



GAIL FARBER
Director of Public Works

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

AVIATION COMMISSION

"To Enrich Lives Through Effective and Caring Service"

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LOS ANGELES COUNTY AVIATION COMMISSION

August 28, 2013, Meeting
Compton/Woodley Airport
901 West Alondra Boulevard
Compton, CA 90220-3528
(310) 631-8140

COMMISSIONERS

DENNIS C. LORD
CHAIRMAN

PETER AMUNDSON
VICE CHAIRMAN

HARVEY HOLLOWAY
SECRETARY

GEORGE G. BUTTS
MEMBER

ANGELO R. CARDONO
MEMBER

BOBBY E. CHASE
MEMBER

PENELOPE CORNWALL
MEMBER

CLINTON SIMMONS
MEMBER

ARON A. WOLF
MEMBER

VACANT
MEMBER

IN ATTENDANCE

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

OFFICIALLY EXCUSED

Commissioner Bobby E. Chase
Commissioner Aron A. Wolf

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES - DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS STAFF

Mr. Richard Smith, Division Chief, Aviation Division
Ms. Victoria Frausto, Staff Assistant

AMERICAN AIRPORTS CORPORATION - AIRPORT SERVICES DIVISION STAFF

Mr. Scott Wardle, Regional Director
Mr. Christopher Brooks, Manager, El Monte Airport
Mr. Rafael Herrera, Manager, Compton/Woodley Airport
Mr. Steve Irving, Manager, General Wm. J. Fox Airfield
Mr. Andrew Marino, Manager, Whiteman Airport
Mr. Cyle Woodruff, Manager, Brackett Field Airport

GUESTS

Mr. Winn Williams, La Verne, Port Hangar Association
Mr. Gary Golson, E05 Compton
Mr. Henry Roy, C.B.A.A.
Ms. Kelly Hsieh, American Airports Corporation
Mr. Chris Botsacos

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Lord called the meeting to order at 7 p.m.

I. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Commissioner Cornwall led the Pledge of Allegiance.

II. MATTERS FOR CONSIDERATION AND ACTION BY THE COMMISSION

A. June 26, 2013, Minutes

The minutes were unanimously approved on a motion from Commissioner Butts, seconded by Vice Chairman Amundson.

B. American Airports Corporation - Contract Manager Report

Mr. Wardle informed the Commission that a banner was placed on Whiteman Airport's perimeter fence advertising the solicitation of a restaurant facility operator.

Mr. Andrew Marino reported on Whiteman Airport items

- **Management and Maintenance**

Mr. Marino reported that the designation of the taxiway at the end of Runway 30 was changed from Alpha to Echo to avoid confusion with the taxiway parallel to the Runway also designated Alpha.

Repairs were made to a sinkhole found on the airport's ramp adjacent to the transient parking tie downs. Repairs were also made to the airport entrance gate loop sensors, which were replaced and are now working properly.

Whiteman Airport received a new operations vehicle to be utilized for crash/fire rescue and general airport operations.

A different electrical panel was installed in the generator room, which will enable the airport to separate power from the taxiway, runway, and fuel island from the main panel.

- **Development and Activities**

Aircraft operations are down 4.3 percent and 73 percent of the aircraft hangars are occupied. Seven of the occupied hangars are used for non-aviation purposes.

Year-to-date Avgas fuel sales were down 16.9 percent and Jet-A fuel sales were up 1.1 percent.

- **Meetings and Events**

The Whiteman Airport Association held its annual barbeque at the Airport on Sunday, July 14th, which was attended by over 100 participants.

The Experimental Aircraft Association hosted their monthly Young Eagles event at the Airport on July 27th and August 24th.

On August 1st through 4th, the Civil Air Patrol held a search-and-rescue training exercise at the Airport.

On August 28th, the annual FAA Runway Safety Action Team meeting was held at the Airport.

The Airport's annual Open House event will take place on October 26th, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., in conjunction with the Young Eagles event to draw more participation.

Mr. Steve Irving reported on General Wm. J. Fox Airfield items

- **Management and Maintenance**

The ceiling was replaced with drywall and new lighting was installed in the Airport's terminal building. The ceiling and walls should be painted in the coming weeks. Airport staff is looking into making repairs to the concrete areas around the terminal building that are damaged from tree roots.

- **Development and Activities**

Mr. Irving reported there are two hangar vacancies at the Airport and that both Jet-A and Avgas fuel sales were flat, compared to the same month last year.

