lord  
Secretary Peter Amundson  
Commissioner Curt Castagna  
Commissioner Harvey A. Holloway  
Commissioner Jeff Mort  
Commissioner Christina Pascucci  
Commissioner Gabriel Perez

### 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 Lonctaux, Brackett Field Airport  
Mr. Carlos Diaz, Manager, Compton/Woodley 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. Peter Hartmann, Hartmann's Hangars  
Mr. Don Hagopian, Whiteman Airport Association  
Mr. Winn Williams, Port Hangar Association Brackett  
Mrs. Shellie Hagopian, Whiteman Airport Association  
Mr. Jeff Jeibert, Whiteman Airport Association  
Mr. Dick Millais, Civil Air Patrol, Squadron 35

## **GUESTS** (Cont.)

Mr. Richard Wollrich, Whiteman Airport Association  
Mr. Dave Kolstad, Whiteman Airport Association  
Mr. James Miller, Civil Air Patrol, Squadron 137  
Ms. Ceci Strafford, Experimental Aircraft Association  
Mr. Charles Kamphausen, Experimental Aircraft Association  
Mr. Jim Deas, Whiteman Airport Guest  
Mr. Bruce Bosch, San Gabriel Valley Airport  
Mr. Mike Gabelman, Mission Flight El Monte  
Mr. Ryan Sanders, Pacific Aviation Development  
Mr. Steve Argubright, Pacific Aviation Development  
Mr. Edward David, Echo Delta, Inc.  
Mr. Mike Gorman, Whiteman Airport Tenant  
Mr. Murry Rozansky, Whiteman Airport Tenant  
Mr. John Marshall, Whiteman Airport Tenant  
Mr. Neil Casey, Whiteman Airport Tenant  
Mr. Casey Cuneen, Whiteman Airport Tenant  
Mr. John Pitchair, Whiteman Airport Tenant  
Mr. Richard Mend, Whiteman Airport Tenant

## **CALL TO ORDER**

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

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

Chairman Simmons led the Pledge of Allegiance.

#### **A. Minutes**

The minutes for the August 29, 2018, meeting were unanimously approved on a motion from Vice-Chairman Lord, seconded by Commissioner Castagna and the minutes for the September 26, 2018, meeting were unanimously approved on a motion from Vice-Chairman Lord, seconded by Commissioner Castagna.

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

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

On October 24, 2018, Mr. Diaz attended a Wildlife Management Seminar at Los Alamitos Army Airfield.

Three gate card readers on the airport that were inoperable were repaired and the tri-annual Automated Weather Observation System inspection was held on October 18, 2018.

On October 19, 2018, the Rapid Intervention Vehicle passed the annual inspection and was recertified for another year and on October 22, 2018, the Runway End Identifier Lights were replaced with new LED – Runway End Identifier Lights units.

Mr. Diaz informed the Commission that Compton/Woodley Airport will be a Polling Place on Tuesday, November 6, 2018.

On October 30, 2018, an aircraft had difficulties landing and there was minor damage to the runway lights. There were no injuries to report.

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

Avgas fuel sales were down 1 percent as compared to the same month last year.

Electricity consumption was down 12.9 percent and water consumption was down 7.2 percent as compared to the same month last year.

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

Airport staff continue working on the maintenance of the hangars.

A solar powered lighting system will be added to the entrance sign located on Avenue G and 50th Street.

The Runway Pavement Reconstruction Project was postponed until November 2019 to ensure that the United States Forest Service tanker operation and the annual airshow are not interrupted.

The International Aerobatic Club, Chapter 26, will host their 2018 competition north of General Wm. J. Fox Airfield.

Mr. Irving announced that the annual Lancaster Rotary Chili Cook-off was canceled this year.

Mr. Irving informed the Commission that the 2019 Air Show will be held on October 19, 2019, and October 20, 2019.

Ninety-four percent of the hangars on the airport are occupied, and none of the hangars are utilized for non-aviation storage.

