



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

October 30, 2019, meeting

Whiteman Airport
10000 Airpark Way
Pacoima, CA 91331-7393
(818) 896-5271

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
Secretary Harvey Holloway
Commissioner Ryan Antoon
Commissioner Curt Castagna
Commissioner Jeff Mort
Commissioner Christina Pascucci
Commissioner Gabriel Perez
Commissioner Clinton Simmons

OFFICIALLY EXCUSED

Vice-Chairman Peter Amundson

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. Pete Lonceteaux, 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
Mr. Mathew Halls, Manager, Whiteman Airport

GUESTS

Mr. Dick Millais, Civil Air Patrol Squadron 35
Mr. Bruce Busch, San Gabriel Valley Airport Tenant
Mr. Donald Brandon, San Gabriel Valley Airport Tenant
Mr. Richard Wollrich, Whiteman Airport Association

GUESTS CONTINUED

Mr. James Miller, Civil Air Patrol Squadron 137
Dr. James Haney, San Gabriel Valley Airport Association/Aviation First
Mr. Don Hagopian, Whiteman Airport Association
Mrs. Shellie Hagopian, Whiteman Airport Association
Mr. Gerald Cosey, Civil Air Patrol
Mr. Michael R. Williamson, Whiteman Pilot Instructor
Mr. Ron Miller, Whiteman Airport Tenant
Mr. Alfred Altschul, Western Hangars, LLC
Mr. Hollis Erdmann, Whiteman Airport Tenant
Mr. Dusty Rhodes, Vista Aviation
Ms. Brenda Rhodes, Vista Aviation
Mr. Bill Dunn, Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association
Ms. Melissa McCaffrey, Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association
Ms. Leslie Sorrentino, Whiteman Airport Tenant
Mr. Charles Davis, Whiteman Airport Guest
Mr. Bob Riegel, Pilot
Mr. Richard Mend, Mend Aviation
Mr. Gil Viramontes, San Gabriel Valley Airport Association
Mr. Barry Rosen, Santa Monica Airport Association

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Dennis Lord called the meeting to order at 10 a.m.

I. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chairman Lord led the Pledge of Allegiance.

A. Minutes

The minutes for the September 25, 2019, meeting were unanimously approved on a motion from Commissioner Christina Pascucci, seconded by Commissioner Ryan Antoon.

B. American Airports Corporation – Contract Manager Report

Mr. Wardle provided information on the situation that Fox Airfield encountered during the local fires and on the current lease updates that are taking place at the five County airports.

Mr. Peter Lonctaux Reported on Brackett Field Airport Items

The Apron Ramp Pavement Rehabilitation Project will commence on November 1, 2019.

The Annual Brackett Field Airport Open House was held on October 19, 2019.

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.

Eighty-three percent of the hangars at the airport are occupied, and 18.5 percent of the occupied hangars are used for non-aviation storage. Aircraft operations at the airport were up 4.5 percent as compared to the same month last year.

Avgas fuel sales were down 7.6 percent and Jet-A fuel sales were down 6 percent as compared to the same month last year.

Electricity consumption was down 16.4 percent and water consumption were consistent year to year.

Mr. Carlos Diaz Reported on Compton/Woodley Airport Items

On October 7, 2019, backflow testing took place at the airport.

Maintenance repairs to the wheels of the main gate, the bollards, and pilot lounge doors are complete.

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 1.6 percent as compared to the same month last year.

Electricity consumption was down 1 percent as compared to the same month last year. Water consumption was up 10.8 percent as compared to the same month last year.

Mr. Enrique Curioso Reported on San Gabriel Valley Airport Items

The Annual San Gabriel Valley Airport Open House was held on October 26 and 27, 2019 and Commissioner Pascucci was the Grand Marshall.

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-four 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 down 4 percent as compared to the same month last year.

Avgas fuel sales were up 4 percent, and Jet-A fuel sales were up 89 percent as compared to the same month last year.

Electricity consumption was down 2 percent and water consumption were down 14 percent as compared to the same month last year.

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

Mr. Irving informed the Commission that Antelope Valley College continues with their renovations and plans for future expansion in 2020.

As part of the Marketing Plan, a half page ad showcasing the airport will be included in the 2020 Destination Lancaster Guide and promotional items ordered were received.

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

The Girls in Aviation Day was held on October 12, 2019, and the International Aerobatic Club, Chapter 26 hosted their event on October 30, 2019.

Ninety-six percent of the hangars at the airport are occupied, and none of the hangars are utilized for non-aviation storage. Aircraft operations were down 8.3 percent as compared to the same month last year.

Avgas fuel sales were down 1.3 percent, and Jet-A fuel sales were down 71 percent as compared to the same month last year.