- **Meetings and Events**

The Wings 'N' Wheels Chili Cook-Off event will take place at the Airport on October 19, 2013.

Mr. Cyle Woodruff reported on Brackett Field Airport items

- **Management and Maintenance**

A couple of tenants on the north side of the Airport were asked to vacate their hangars due to unauthorized construction within the hangars; the hangars are currently being restored to their original conditions.

To comply with FAA Part 77 obstruction standards, Airport personnel are trimming the trees and shrubs on the west end of the airfield.

A lease violation notice was sent to the tenant at the southeast corner of the Airport for unauthorized vehicle parking and improper landscaping/groundskeeping.

- **Development and Activities**

Mr. Woodruff reported that he has three new aviation tenants at the Airport and that year-to-date aircraft operations are up 18 percent.

Year-to-date, Jet-A fuel sales were up 3 percent and Avgas fuel sales were up 9 percent.

- **Meetings and Events**

The Airport's Open House and Fly-In event will be held on October 20th in conjunction with the Brackett Airport Association's Aircraft Display Day event to draw more participation.

The San Gabriel Valley 99s meet at the Airport on the second Thursday of every month.

- **Miscellaneous**

On June 30th, three portable hangars were burglarized, during which; tools and equipment were taken. Four other hangars had been cut open, but no items were taken. A police report was filed, and Mr. Woodruff is looking into enhancing surveillance at the Airport.

Mr. Christopher Brooks reported on El Monte Airport items

- **Management and Maintenance**

General maintenance was performed on the Airport in addition to hangar repairs and the annual hangar inspections.

Mr. Brooks informed the Commission that So Cal Flying Club is now operating where Los Angeles Flight Center was located. Los Angeles Flight Center is no longer operating at the Airport and So Cal Flying Club will be providing flight training services.

The heating/air conditioning compressor in the Airport terminal building blew out but has since been repaired.

- **Projects**

As part of the Wildlife Hazard Assessment Program, the pigeon and gopher populations at the Airport continue to be monitored.

During Phase II of the hangar lighting project, hangar and flood lights will be replaced with light-emitting diode (LED) lights.

Development and Activities

Aircraft operations are up 1 percent and 100 percent of the aircraft hangars are occupied. Twenty-nine percent of the occupied hangars are used for non-aviation purposes.

Year-to-date Avgas fuel sales are down 2.5 percent, and Jet-A fuel sales are down by about 50 percent due to the departure of the Los Angeles Flight Center.

- **Meetings and Events**

On July 2nd, students from Bright Star Montessori School were given a tour of the Airport.

The Airport had its first Fly-In and Open House committee meeting. Another meeting will be held on August 29th. The Fly-In and Open House event is scheduled for September 22nd.

Mr. Rafael Herrera reported on Compton/Woodley Airport items

- **Management and Maintenance**

Mr. Herrera reported that the Airport received a new operations vehicle previously assigned to General Wm. J. Fox Airfield to be utilized for crash/fire rescue and general airport operations. American Airports also purchased a golf cart and installed a new beacon light on the existing aircraft rescue and fire-fighting truck.

Caltrans completed their annual 5010 airport inspection in August and found the Airport to be in compliance.

- **Development and Activities**

There are four vacant endrooms, one standard hangar, and one executive endroom available on the south side of the Airport. Ninety-eight percent of the aircraft hangars are occupied and 20 percent of the occupied hangars are used for non-aviation purposes.

Fuel sales were up 7 percent, compared to the same month last year.

Chairman Lord and Mr. Herrera had a brief conversation comparing last year's fuel sales to the current year's fuel sales.

- **Meeting and Events**

The Compton Airport Association has scheduled a Pechanga Casino turn-around for September 21st.

The Experimental Aircraft Association Fly-In and Model Expo will be held at the Airport on September 14, 2013, at 10 a.m. Mr. Herrera thanked Chairman Lord for all his efforts in putting the event together and Chairman Lord thanked Mr. Herrera for his assistance with the event.

Chairman Lord noted that admission to the Fly-In and Model Expo is free for children under 10 years of age and \$3 for ages 10 and over. Free admission is available for ages 10 and over with proof of a used ticket for Disney's movie "Planes".

C. **County Aviation Division Report – Mr. Richard Smith**

- **Expense and Revenue Report for July 2013**

Mr. Smith provided the Commission with copies of the expense and revenue report and offered to answer any questions.

