



DONALD L. WOLFE  
Director of Aviation

# COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

## AVIATION COMMISSION

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

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**LOS ANGELES COUNTY AVIATION COMMISSION  
MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF JANUARY 30, 2008  
Brackett Field Airport  
1615 McKinley Avenue  
La Verne, CA 91750-5837**

## COMMISSIONERS

**EVELYN JEROME ALEXANDER**  
CHAIR

**ROGER L. PERSONS**  
VICE CHAIRMAN

**PENELOPE CORNWALL**  
SECRETARY

**CLYDE G. BAILEY**  
MEMBER

**GEORGE G. BUTTS**  
MEMBER

**ANGELO R. CARDONO**  
MEMBER

**BOBBY E. CHASE**  
MEMBER

**DENNIS C. LORD**  
MEMBER

**CLINTON SIMMONS**  
MEMBER

**ARON A. WOLF**  
MEMBER

### IN ATTENDANCE

Secretary Penelope Cornwall  
Commissioner Clyde G. Bailey  
Commissioner George G. Butts  
Commissioner Angelo Cardono  
Commissioner Bobby Chase  
Commissioner Dennis C. Lord  
Commissioner Clint Simmons

### OFFICIALLY EXCUSED

Chair Evelyn Jerome Alexander  
Vice Chairman Roger L. Persons  
Commissioner Aron A. Wolf

### LOS ANGELES COUNTY - DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS STAFF

Mr. William H. Higley, Deputy Director, Administration  
Mr. Richard L. Smith, Chief, Aviation Division  
Mrs. Miriam Gomes Oprüsan, Staff Assistant, Aviation Division

### AMERICAN AIRPORTS - AIRPORT SERVICES DIVISION STAFF

Mr. Scott Wardle, Regional Director  
Mr. Jared Fox-Tuck, Manager, Brackett Field Airport  
Mr. Clyde Woodruff, Assistant Manager, Brackett Field Airport  
Mr. Andrew Marino, Manager, Compton/Woodley Airport  
Mr. Steve Irving, Manager, General Wm. J. Fox Airfield  
Mr. Rafael Herrera, Manager, El Monte Airport  
Mr. Jason Morgan, Manager, Whiteman Airport

**GUESTS**

Mr. Peter Albiez, Whiteman Airport Association  
Mr. Sheldon Bresin, Brackett Field Airport Association  
Mr. Don Hagopian, Whiteman Airport Association  
Ms. Shellie Hagopian, Whiteman Airport Association  
Mr. Jack Tippie, Aviation Division Retired  
Mr. Bill Logan, Whiteman Airport

**CALL TO ORDER**

Secretary Cornwall called the meeting to order at 10 a.m.

**A. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Commissioner Lord led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**B. MATTERS FOR CONSIDERATION AND ACTION BY THE COMMISSION****1. Minutes of the Meeting of November 28, 2007**

Commissioner Lord made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Commissioner Chase. The minutes were approved and adopted as written.

**2. American Airports - Project Manager's Report**

Mr. Scott Wardle informed the Commission that American Airports Corporation (AAC) and the County will continue making efforts to mitigate the noise issues around El Monte Airport.

Mr. Jason Morgan reported on events at Whiteman Airport. Mr. Morgan stated that 95 names are on the aircraft tiedown/hangar waiting list. There are currently three aircraft T-hangars vacated at the airport; however, Mr. Morgan stated that the current demand is for larger hangars. Mr. Morgan provided an update of the aircraft hangar development at the airport. The developer anticipates having the administration building ready to occupy by August 2008. The last stakeholder meeting was very productive and included an overview of airport projects completed in 2007 and a forecast of projects to be completed in 2008. Mr. Morgan informed the Commission that progress has been made toward identifying a site for one of the airport flight schools that needs to be relocated to accommodate the construction of a new aircraft tiedown ramp. The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) conducted spot checks of pilots operating at the airport.

Mr. Steve Irving reported on events at General Wm. J. Fox Airfield. Due to the recent rains that hit Southern California, airport staff has been working diligently in keeping the drains open and water flowing off the airport. The Antelope Valley Fact Finder group sponsored a meeting regarding some activities in the Fox Field Industrial Corridor. Mr. Irving stated that a future meeting would be scheduled with the City of Lancaster for further discussions.

Mr. Richard Smith added that the Fact Finder meeting was a widely publicized event covered by the Antelope Valley Press. Mr. Andy Visokey, Vice Mayor of the City of Lancaster, representatives of Senator George Runner's Office, and representatives of Assemblywoman Sharon Runner's Office were among the attendees. Mr. Smith described the meeting as an invaluable opportunity to strengthen the channels of communication between the County and the City of Lancaster.

Commissioner Bailey asked if the County collaborates with the City of Lancaster to ensure that the Fox Airfield Master Plan and the City's General Plan concur with one another.

Mr. Smith answered that the main focus of the meeting was to communicate with agency members to ensure that both City and County are moving in the same direction.

Mr. Irving continued his report and stated that the newly constructed aircraft hangars received three new tenants. Mr. Irving informed the Commission that one of the airport staff members was recently certified as a private pilot, as part of the AAC Pilot Training Program.

Mr. Wardle informed the Commission that the next stakeholder meeting at Fox Field is scheduled for February 1, 2008, at 3 p.m., in the terminal building.

Mr. Andrew Marino reported on events at Compton/Woodley Airport. The streetlights at the airport entrances on Central and Wilmington Avenues have been repaired. Repairs were made to the perimeter fence along Alondra Boulevard. Repairs were made to the airport terminal, which included the installation of new handrails on the entrance ramps. The water supply problem at the wash rack has been fixed. New signage was installed at the fuel island, and the flags in front of the terminal building were replaced. The current aircraft hangar waiting list is posted in the terminal building for public view. Tomorrow's Aeronautical Museum hosted their 5<sup>th</sup> Career Expo at Compton/Woodley Airport on January 26, 2008.

