



MARK PESTRELLA, Director

# COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

## AVIATION COMMISSION

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

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### LOS ANGELES COUNTY AVIATION COMMISSION

**September 26, 2018, meeting**  
**General William J. Fox Airfield**  
**4725 William J. Barnes Avenue**  
**Lancaster, CA 93536-8401**  
**(661) 940-1709**

## 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  
Commissioner Curt Castagna  
Commissioner Harvey A. Holloway  
Commissioner Jeff Mort  
Commissioner Christina Pascucci

### OFFICIALLY EXCUSED

Secretary Peter Amundson  
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. 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. Winn Williams, Port Hangar Association Brackett  
Ms. Debra Gonzalez, Mission Flight El Monte  
Mr. David A. Singer, Mission Flight El Monte  
Mr. Mike Gabelman, Mission Flight El Monte  
Mr. Samuel Lewis, Mission Flight El Monte

## **CALL TO ORDER**

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

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

Commissioner Mort led the Pledge of Allegiance.

#### **A. Minutes**

Approval of the minutes of the August 29, 2018, minutes was deferred for the next Commission meeting for lack of a quorum.

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

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

Mr. Marino informed the Commission that three non-aviation hangars will be vacated to accommodate three new aviation tenants.

Commissioner Castagna asked Mr. Marino and Mr. Wardle if they could elaborate on where the new aviation tenants at Whiteman were coming from. Mr. Wardle informed Commissioner Castagna that new aviation tenants are coming from Van Nuys Airport and other surrounding airports.

New LED lighting fixtures were installed at the helicopter parking pad and at the terminal building.

For security reasons, new coded door openers were added to the old terminal administration office and bollards along the north side of the airport and fire hydrants were repainted.

Mr. Marino thanked the Aviation Division for purchasing a backflow device and pressure regulator for the main water service line located on Osborne Street.

New illuminated signage will be added to the terminal building and directional signage will be added along Airpark Way, transient parking, and parking lots.

Pacoima Industrial Partners signed a temporary operating agreement for a 2-acre parcel that is adjacent to their leasehold and submitted a proposal for a long-term lease for the development at the site.

The Annual Whiteman Airport Open House was held on September 22, 2018. Mr. Marino thanked everyone who donated towards this successful event.

The next Antique Aircraft Display day will be held on October 14, 2018, and the Whiteman Airport Association meeting will be held on October 18, 2018.

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

On September 3, 2018, an aircraft taking off on Runway 12 crash-landed in the Los Angeles County Fire Department facility adjacent to the airport. The accident resulted in a fatality.

Commissioner Pascucci spoke about the accident that happened at Whiteman Airport and asked what the Commission can do to prevent unpermitted commercial operators from operation out of County Airports.

Ninety-two percent of the hangars on the airport are occupied, and 9 percent of the occupied hangars are used for non-aviation storage.

Aircraft operations on the airport were down 10 percent as compared to the same month last year.

Avgas fuel sales were down 3.3 percent, and Jet-A fuel sales were down 6.9 percent as compared to the same month last year.

Electricity consumption was down 14.4 percent and water consumption was up 58 percent as compared to the same month last year.

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

The terminal building parking lot pavement rehabilitation project is complete.

The plans to remodel the interior of one of the Sherriff's buildings on the airport has commenced.

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 will be held on October 16, 2018, and the Annual Airport Open House will be held on October 20, 2018.

Mr. Lonctaux informed the Commission that on September 24, 2018, Lieutenant Colonel Robert Friend, a Retired Tuskegee Airmen visited Brackett Field Airport.

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 0.43 percent as compared to the same month last year.

Avgas fuel sales were down 6.4 percent, and Jet-A fuel sales were up 15 percent as compared to the same month last year.

Electricity consumption was down 1.7 percent and water consumption was up 18 percent as compared to the same month last year.

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

Mr. Diaz informed the Commission that he found a vendor that was able to repair the air conditioning unit at the terminal building for a reasonable price.

The Federal Aviation Administration conducted a flight check on September 19, 2018, at the airport and results were positive. The runway rehabilitation project is now complete and night operations are in effect.

Mr. Diaz informed the Commission that the Experimental Aircraft Association and Compton Airport are working to develop a procedure that will address the entrance onto the runway from the run-up area. Mr. Diaz invited tenants to share their suggestions and to attend future meetings.

On September 29, 2018, the Young Eagles will host a rally event and on October 6, 2018, an E-Waste round up event will take place at the airport.

Ninety-eight 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 up 22.7 percent as compared to the same month last year.

Electricity consumption was down 15.4 percent and water consumption was up 46 percent as compared to the same month last year.

Commissioner Mort inquired on the ideas that are being discussed regards the entrance to the runway from the run-up area at Compton Airport. Mr. Diaz provided a summary of the ideas that are being discussed at the meetings.

Commissioner Mort shared with the Commission that after listening to the comments regarding the run-up area at the last meeting, he decided to fly into Compton Airport and explained that it seems to be a standard run-up area.