Commissioner Simmons inquired about various expenditures reported in July. Mr. Smith provided detailed information on all expenditures in question. A brief conversation ensued between Mr. Smith, Chairman Lord, and Commissioner Simmons regarding the Compton Soil Remediation Project, which Mr. Smith reported is tentatively scheduled to close in December.

- **Brackett Field Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan**

Staff of the Airport Land Use Commission (ALUC) provided Mr. Smith a statement, which he read to the Commission regarding the progress of the Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan (ALUCP) for Brackett Field Airport. Mr. Smith noted that the draft plans are completed and that he and ALUC staff has met with the Fairplex, the City of La Verne, and the University of La Verne to discuss the draft policies. A date has not been set for the next Stakeholders' meeting.

A brief conversation between Mr. Smith and Commissioner Simmons took place regarding details about the ALUCP.

- **Airport Economic Impact Study**

The as-needed consulting firm has provided the County with a revised draft report of the Airport Economic Impact Study findings. Mr. Smith noted that he will present the findings to the Commission at an upcoming Commission meeting.

Mr. Smith noted that the El Monte portion of the report has been provided to some students at California State University, Los Angeles to use for an exhibit about aviation in the San Gabriel Valley Area.

- **Tree Obstruction at El Monte Airport**

Mr. Smith reported that he recently received a draft license agreement from the City of El Monte, which, when completed and signed, will allow the project of replacing trees to move forward by granting the County authority to begin work at the Rio Vista Park adjacent to El Monte Airport.

- **Implementation of Minimum Standards**

Mr. Smith thanked Mr. Wardle and the airport managers for their efforts in implementing the Minimum Standards and Permits at the County airports.

- **Catalina Island**

Mr. Smith reported that the Catalina Island Conservancy is still considering selecting a sponsor for their airport, the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) is reviewing their final layout plans. Aviation Division continues to work with them to move forward as a prospective sponsor.

- **Brackett Field Airport North Side Helipads**

Construction bids were advertised and a pre-bid meeting was held on July 4th. The construction contract will ultimately be awarded to All American Asphalt who submitted a bid 19 percent lower than the engineer's estimate. The FAA's grant funds of \$652,000 will be transferred to the County before or by September 15th.

- **Perimeter Fencing Replacement Design**

Construction bids for the perimeter fencing replacement at General Wm. J. Fox Airfield and Whiteman Airport were advertised and a pre-bid meeting was held on August 13th. Bids have been received and the results are forthcoming. Project costs will be covered by an FAA grant. Construction is anticipated to begin by December 2013.

D. Compton/Woodley Airport Items

Mr. Smith noted that the south runway had a crack and that it would be repaired soon.

E. Additional Items

A brief conversation ensued between Mr. Smith and Commissioner Simmons regarding the unmanned aerial vehicles used for surveillance by law enforcement in Southern California.

III. PUBLIC COMMENT – OPEN FORUM

Mr. Winn Williams greeted the Commission and informed them that his hangar was one of those that was recently burglarized at Brackett Field Airport. He expressed his concern about security at the Airport, noting that the gate on the north side of the Airport is generally open as it is utilized by students from Mount San Antonio College. Mr. Wardle acknowledged the issue and Chairman Lord requested that Mr. Woodruff provide an airport security update at an upcoming meeting.

Mr. Gary Golson thanked Mr. Herrera for his efforts at Compton/Woodley Airport. He informed the Commission that there is a flag on the Airport premises that is flying at equal height to the United States flag and asked for it to be fixed. Mr. Golson also expressed his concern about the lack of partitions in a couple of the Airport restrooms. Mr. Wardle noted that he would look into both concerns.

Mr. Henry Roy greeted the Commission and noted that there was a crack on Runway 25 at Compton/Woodley Airport. Mr. Smith informed him that it would soon be repaired.

IV. NEXT COMMISSION MEETING WILL BE ON:

**Wednesday, September 25, 2013, at 7 p.m., at
General Wm. J. Fox Airfield
4555 West Avenue G
Lancaster, CA 93536-8401
(661) 940-1709**

Chairman Lord motioned to close the meeting in memory of Former Councilman John Parsons of Redondo Beach who recently passed away. The Councilman spearheaded the saving of Los Angeles County aerospace in 2005 and was loved by many. Commissioner Simmons moved to adjourn the meeting, and Commissioner Butts seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Dennis C. Lord, Chairman
Los Angeles County Aviation Commission

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