Electricity consumption was down 12.7 percent and water consumption were up 43 percent as compared to the same month last year.

Mr. Mathew Halls Reported on Whiteman Airport Items

Mr. Halls informed the Commission of repairs and maintenance that took place at the Airport Traffic Control Tower.

The address sign at the Airpark Way entrance was updated and repairs to the street lights along Airpark Way are nearing completion.

County hangar inspections continue at the airport; a total of 450 hangar inspections are complete.

The Annual Whiteman Airport Open House was held on September 28, 2019.

Ninety-six percent of the hangars at the airport are occupied, and 9.4 percent of the occupied hangars are used for non-aviation purposes. Aircraft operations at the airport were up 2.7 percent as compared to the same month last year.

Avgas fuel sales were down 7.9 percent, and Jet-A fuel sales were up 15.3 percent as compared to the same month last year.

Electricity consumption was down 21 percent as compared to the same month last year. Water consumption was down 31 percent as compared to the same month last year.

C. County Aviation Division Report – Mr. Richard Smith Reported on the Following Items:

Mr. Smith provided the Commission copies of the September 2019 Expense and Revenue Report and elaborated on the expenditures that are paid by the Enterprise Fund. Commissioner Simmons asked if the Services by other Divisions expenses were obligated spending. Mr. Smith responded that Aviation Division uses services of many divisions within Public Works and any expenses incurred are a result of work ordered by the division and not as an obliged sum randomly allocated to other divisions.

Commissioner Castagna asked what happens with funds in the Aviation Enterprise Fund when revenue exceeds expenses. Mr. Smith explained additional revenue is reinvested in the airport system as maintenance and improvements. Commissioner Castagna recommended that staff report on how funds are used at the next Commission meeting and show the nexus between the operating revenue, expenses, and the Airport Capital Improvement Plans.

Mr. Smith informed the Commission that he participated in a webinar about electric aircraft and provided a summary of their discussion.

Commissioner Castagna asked Mr. Smith if there was an update on the Part 13 Complaint. Mr. Smith stated that there was no activity at this time. Aviation Division will respond once the Rent and Fees Study is complete.

Mr. Smith provided a summary of the capital projects taking place at all five County-owned airports.

D. Reduced Rental Rates to Qualified Organizations Draft Policy

Dr. Haney, Mission Flight, thanked Mr. Lopez and Mr. Curioso for their contribution in the open house at San Gabriel Valley Airport and provided comments regarding the policy and recommended that the process start over.

Mr. Smith provided clarification to the Commission on the letter received from the Federal Aviation Administration on Reduced Rental Rates to Qualified Organizations Draft Policy.

Chairman Lord reminded everyone that a discussion regarding this policy was held during a Commission meeting where he recused himself while the public expressed their comments on this topic to the Commission.

E. Whiteman Airport Items

None.

II. PUBLIC COMMENT – OPEN FORUM

Bill Dunn, Aircraft Owners and Pilot Association, informed the Commission that he was correcting the record regarding an incorrect statement that was made by a tenant at San Gabriel Valley Airport about two AOPA employees at the September 25, 2019, Aviation Commission meeting. He also congratulated the airports and the Commission for the successful open houses at the airports.

Dr. Haney, San Gabriel Valley Airport Association/Aviation First, shared his comments on the Part 13 Complaint and concerns with the Commission. Chairman Lord addressed his comments and concerns.

Mr. James Miller, Civil Air Patrol, thanked the County for the support and informed the Commission about the various activities that Civil Air Patrol continues to be involved in and announced that their facility was designated as one of the four regional response centers.

Mr. Michael R. Williamson, Whiteman Airport Tenant, spoke to the Commission about the PAPI lights and suggested that a repeater system be installed throughout the local area to improve Airport Traffic Control Tower communications.

Mr. Ron Miller, Whiteman Airport Tenant, expressed to the Commission his desire to be involved in the upcoming open house.

Commissioner Pascucci requested a response from Mr. Wardle on the information Mr. Miller stated. Mr. Wardle informed Commissioner Pascucci that they will start the planning process for the open house earlier this year.

Mr. Barry Rosen, Santa Monica Airport Association, updated the Commission on the situation at Santa Monica Airport.

Mr. Charles Davis, Whiteman Airport Tenant, spoke to the Commission on a situation that he is currently experiencing at the airport and requested an investigation on his stolen items. Chairman Lord suggested that Mr. Davis get legal advice from Mr. Wellen, County Counsel.

III. NEXT COMMISSION MEETING WILL BE ON:

**Wednesday, November 27, 2019, at 10 a.m.
at San Gabriel Valley Airport
4233 Santa Anita Avenue
El Monte, CA 91731-1670**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:40 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Harvey Holloway, Secretary
Los Angeles County Aviation Commission

RLS:cmd