



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

Meeting Minutes

August 28, 2024, 7 p.m.
Compton/Woodley Airport
901 West Alondra Boulevard
Compton, CA 90220-3528
(310) 631-8140

COMMISSIONERS

RYAN ANTOON
CHAIR

VACANT
VICE-CHAIR

DENNIS LORD
SECRETARY

PETER AMUNDSON
MEMBER

CURT CASTAGNA
MEMBER

MONIQUE EARL
MEMBER

HARVEY HOLLOWAY
MEMBER

JEFF MORT
MEMBER

CHRISTINA PASCUCCI
MEMBER

GABRIEL PEREZ
MEMBER

IN ATTENDANCE

Chair Ryan Antoon
Secretary Dennis Lord
Commissioner Peter Amundson
Commissioner Monique Earl
Commissioner Christina Pascucci

OFFICIALLY EXCUSED

Commissioner Curt Castagna
Commissioner Harvey Holloway
Commissioner Jeff Mort
Commissioner Gabriel Perez

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES – DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS STAFF

Mr. Paul Maselbas, Assistant Deputy Director
Ms. Van Tran, Staff Assistant

GUESTS

Mr. Steve Argubright, Argubright Construction
Mr. Kenny Lyon, Compton/Woodley Tenant
Mr. Wilbur Owens, Compton/Woodley Tenant
Mr. Lloyd Kasakoff, SoCal Aeroworks
Mr. Chris Botsacos, Compton/Woodley Tenant
Mr. Xavier Marshall, Compton/Woodley Tenant
Mr. W. Mack Tyson, Compton/Woodley Tenant
Mr. Clint Simmons, California Black Aviation Association

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Ryan Antoon called the meeting to order at 7 p.m.

I. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Secretary Dennis Lord led the Pledge of Allegiance.

II. MATTERS FOR AND ACTION BY THE COMMISSION

A. Minutes for the June 26, 2024, meeting

The minutes for the June 26, 2024, meeting were unanimously approved on a motion from Secretary Lord and seconded by Commissioner Peter Amundson.

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

Chair Antoon informed the Commission that Commissioner Forouzan Golshani resigned from the Aviation Commission and there is a vacancy in Supervisorial District 1.

Expense and Revenue Report

Mr. Maselbas provided to the Commission a brief overview of Compton/Woodley Airport and informed the Commission that the Expense and Revenue Report will be deferred to the next meeting.

Aircraft Operations (Takeoffs and Landings) and Fuel Sales

The overall aircraft operations for all five County airports were up 14 percent in the months of June and July 2024, as compared to the same two months last year.

The overall fuel sales for all five County airports were up 57 percent in the months of June and July 2024, as compared to the same two months last year.

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

Airport Projects (including Grant Funding)

No major projects are taking place at the airports.

At Brackett Field Airport, the design for pavement reconstruction of approximately 12.5 acres of the north runway and taxiways at the airport will begin later this year. An Airport Improvement Program grant was received from the Federal Aviation Administration to cover a portion of the project costs.

Repairs were completed to the pavement on Taxiway Juliet at General William J. Fox Airfield.

At San Gabriel Valley Airport, the Federal Aviation Administration is evaluating the construction site for the new Airport Traffic Control Tower facility.

At Whiteman Airport, the Airport Layout Plan to consolidate the aircraft run-up areas into a single midfield run-up area is pending the Federal Aviation Administration's review and final approval.

Airport Property Management

On July 24, 2024, Brackett Field Airport held the Annual Runway Safety Advisory Team meeting with the Federal Aviation Administration and airport tenants.

At Compton/Woodley Airport, an incident occurred on July 1, 2024, between an aircraft and a vehicle with no known injuries. On July 4, 2024, the perimeter fence was damaged due to a vehicle incident that occurred on Alondra Boulevard. Caltrans conducted the annual airport inspection on August 27, 2024. Commissioners inquired on the repair status of the Precision Approach Path Indicator lights.

The Request for Proposals for the aeronautical development lease at General William J. Fox Airfield was advertised on August 15, 2024, and deadline to submit proposals is on September 26, 2024.

On August 27, 2024, Caltrans conducted the annual inspection of San Gabriel Valley Airport.

At Whiteman Airport, repairs are underway to the Airpark Way vehicle access gate.

