



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

May 29, 2019, meeting
San Gabriel Valley Airport
4233 Santa Anita Avenue
El Monte, CA 991731-1670
(626) 448-6129

COMMISSIONERS

DENNIS C. LORD
CHAIRMAN

PETER M. AMUNDSON
VICE-CHAIRMAN

HARVEY HOLLOWAY
SECRETARY

RYAN ANTOON
MEMBER

CURT CASTAGNA
MEMBER

JEFF MORT
MEMBER

CHRISTINA PASCUCCI
MEMBER

GABRIEL PEREZ
MEMBER

CLINTON SIMMONS
MEMBER

VACANT
MEMBER

IN ATTENDANCE

Chairman Dennis Lord
Vice-Chairman Peter Amundson
Secretary Harvey Holloway
Commissioner Curt Castagna
Commissioner Ryan Antoon
Commissioner Jeff Mort
Commissioner Christina Pascucci
Commissioner Clinton Simmons

OFFICIALLY EXCUSED

Commissioner Gabriel Perez

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES – DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS STAFF

Mr. Jason Morgan, Aviation Division Assistant Chief
Mrs. Claudia Delgado, Staff Assistant

AMERICAN AIRPORTS CORPORATION – AIRPORT SERVICES STAFF

Mr. Scott Wardle, Regional Director
Mr. Pete Lonctaux, Manager, 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

GUESTS

Dr. James Haney, San Gabriel Valley Airport Association/Mission Flight
Mr. Joe Labrie, San Gabriel Valley Airport Association
Mr. Dick Millais, Civil Air Patrol Squadron 35
Mr. Jeff Strouse, Aerial Art Photography
Mr. Mike Brennan, San Gabriel Valley Airport Association

GUESTS CONTINUED

Mr. John Finley, Brackett Airmen Association
Mr. William Scaringe, San Gabriel Valley Airport Association
Mr. Benjamin Bundt, MB Thrill Squadron
Dr. William Allen, Los Angeles High School Alumni Association
Mr. Jon Smalldridge, San Gabriel Valley Airport tenant
Mr. Winn Williams, Chino Airport Move
Mr. Brian Neal, San Gabriel Valley Airport Association
Mr. Les Slifkin, San Gabriel Valley Airport Association
Mr. Brandon Durant, Federal Aviation Administration ATCT
Mr. Charlton Breon, San Gabriel Valley Airport Guest
Mr. Ken Hanson, San Gabriel Valley Airport Association
Mr. Gabe Lopez, San Gabriel Valley Airport Association
Mr. Mark Bassam, Brackett Airmen Association
Mr. Greg Schultz, San Gabriel Valley Airport Association
Ms. Carlyn Lee, San Gabriel Valley Airport Association
Mr. Scott Stevenson, San Gabriel Valley Airport Association
Mr. Barry Rosen, Santa Monica Airport Association

CALL TO ORDER

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

I. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Commissioner Jeff Mort led the Pledge of Allegiance.

A. Minutes

The approval of minutes for the April 24, 2019 meeting were deferred to the next Aviation Commission meeting scheduled on June 26, 2019.

B. American Airports Corporation – Contract Manager Report

Mr. Wardle updated the Commission on the lease for Cox Aviation at San Gabriel Valley Airport and the marketing plan for all five County-owned airports.

Mr. Scott Wardle Reported on Whiteman Airport Items

Interviews for the airport manager position at Whiteman Airport continues and the annual elevator safety inspection is complete.

The Precision Approach Path Indicator lights at the airport are out of service until they can be recalibrated and verified by the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA). The fuel island area at the airport has been repainted

by airport staff and the repairs for the Airport Traffic Control Tower vehicle gate are completed.

Electrical wiring in the terminal building parking lot was vandalized and stolen.

As part of the marketing plan for the airports, new signage will be placed throughout the airport to promote events and the various non-profit aviation organizations at the airport.

Ninety-five percent of the hangars at the airport are occupied, and 9 percent are used for non-aviation purposes. Aircraft operations at the airport were down 4 percent as compared to the same month last year.

Avgas fuel sales were down 18 percent, and Jet-A fuel sales were up 5 percent as compared to the same month last year.

Electricity consumption was down 5 percent as compared to the same month last year. Water consumption was down 20 percent as compared to the same month last year.

Mr. Peter Lonctaux Reported on Brackett Field Airport Items

The rapid intervention vehicle is at the dealership for maintenance, some of the taxiway lights on the north side of the airport are out of service and under repair, and some abandoned aircraft were removed from the airport.

