



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

May 31, 2023, 7 p.m.
San Gabriel Valley Airport
4233 Santa Anita Avenue
El Monte, CA 91731-1670
(626) 448-6129

IN ATTENDANCE

Chair Christina Pascucci
Commissioner Peter Amundson
Commissioner Curt Castagna
Commissioner Harvey Holloway
Commissioner Justine Johnson
Commissioner Dennis Lord
Commissioner Jeff Mort

OFFICIALLY EXCUSED

Vice-Chair Ryan Antoon
Secretary Forouzan Golshani
Commissioner Gabriel Perez

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES – DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS STAFF

Mr. Paul Maselbas, Assistant Deputy Director
Mr. Jason Morgan, Assistant Chief, Aviation Division
Ms. Van Tran, Staff Assistant

GUESTS

Mr. Paul Demers, Amaro Helicopters
Mr. Richard Morgan, San Gabriel Valley Airport Guest
Mr. James A. Miller, Civil Air Patrol
Mr. Steve Argubright, Blue Sky Aviation
Mr. Ray Murillo, San Gabriel Valley Airport Guest
Mr. Joey Amaro, Amaro Helicopters
Mr. Armando Lopez, San Gabriel Valley Airport Guest
Mr. Robert Head, San Gabriel Valley Airport Guest
Dr. James Haney, San Gabriel Valley Airport Guest
Mr. Jeff Strouse, Aerial Art Photography
Mr. Lloyd Stevens, San Gabriel Valley Airport Guest

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Christina Pascucci called the meeting to order at 7 p.m.

I. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Commissioner Peter Amundson led the Pledge of Allegiance.

II. MATTERS FOR AND ACTION BY THE COMMISSION

A. Minutes for the April 26, 2023, meeting

Approval of the minutes for the April 26, 2023, meeting were unanimously approved on a motion from Commissioner Dennis Lord and seconded by Commissioner Justine Johnson.

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

Mr. Morgan provided to the Commission a brief overview of San Gabriel Valley Airport.

Aircraft Operations (Takeoffs and Landings) and Fuel Sales

The overall aircraft operations for all five County airports were up 2 percent in the month of April 2023, as compared to the same month last year.

The overall fuel sales for all five County airports in the month of April 2023, were up 9 percent from the previous month, as compared to the same month 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.

Mr. Morgan informed the Commission that the preliminary draft of the Pavement Management Program is currently being reviewed.

Completion of the Rents and Fees Study update for all five County airports is expected to complete in mid-July 2023.

On May 25, 2023, a virtual meeting was held for the Compton/Woodley Airport design project for the new terminal building.

Airport Property Management

Public Works Road Maintenance Division made minor repairs to the pavement surrounding the terminal building and the adjacent parking lot at Brackett Field Airport.

At Compton/Woodley Airport, repairs to the main vehicle access gate adjacent to the airport terminal building are underway and landscaping adjacent to the east and west vehicle access gates is complete.

At San Gabriel Valley Airport, Aviation Division management team met with the Federal Aviation Administration and representatives of the local Airport Traffic Control Tower to identify potential sites for a new Airport Traffic Control Tower facility.

On May 8, 2023, the Federal Aviation Administration Airport Traffic Control Towers management and airport management attended the Annual Local Runway Safety Action meeting at San Gabriel Valley Airport.

The County self-serve Avgas dispensers are in service at San Gabriel Valley Airport.

Amaro Helicopters and Cloud Aviation will be subtenants of Billion Air Aviation and will be operating from their facility at San Gabriel Valley Airport.

County hangar inspections are still in progress.

All 5 County Airports received an initial application of non-glyphosate herbicides by County Agricultural Commissioner/Weights and Measures as part of the airside weed abatement program.

Mr. Maselbas shared with the Commission complaints received regarding insurance liability requirements for driving automobiles on the airport premises. Commissioners engaged in a brief discussion regarding the information presented.

Qualified proposals received in accordance with the Request for Proposals to provide full-serve and self-serve fueling services at General William J. Fox Airfield and Whiteman Airport are being evaluated.

Airport Events and Activities

On May 8 through May 10, 2023, the Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association event planning team visited Brackett Field Airport and met with airport personnel and airport tenants to coordinate the August 2024 fly in event.

The Pomona Valley Hospital's Neonatal Unit conducted an orientation exercise at Brackett Field Airport on May 30, 2023.

At General William J. Fox Airfield, Coulson Aviation will conduct testing for their firefighting support aircraft on June 5 through June 16, 2023.

The California Disaster Airlift Response Team Statewide Disaster Exercise was conducted on May 13, 2023, and involved San Gabriel Valley Airport and Whiteman Airport.

On April 27, 2023, Los Angeles County Department of Public Health held their appointment-only COVID-19 booster clinic at the Whiteman Airport parking lot.

At Whiteman Airport, Civil Air Patrol provided a tour of the airport to students from local Pacoima Charter school on May 23, 2023. A tour for additional students from the same school is scheduled for June 6, 2023.

On May 27, 2023, the Experimental Aircraft Association Chapter 40, provided flights to 100 kids at their Young Eagles event at Whiteman Airport.

Whiteman Airport Community Advisory Committee

Mr. Maselbas informed the Commission that the final Whiteman Airport Community Advisory Committee meeting was held virtually on February 23, 2023, and the final report is being finalized and will be presented to the Board of Supervisors.

Mr. Maselbas shared with the Commission the findings from the South Coast Air Quality Management District on the lead monitoring study conducted at Whiteman Airport and the Pacoima community in summer 2022. The study concluded that lead levels were more than 10 times lower than the Environmental Protection Agency's national standard for lead.

Airport Marketing and Public Relations

A task authorization was issued to an on-call planning consultant to develop a plan to enhance and promote the value of the airports to the region and local communities, implement measures to effectively engage and communicate with airport stakeholders, and attract and retain airport tenants.

On May 30, 2023, a project kick-off meeting was held with the Aviation Commission Subcommittee members, Aviation Division management team, Public Works Community Services and Government Relations Group, and the consultant.

D. Update from Aviation Commission Subcommittee – Neighborhood Outreach and Airport Stakeholder Engagement

Chair Pascucci informed the Commission that an email was sent to Commission members requesting their input on the following topics: creating a community events calendar for the airports, identifying potential guest speakers, and spotlight topics for Aviation Commission meetings.

Commissioner Justine Johnson invited attendees who have an interest in being part of the stakeholders list to submit their contact information. The Subcommittee will work with the consultant on the airport marketing plan and workforce support opportunities and trainings.

E. Proposal to have Future Aviation Commission Meetings in a Hybrid Meeting Format

Mr. Maselbas presented to the Commission the costs and logistics information for the hybrid meeting format, an option to have a recording of the meeting available, and suggestion to post the meeting agenda fourteen days in advance of the scheduled meeting date.

Commissioners had a brief discussion on the proposal suggested by Mr. Maselbas and will further discuss this agenda item at next month's meeting.

III. PUBLIC COMMENT – OPEN FORUM

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

IV. NEXT COMMISSION MEETING WILL BE ON:

**Wednesday, June 28, 2023, at 7 p.m.
at Brackett Field Airport
1615 McKinley Avenue
La Verne, CA 91750-5846**

Chair Pascucci adjourned the meeting at 8:07 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Forouzan Golshani, Secretary
Los Angeles County Aviation Commission

PHM:vt