General William J. Fox Airfield and Whiteman Airport served as Cooling Centers in the months of July and August 2024.

Since June 1, 2024, UL94 is available for purchase at Whiteman Airport. Public Works is coordinating with the Los Angeles County Fire Department to have UL94 available for purchase at all the airports soon. Commissioners shared comments on the information presented.

Data for the aircraft operations system at Compton/Woodley Airport and Whiteman Airport will be shared at the next Commission meeting.

Airport Events and Activities

At Brackett Field Airport, the Aircraft Display Days were held on July 21, 2024, and August 18, 2024. Girls in Aviation Day is scheduled to be held at the airport on September 21, 2024.

From July 1 through July 15, 2024, the non-profit organization RGE Cares Summer Camp held their annual summer camp at the airport's terminal building. On July 26 and 27, 2024, the Experimental Aircraft Association Chapter 96, Van Wagner Aerial Media, and airport tenants hosted Kevin Bludso's "Smokin' Out the Hub" Barbeque Competition event. Recently, Secretary Lord was recognized as the 55th pilot to

achieve a milestone of flying 1,000 Young Eagles. The celebration of the airport's 100th year anniversary will occur at the annual Airport Air Fair on October 26, 2024.

Actor Tom Cruise filmed a clip earlier this year at General William J. Fox Airfield for the 2024 Summer Olympics closing ceremony.

At San Gabriel Valley Airport, the San Gabriel Valley Airport Pilots Association held their monthly meetings on July 17 and August 21, 2024. The Aircraft Display Days were held on July 28 and August 25, 2024. The Back to School Backpack Car Show event was held on August 24, 2024.

At Whiteman Airport, the Experimental Aircraft Association Chapter 40 provided flights to 96 kids at their Young Eagles event on July 27, 2024, and 99 kids at their August 24, 2024, event.

Airport Marketing and Public Relations

The on-call consultant is finalizing the new airports website and is expected to go live in the next few months.

D. Airports Rent Study

Mr. Maselbas mentioned to the Commission that the Board of Supervisors approved the non-aeronautical hangar storage rents increase at the August 6, 2024, Board meeting. The non-aeronautical rate increase will take effect on October 1, 2024, and will be increased in increments to match fair market value.

Mr. Maselbas also mentioned to the Commission about the possessory interest tax notices sent out to the tenants by the Los Angeles County Assessor. Tenants will need to contact the County Assessor's Office directly regarding these notices.

E. Update on the Restoration of the Historical Monument Recognizing the 1910 Dominguez Air Meet

Secretary Lord shared with the Commission a brief update on the restoration of the historical monument. The commemorative plaque is being replaced by an aluminum replacement. Pictures will be shared with the Commission when the installation occurs. This agenda item can be removed from future meetings.

F. Update on April 9, 2024, Board motion regarding "Re-envisioning Whiteman Airport: Expanding Economic Opportunities"

Mr. Maselbas informed the Commission that Public Works has contacted the Federal Aviation Administration for a specific planning grant fund to pay for a portion of the estimated study costs. The planning grant fund will only require Whiteman Airport to remain open during the duration of the study. Supervisor Lindsey P. Horvath of Supervisorial District 3 has directed Public Works not to accept any federal grant fundings that will result in grant assurance for Whiteman Airport. There are no updates from the Board of Supervisors regarding this Board motion.

Commissioners engaged in a brief discussion regarding the information presented.

G. BETA Technologies Presentation on Charging and Infrastructure Systems for County Airports

Mr. Nate Ward shared with the Commission a brief presentation on BETA Technologies, an electric aerospace company developing aircraft and infrastructure systems. A video clip for the company was presented.

Commissioners shared comments on the information presented.

H. 2024 Customer Service Survey Presentation

Mr. Maselbas informed the Commission that this item will be presented at the next meeting.

III. PUBLIC COMMENT – OPEN FORUM

Three speakers commented on the operation, maintenance, and activities at the airports.

IV. NEXT COMMISSION MEETING WILL BE ON:

**Wednesday, September 25, 2024, at 7 p.m.
at General William J. Fox Airfield
4725 William J. Barnes Avenue
Lancaster, CA 93536-8401**

Chair Antoon adjourned the meeting at 8:39 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Dennis Lord, Secretary
Los Angeles County Aviation Commission

PHM:vt