On May 23, 2019, a video production company filmed a promotional video with the City of La Verne's Mayor Don Kendrick which featured Brackett Field Airport as the gateway to the City.

The Brackett Airmen Association holds its monthly meeting on the first Thursday of every month and Display Day is on the third Sunday of every month at the airport.

Seventy-nine percent of the hangars at the airport are occupied, and 23 percent of the occupied hangars are used for non-aviation storage.

Aircraft operations at the airport were down 16 percent as compared to the same month last year.

Avgas fuel sales were down 13 percent and Jet-A fuel sales were down 52 percent as compared to the same month last year. Water consumption was up 32 percent as compared to the same month last year.

Mr. Carlos Diaz Reported on Compton/Woodley Airport Items

Pipistrel Skycharge docking station logos were added next to Tomorrow Aeronautical Museum's charging stations and new furniture was added to the public viewing deck as part of the marketing plan.

A broken watermain was repaired in the parking lot for Tomorrow Aeronautical Museum and hangar inspections are complete.

Chairman Lord thanked Mr. Diaz and the County for purchasing the equipment for the Live Air Traffic Control broadcasts at the airport.

The Annual Compton/Woodley Open House and Youth Air Fair was held at the airport on May 18, 2019.

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

Avgas fuel sales were down 6 percent as compared to the same month last year. Electricity consumption was down 15 percent as compared to the same month last year. Water consumption was up 10 percent as compared to the same month last year.

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

New LED lighting will be added to the terminal building, hangars, and associated auto parking areas.

Airport staff continues to address the weed abatement issues and repairs to the fuel station at the airport are complete.

The Antelope Valley Fair will be held on August 2019.

The Runway Pavement Reconstruction Project is scheduled to commence in April 2020 and the Los Angeles County Air Show will be held on March 21 and 22, 2020.

Ninety-four percent of the hangars at the airport are occupied, and none of the hangars are utilized for non-aviation storage. Aircraft operations were up 14 percent as compared to the same month last year.

Avgas fuel sales were up 7 percent, and Jet-A fuel sales were up 44 percent as compared to the same month last year.

Gas consumption was down 8 percent and electricity consumption was down 10 percent as compared to the same month last year.

Mr. Enrique Curioso Reported on San Gabriel Valley Airport Items

The terminal building at the airport was repainted and the demolition and removal of unauthorized construction in the south hangar has commenced.

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 at the airport.

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. at the airport.

Ninety-seven percent of the hangars at the airport are occupied, and 28 percent of the occupied hangars are used for non-aviation storage.

Aircraft operations at the airport were up 6 percent as compared to the same month last year.

Avgas fuel sales were up 15 percent, and Jet-A fuel sales were up 76 percent as compared to the same month last year.

Electricity consumption was up 12 percent and water consumption was down 37 percent as compared to the same month last year.

C. County Aviation Division Report – Mr. Jason Morgan Reported on the Following Items:

Mr. Morgan introduced Mr. Phil Doudar, Deputy Director of Public Works who oversees the Aviation Division. Mr. Doudar addressed the Commission and thanked them for their service.

Mr. Morgan provided the Commission copies of the April 2019 Expense and Revenue Report and informed the Commission that in the coming month, it is expected that \$100,000 will be transferred via Department Service Order to cover anticipated County Counsel expenses and \$650,000 will be transferred to the budget for a new terminal building project at Compton/Woodley Airport. Aviation staff will be meeting with Public Works architects and engineers to begin planning for the new terminal building at Compton/Woodley Airport.

A copy of the draft Policy for Providing Reduced Rental Rates to Qualified Organizations was provided to the Commission. Mr. Morgan informed the Commission that the draft policy was sent to the FAA for feedback and guidance.

Mr. Morgan informed the Commission that a task authorization was issued to the consulting firm to begin the rents and fees studies for the County-owned airports. Data collection is underway, and representatives of the consulting firm will be visiting the airports and seeking stakeholder input soon. They will also attend the next scheduled Commission meeting to elaborate on what the study entails.

Mr. Morgan pointed out to the Commission that they have copies in their packets of a recent article that was written about the electric aircraft charging stations at Compton/Woodley Airport.

Mr. Morgan provided a summary of the Capital Projects taking place at all five County-owned airports.

D. Nonaeronautical Use of Hangars Policy Guidance

The Nonaeronautical Use of Hangars Policy Guidance was introduced to the Commission by Mr. Morgan. Mr. Wardle elaborated on the document, which is intended to provide the airport managers with guidance for complying with the FAA policy.