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

Avgas fuel sales were down 8 percent, and Jet-A fuel sales were up 39 percent as compared to the same month last year.

Electricity consumption was not available this month and water consumption was down 1 percent as compared to the same month last year.

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

The remodeling of the interior of one of the Sherriff's buildings on the airport is in progress.

The Brackett Airmen Association hold their 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 was held on October 16, 2018, and the Annual Airport Open House was held on October 20, 2018.

Mr. Lonctaux informed the Commission that there was a fatal aircraft accident on September 30, 2018, and a second fatal accident on October 1, 2018. The National Transportation Safety Board is investigating the two accidents.

A filming company was on the airport for three days for a film production.

Mr. Wardle informed the Commission that American Airports Corporation has extended the lease for Norm's Kitchen.

Eighty-six percent of the hangars on the airport are occupied, and 19 percent of the occupied hangars are used for non-aviation storage.

Aircraft operations on the airport were up 1.3 percent as compared to the same month last year.

Avgas fuel sales were down 9.4 percent, and Jet-A fuel sales were up 10.8 percent as compared to the same month last year.

Electricity consumption was up 9.3 percent as compared to the same month last year and water consumption was not available this month.

### **Mr. Enrique Curioso Reported on San Gabriel Valley Airport Items**

The security card reader at the main entrance was replaced and landscaping around the terminal building is complete.

Southern California Edison replaced a damaged cable and a transformer located on the airport.

The San Gabriel Valley Air Fair and Open House was held on Saturday, October 27, 2018, and on Sunday, October 28, 2018. During the Open House, SOAR (Shine, Overcome, Ascend, Rejoice) in conjunction with Mission Flight hosted their event which included plane rides for kids with special needs.

The San Gabriel Valley Remote Control Association meets every fourth Thursday of the month and the Civil Air Patrol meets every Thursday at 7p.m.

The San Gabriel Valley Airport Association meets every third Wednesday of the month at 7 p.m. and the San Gabriel Valley Airport Vintage Airplane/Auto Display and Aircraft Swap Meet is held every fourth Sunday of the month.

Ninety-eight percent of the hangars on the airport are occupied, and 27 percent of the occupied hangars are used for non-aviation storage.

Aircraft operations on the airport were up 7 percent as compared to the same month last year.

Avgas fuel sales were up 3 percent, and Jet-A fuel sales were down 78 percent as compared to the same month last year.

Electricity consumption was down 0.1 percent and water consumption was up 48 percent as compared to the same month last year.

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

Mr. Wardle announced to the Commission that Mr. Marino accepted employment with Los Angeles International Airport.

On October 24, 2018, Mr. Marino attended a Wildlife Hazard Management Training at Los Alamitos Army Airfield, and on October 9, 2018, the annual CPR/First Aid training was held at the terminal building.

Mr. Marino informed the Commission that a new water pressure regulator was installed in the restroom near the CAP offices and in the terminal building.

The annual fire extinguisher recertification will commence on December 17, 2018.

On October 18, 2018, a new flag pole was installed in front of the terminal building and new illuminated signage will be added to the terminal building and directional signage will be added along Airpark Way, transient parking, and parking lots.

The Larger than Life event took place on the airport on October 29, 2018.

The annual American Heroes Airshow will be held at the Hansen Dam on November 3, 2018.

The next Antique Aircraft Display day will be held on November 11, 2018, and the Whiteman Airport Association meeting will be held on November 15, 2018.

Chairman Simmons mentioned to Mr. Marino and Mr. Wardle that the entrance sign on Airpark Way is difficult to see when approaching from the south side and asked Mr. Wardle to evaluate the placement of that sign and see if he can come up with a better sign placement.

Ninety-one percent of the hangars on the airport are occupied, and 8.5 percent of the occupied hangars are used for non-aviation storage.

Aircraft operations on the airport were up 5.4 percent as compared to the same month last year.

Avgas fuel sales were up 2.9 percent, and Jet-A fuel sales were up 3.4 percent as compared to the same month last year.