Commissioner Castagna inquired on the amount of aircraft that fit on the run-up area. Mr. Diaz stated that two aircraft fit on the run-up area.

Mr. Smith informed the Commission that Chairman Simmons is still expressing concern regarding the run-up area. Mr. Smith mentioned that he invited Chairman Simmons to the office to show him what is in place at other airports and see if he has any recommendations.

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

Mr. Curioso informed the Commission that Southern California Edison replaced a damaged cable located on the airport.

The Apron Pavement Rehabilitation Phase II project is close to completion, final walk through will take place the last week of September. Mr. Curioso thanked Los Angeles County Aviation Division for the upgrades to the ramp.

Mr. Wardle informed the Commission that American Airports Corporation is finalizing the terms for a long-term lease for the south hangar facility at San Gabriel Valley Airport.

The San Gabriel Valley Air Fair and Open House will be held on Saturday, October 27, 2018 and on Sunday, October 28, 2018, (SOAR) Shine Over Ascend Rejoice in conjunction with Mission Flight will host an event that will include 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 7 p.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-seven 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 down 6 percent as compared to the same month last year.

Avgas fuel sales were down 7 percent, and Jet-A fuel sales were up 30 percent as compared to the same month last year.

Electricity consumption was down .1 percent and water consumption was up 36 percent as compared to the same month last year.

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

Airport staff is working on the maintenance of the hangar doors and servicing automated gates throughout the airport.

An informational meeting with tenants was held to discuss the upcoming runway pavement reconstruction project. The meeting was well attended, and tenants had an opportunity to address their concerns.

The Youth in Aviation Day hosted by the 99s was held at the terminal building on September 8, 2018.

A Boeing 737 firefighting air tanker conducted its flight test at the airport and was certified for firefighting operations.

On October 27, 2018, the Lancaster Rotary, will host their Wings and Wheels Chili Cook-off event.

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

Ninety-seven 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 8 percent as compared to the same month last year.

Avgas fuel sales were down 38 percent, and Jet-A fuel sales were up 50 percent as compared to the same month last year.

Electricity consumption was down 11 percent and water consumption was up 8.4 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 August 2018 Expense and Revenue Report were presented to the Commission.

Commissioner Castagna asked Mr. Smith if he could elaborate on the expenses related to County Counsel. Mr. Smith informed Commissioner Castagna that the expenses are primarily for legal services addressing complaints coming from San Gabriel Valley Airport tenants.

The reauthorization bill for the Federal Aviation Administration has moved forward and Mr. Smith expressed to the Commission the positive impact it could have on general aviation airports.

Mr. Smith updated the Commission on a Department of Water and Power project for a reclaimed water tank that will be built on a hill close to Whiteman Airport. Mr. Smith informed the Commission that a meeting was held on September 9, 2018, where neighboring residents expressed some concerns. Department of Water and Power will review some of these concerns and determine if they will continue with the time schedule in place.

Vice-Chairman Lord offered to donate air filtration units to the Department of Water and Power to assist in dealing with some concerns that were addressed at their meeting on September 9, 2018.

Mr. Smith informed the Commission that Commissioner Weeks resigned and sends his regards to the Commissioners.

Vice-Chairman Lord requested that a correction be done on the agenda indicating that the upcoming meeting will be held at 10 a.m. not 7 p.m.

Commissioner Castagna shared with the Commission that the House of Representatives passed a 5-Year FAA Reauthorization Act and it will be moving forward to the Senate.

#### **D. General William J. Fox Airfield Items**

Mr. Smith updated the Commission on the runway reconstruction project at the airport, and mentioned that the main concern is not to interfere with the upcoming air show in October or with the air tanker operations.

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

Ms. Gonzalez, Mission Flight member, invited the Commission to attend the SOAR event that will take place at the San Gabriel Valley Airport on October 27, 2018.

Mr. Mike Gabelman, Mission Flight founder, provided information to the Commission about their volunteer-based organization and the type of services they provide to the Community.

Mr. David Singer, Mission Flight member, informed the Commission that they flew to Mexico and served 250 people with dental services and shared that they welcome volunteers.

Vice-Chairman Lord thanked Mr. Singer for the work they provide and shared his experiences as a volunteer himself.

Mr. Winn Williams, Port Hangar Association expressed to the Commission his concerns with the decision made by the Federal Aviation Administration regarding his complaint. He also requested that the Commission review the decision made by the FAA and the information submitted.

Commissioner Pascucci inquired on the situation involving removing the concrete ends of the runway at Santa Monica Airport and asked if the Commission can write a letter addressing the issues taking place at the airport. Mr. Smith provided a summary of the runway situation and stated that the Aviation Commission is an advisory Commission to the Board of Supervisors. He suggested that she discuss this concern with the Supervisor's office.

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

**Wednesday, October 31, 2018, at 10 a.m.  
at Whiteman Airport  
10000 Airpark Way  
Pacoima, CA 91331-7393**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:57 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Peter Amundson, Secretary  
Los Angeles County Aviation Commission

RS:cd