E. Annual Rental Rate Adjustment

Mr. Morgan provided a summary of the annual rental rates proposal by American Airports Corporation which proposes to leave the aviation rental rates unchanged and to increase the nonaviation storage surcharge by 12 percent, taking the surcharge from 78 percent to 90 percent of the aviation rental rates. Mr. Morgan stated that the FAA requires airport sponsors to charge a fair market rental rate for nonaviation use of aircraft storage hangars and that the current rates are below market rates as determined via survey by American Airports Corporation. The proposed increase in the nonaviation storage surcharge is intended to bring the rates closer to fair market rental rates.

Dr. James Haney, Mission Flight, provided comments and presented a document to the Commission.

Mr. Winn Williams, Chino Airport Move, provided comments regarding his move to Chino Airport.

Mr. Mike Brennan, San Gabriel Valley Airport Association, suggested to the Commission to wait for the rents and fees study to be completed before voting on this topic.

The Commissioners engaged in a brief discussion and Commissioner Pascucci asked Mr. Wardle if he had solicited comments from non-aviation tenants. Mr. Wardle indicated that he did not do so.

Commissioner Pascucci invited any non-aviation tenants at the meeting to provide comments, if any, regarding the proposed rental rate adjustment.

Dr. William Allen, a non-aviation tenant at San Gabriel Valley Airport, shared with the Commission his desire to see low rents for non-aviation use of aircraft storage hangars.

Mr. Gabe Lopez, San Gabriel Valley Airport Association, shared his comments with the Commission.

Chairman Lord presented the Annual Rental Rate Adjustment. Commissioner Castagna moved to accept the motion and Secretary Holloway seconded the motion. The motion passed with Commissioners Lord, Amundson, Holloway, Castagna, and Mort in favor and Commissioners Antoon, Pascucci, and Simmons against.

F. San Gabriel Valley Airport items

Mr. Morgan shared with the Commission the updated Fly Neighborly pamphlet for San Gabriel Valley Airport and informed them that the pamphlets for the other County airports will be updated soon.

Mr. Morgan informed the Commission that crack-fill was recently completed on the runway and restriping of the runway will be completed on June 17, 2019.

Mr. Morgan also reiterated that Dr. Cox is making good progress on improving the south hangar facility at the airport. The improvements should benefit the existing tenants and potentially be attractive for an aircraft maintenance operator in the future.

II. PUBLIC COMMENT – OPEN FORUM

Dr. James Haney, San Gabriel Valley Airport Association, provided comments regarding establishing and changing rates at the airports, marketing the airports, and corrections to be made to the April 2019 meeting minutes.

Commissioner Ryan Antoon noted that Dr. James Haney regularly provides comments at the Commission meetings and he asked Dr. Haney to briefly describe what he is trying to achieve. Dr. James Haney spoke of his desire to see fair rents for aviation that are market competitive.

Mr. Scott Stevenson, San Gabriel Valley Airport Association, shared concerns regarding recent communications between Dr. James Haney and County Counsel.

Mr. Gabe Lopez, San Gabriel Valley Airport Association, shared concerns regarding spending by the Aviation Division.

Mr. Joe Labrie, San Gabriel Valley Airport Association, shared with the Commission his professional background and his observations of the Commission meetings. He also spoke about his proposed corrections to the April 2019 minutes, aviation vacancies, and marketing of the airports.

Mr. Winn Williams, Chino Airport Move, provided comments to the Commission that he is requesting to rent an additional hangar at Brackett Field Airport and complained about the difficulties he is encountering in doing so.

Mr. Benjamin Bundt, MB Thrill Squadron, shared with the Commission that MB Thrill Squadron, a flight school, is located in the south hangar facility.

Mr. Jeff Strouse, Aerial Sim Training, thanked Mr. Curioso for fixing his toilet. He also shared with the Commission some of the activities of his business, Aerial Sim Training, at the airport as well as his concerns regarding NAI going out of business at Brackett Field Airport and doing better in promoting general aviation.

Mr. Barry Rosen, Santa Monica Airport Association, spoke to the Commission about his conversation with the FAA regarding options for Santa Monica Airport. He encouraged the Commission to talk to the FAA regarding the possibility of the County taking over the airport.

III. NEXT COMMISSION MEETING WILL BE ON:

**Wednesday, June 26, 2019, at 7 p.m.
at Brackett Field Airport
1615 McKinley Avenue
La Verne, CA 91750-5846**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Harvey Holloway, Secretary
Los Angeles County Aviation Commission

RLS:cmd