Electricity consumption was up 12 percent and water consumption was up 80 percent as compared to the same month last year.

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

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

A Rapid Intervention Vehicle for Compton/Woodley Airport and a sweeper for Whiteman Airport were budgeted for fiscal year 2019-2020.

Mr. Smith informed the Commission that solicitations for a request for information for FBO services on the north side of Brackett Field Airport are in progress. The County and American Airports Corporation are close to finalizing documents to move forward.

The County is applying for a California Department of Transportation grant for the updated pavement management system at San Gabriel Valley Airport and Compton/Woodley Airport.

The Department of Water and Power project for a reclaimed water tank has been postponed indefinitely.

Mr. Smith informed the Commission on the upcoming solar and sustainable improvements at Whiteman Airport and informed that the Department of Water and Power is offering incentives for solar improvements.

Commissioner Amundson inquired on the plans for a restaurant at Whiteman Airport. Mr. Wardle explained to Commissioner Amundson that AAC and the County will have to assist in the initial infrastructure construction before any agreements are finalized.

Mr. Smith informed the Commission on a best practice approach that general aviation is embracing called Know Before You Go. This is an informational tool that offers communication and transparency for the general aviation community.

#### **D. Whiteman Airport Items**

Mr. Wardle informed the Commission that M&D Aircraft Storage lease amendment was approved by the Board of Supervisors and informed that the Hartmann's Hangars will revert to the County in 2019 as stated on the lease. Mr. Wardle stated that tenants occupying the reverting hangars can sign a new agreement with the County and continue in their hangars once the hangars revert to the County.

Commissioner Castagna asked if there was anything unique with the Hartmann's Hangars lease since reversion of hangars is standard protocol on the airports. Mr. Wardle informed Commissioner Castagna that it was a standard lease.

Mr. Smith informed the Commission and attendees that the subtenants occupying the Hartmann's Hangars will not be dispossessed once the hangars revert to the County.

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

Mr. Peter Hartmann, Hartmann's Hangars, asked the Commission for guidance. Mr. Hartmann briefed the Commission on who he is and stated that he is not disputing the end of his ground lease but is requesting that the current ground lease remain in its current state. In addition, Mr. Hartmann provided a letter he received from Comarco dated April 7, 1993, a copy of the About Us from the Los Angeles County Aviation website, and a flyer advertising buildings for sale at Whiteman Airport.

Commissioner Castagna asked Mr. Hartmann if he is requesting a lease extension and inquired on the date of the end of the current lease. Mr. Hartmann informed Commissioner Castagna that his request is for a lease extension and his current lease expires August 2019.

Mr. Gabelman, Mission Flight, shared with the Commission a slideshow on the SOAR event that took place at San Gabriel Valley Airport and thanked Mr. Curioso and everyone who assisted in making the event a success.

Mr. Dave Kolstad, Experimental Aircraft Association at Whiteman Airport, provided information to the Commission on their successful events and on the flights, they have provided to children in the community.

Mr. Murry Rozansky, Whiteman Airport Tenant, shared with the Commission the benefits of having unleaded aviation gasoline at the airports and suggested that the County push unleaded aviation gasoline fuel at the airports.

Shellie Hagopian, Whiteman Airport Association, shared with the Commission her thoughts regarding Mr. Hartmann and suggested that the County consider extending his lease.

Vice-Chairman Lord shared with the Commission that Catalina Island has an agreement with the U.S. Marines to rebuild the entire runway.

Vice-Chairman Lord reminded the Commission and attendees that the Academy of Model Aeronautics convention is having their event this weekend.

Mr. James Miller, Civil Air Patrol, provided a summary on their use of their facilities and provided a document summarizing their activities at the airport and the communities.

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

**Wednesday, November 28, 2018, at 10 a.m.  
at San Gabriel Valley Airport  
4233 Santa Anita Avenue  
El Monte, CA 91731-1670**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:37 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Peter Amundson, Secretary  
Los Angeles County Aviation Commission

RS:cd