Commissioner Simmons asked if the airport has experienced an increase in the requests for aircraft tiedown spaces, due to the recent rate reduction.

Mr. Marino stated that the airport gained a few new tenants after the aircraft tiedown rate was reduced August 1, 2007. The airport also received 12 new tenants in December due to the runway closure at Hawthorne Municipal Airport. From those 12 tenants, 6 returned to Hawthorne Municipal Airport and 6 have decided to stay at Compton/Woodley Airport. Mr. Marino added that 2 potential tenants are willing to return to Compton when hangars become available. There is also a new light sport aircraft based at the airport.

Commissioner Lord asked if there is any progress on the landscaping of the islands located on the east and west sides of the airport. Mr. Marino answered that the County and AAC have been discussing the possibility of creating a new layout for the site.

Commissioner Lord asked if the helicopter Robinson R-22 that crashed on the 110 Freeway was based at Compton/Woodley Airport. Mr. Marino answered that the helicopter was based at Torrance Municipal Airport.

Commissioner Simmons suggested exploring the possibility of installing an Air Traffic Control Tower (ATCT) at Compton/Woodley Airport.

Commissioner Lord noted that the Compton/Woodley Airport does not have a level of air traffic activity high enough to warrant an air traffic control tower. Therefore, installing an ATCT would be very challenging.

Mr. Rafael Herrera reported on events at El Monte Airport. New toilet equipment has been installed in the men's and women's restrooms on the "A" row. The airport hosted a stakeholder meeting on January 11, 2008. The airport also hosted a household hazardous waste and e-waste round up on January 12, 2008. A meeting to discuss noise issues at the airport was held on January 14, 2008.

Mr. Herrera reported that an incident occurred in January, involving a light sport aircraft. The propeller, nose, and the landing gear of the aircraft were damaged, however, no injuries were reported.

Mr. Jared Fox-Tuck reported on events at Brackett Field Airport. On January 11, 2008, a JetRanger helicopter was substantially damaged when it crashed on the northeast helicopter-landing pad. The incident caused very little impact to the airport and no injuries were reported. The new flight planning room is open and fully functional. A helicopter landing pad sign has been installed by the La Verne City Fire Department, along McKinley Avenue, to guide emergency vehicles to the new parking pads.

The north side vehicle access gate that was damaged by a tenant has been replaced at the tenant's expense. The airport successfully passed its SB989 inspection, and as a result, the airport's underground storage tank secondary containment system is recertified for the next three years. The Pomona Fairplex will host the Winternationals the second week of February 2008. The last stakeholder's meeting was very productive and included discussion of many airport items. Mr. Fox-Tuck introduced the new Assistant Airport Manager, Mr. Clyde Woodruff.

### 3. County - Contract Administrator's Report

Mr. Smith introduced Mr. Patrick Di Leva, who will serve as Airport Project Coordinator for the Aviation Division. Mr. Di Leva's assignment includes airport inspections and airport improvement projects. Mr. Smith also introduced Mr. Jack Tippie, retired Aviation Division Chief.

Mr. Smith provided copies of the Expense and Revenue Report for December 2007 and offered to answer any questions.

Mr. Smith informed the Commission that Public Works' Facilities Management Group will inspect the County-owned buildings at all of the airports, including the airport terminal buildings and the fixed base operator hangars.

Mr. Smith informed the Commission the Airport Capital Improvement Plan (ACIP) meeting with the FAA is scheduled for February 5, 2008. The Brackett Field Runway Safety Action Plan Project to relocate the signage on the north side of the airport and the pavement markings between the runways will also be discussed in the ACIP meeting.

The design contract for the Comprehensive Drainage and Pavement Reconstruction Design Project at Compton/Woodley Airport was awarded on January 24, 2008. The contract has a 16-month completion period.

We have obtained Board approval to apply for FAA and State Matching Funds Grants for the Taxiway Development Project at El Monte Airport.

Construction of the Monument Sign and the Pavement Rehabilitation Project, Phase III at General Wm. J. Fox Airfield are expected to begin in February and April 2008, respectively.

The Whiteman Airport Master Plan Update Project received an FAA grant award in the amount of \$147,000. Preliminary consultant fee estimate was received at \$208,000.

Mr. Smith provided the Commission with a slide presentation and explained the differences among various planning documents used by airports and airport agencies, as requested by Chair Jerome Alexander.

4. Brackett Field Airport Additional Items

No additional items for Brackett Field Airport.

**C. PUBLIC COMMENT – OPEN FORUM**

Mr. Peter Albiez expressed concern regarding training for emergency response by airport personnel in the event that an incident occurs at Whiteman Airport.

Mr. Smith stated that all County-owned airports rely primarily on the local emergency agencies. He also mentioned that Brackett Field and Whiteman Airports have a contract with County Police to patrol the airports, which is currently being reviewed.

Mr. Bill Logan suggested incorporating a user survey questionnaire during the Whiteman Airport Master Plan Update.

**D. OTHER ITEMS**

Secretary Cornwall presented past Chairman Lord with an award commemorating his first term as Chairman of the Aviation Commission and for his invaluable services in 2007.

**E. THE NEXT REGULAR MEETING OF THE AVIATION COMMISSION WILL BE HELD ON:**

**Wednesday, February 27, 2008, at 10 a.m., at  
Compton/Woodley Airport  
901 West Alondra Boulevard  
Compton, CA 90220-3599  
(310) 631-8140**

Commissioner Butts made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Commissioner Lord. Secretary Cornwall adjourned the meeting at 11:01 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Secretary Penelope Cornwall  
Los Angeles County Aviation Commission