

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 Virtual Meeting May 25, 2022, at 7 p.m.

COMMISSIONERS

CURT CASTAGNA CHAIR

CHRISTINA PASCUCCI VICE-CHAIR

> JEFF MORT SECRETARY

PETER AMUNDSON MEMBER

> RYAN ANTOON MEMBER

FOROUZAN GOLSHANI MEMBER

HARVEY HOLLOWAY MEMBER

> DENNIS C. LORD MEMBER

GABRIEL PEREZ MEMBER

CLINTON SIMMONS MEMBER

IN ATTENDANCE

Chair Curt Castagna Vice-Chair Christina Pascucci Secretary Jeff Mort Commissioner Peter Amundson Commissioner Ryan Antoon Commissioner Forouzan Golshani Commissioner Harvey Holloway Commissioner Clinton Simmons

OFFICIALLY EXCUSED

Commissioner Dennis Lord Commissioner Gabriel Perez

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES - DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS STAFF

Mr. Paul H. Maselbas, Assistant Deputy Director Mrs. Claudia Delgado, Staff Assistant

GUESTS

Thirteen attending guests were able to listen or participate live via telephone or by joining the meeting through the Zoom application.

I. <u>PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE</u>

Secretary Jeff Mort led the Pledge of Allegiance.

II. MATTERS FOR CONSIDERATION AND ACTION BY THE COMMISSION

A. Minutes for the April 27, 2022, meeting

The meeting minutes as written, were unanimously approved on a motion by Commissioner Clinton Simmons and seconded by Commissioner Jeff Mort. Motion passed 8 to 0.

B. Los Angeles County Public Works Aviation Division – General Report

Mr. Maselbas informed the Commission that the Aviation Commission meetings will resume until the Board of Supervisors has resumed their in-person meetings.

Mr. Maselbas stated the mission for the five County airports which is to manage, maintain, operate, and develop the County owned airports in a smart, active, safe, and stable manner. He also informed that Aviation Division is working on a new report format that will reflect current and past fund balances.

Aircraft Operations (Takeoffs and Landings) and Fuel Sales

Aircraft operations for Brackett Field Airport were down 23 percent, General William J. Fox Airfield were down 21 percent, Whiteman Airport were down 8 percent, and San Gabriel Valley Airport were down 7 percent in the month of April 2022, as compared to the same month last year. Compton/Woodley Airport does not have an Airport Traffic Control Tower; therefore, an official traffic count is not available.

Brackett Field Airport Jet-A sales were up 26 percent and Avgas sales were up 24 percent. San Gabriel Valley Airport Jet-A sales were down 19 percent and Avgas sales were down percent. General William J. Fox Airfield Jet-A sales were down 8 percent and Avgas sales were up 1 percent. Whiteman Airport Jet-A sales were up 32 percent and Avgas sales were down 7 percent. Compton Airport Avgas sales were 51 percent.

Mr. Maselbas shared with the Commission the occupancy report for each airport.

Commissioner Simmons inquired on current staffing, custodian contracts at the airports, and plans for the terminal building at Compton Airport.

C. Los Angeles County Public Works Aviation Division – Airport Management Update

Airport Projects (including Grant Funding)

Mr. Maselbas provided updates on grants and updates on the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law which is funding that will be invested in the 5 County airports for the next 5 years.

Airport Events and Activities

On May 14, 2022, at Compton Airport, Fly Compton Aero Club held their monthly event and provided free orientation flights to the local youth.

At General William J. Fox Airfield, US Forest Service, and Cal Fire responded to a local fire, and airport staff provided fuel services to six tanker aircrafts, and to a Bae 146.

San Gabriel Valley Airport continues to host the COVID-19 testing site in the south parking lot.

On May 28, 2022, the Young Eagles will hold their event and will continued their aircraft build, Project Jackpot at Whiteman Airport.

The Whiteman Airport Association will host the annual open house event on June 25, 2022.

Whiteman Airport Community Advisory Committee

Mr. Maselbas provided an update on the Whiteman Airport Community Advisory Committee meeting that took place at Pacoima City Hall.

Airport Marketing and Public Relations

The next Whiteman Airport Community Advisory Committee meeting will be held virtually on May 26, 2022, at 6 pm.

Mr. Maselbas informed the Commission that Aviation Division continues to work with a consultant to assist with the development of the website. New website should be available in approximately three months.

Commissioner Simmons inquired on the development of the Marketing Plan and input from the Commission. Mr. Maselbas informed that the Commission and the airport communities at each airport will be involved in the development of the Marketing Plan.

D. Special Topics (s) – Replacing 100LL Avgas with Unleaded Alternative

Mr. Maselbas provided an update on steps that Aviation Division continues to take to introduce unleaded alternative Avgas to the airports.

Chair Castagna elaborated on the introduction of unleaded alternative fuels to the airports, the infrastructure, and the conversion process.

E. Letters from Congressman Tony Cárdenas regarding Whiteman Airport

Mr. Maselbas shared with the Commission several letters from Congressman Tony Cárdenas and Commissioners engaged in a discussion. Commissioner Simmons presented a motion to move forward with the Aviation Commission members drafting a letter with staff input and support to Congressman Tony Cárdenas.

The motion was unanimously approved on a motion by Commissioner Simmons, seconded by Commissioner Amundson and third by Vice-Chair Pascucci. Motion passed 8 to 0.

III. <u>PUBLIC COMMENT – OPEN FORUM</u>

A speaker commented on the operation, maintenance, and activities at the airports.

IV. NEXT VIRTUAL COMMISSION MEETING WILL BE ON:

Wednesday, June 29, 2022, at 7 p.m.

Chair Castagna adjourned at meeting at 8:03 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeff Mort, Secretary Los Angeles County Aviation Commission

PHM:cmd