



MARK PESTRELLA, Director

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

AVIATION COMMISSION

"To Enrich Lives Through Effective and Caring Service"

900 SOUTH FREMONT AVENUE
ALHAMBRA, CALIFORNIA 91803-1331
Telephone: (626) 458-5100
<http://dpw.lacounty.gov>

COMMISSIONERS

CHRISTINA PASCUCCI
CHAIR

RYAN ANTOON
VICE-CHAIR

FOROUZAN GOLSHANI
SECRETARY

PETER AMUNDSON
MEMBER

CURT CASTAGNA
MEMBER

HARVEY HOLLOWAY
MEMBER

DENNIS LORD
MEMBER

JEFF MORT
MEMBER

GABRIEL PEREZ
MEMBER

VACANT
MEMBER

LOS ANGELES COUNTY AVIATION COMMISSION

Meeting Minutes

September 27, 2023, 7 p.m.
General William J. Fox Airfield
4725 William J. Barnes Avenue
Lancaster, CA 93536-8401
(661) 940-1709

IN ATTENDANCE

Commissioner Harvey Holloway
Commissioner Dennis Lord
(No Quorum)

OFFICIALLY EXCUSED

Chair Christina Pascucci
Vice-Chair Ryan Antoon
Secretary Forouzan Golshani
Commissioner Peter Amundson
Commissioner Curt Castagna
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. Daniel Duorsky, General William J. Fox Airfield Guest
Ms. Kasiri Landon, High Desert Avionics
Ms. Kenna Landon, High Desert Avionics
Ms. Kerry Landon, High Desert Avionics
Mr. Jeff Landon, High Desert Avionics
Mr. Steve Irving, United States Air Force Plant 42
Mr. Jeff Haney, MH Aviation
Ms. Jessica Haney, MH Aviation
Mr. Steve Arqubright, General William J. Fox Airfield Guest
Mr. Christopher McMurtry, General William J. Fox Airfield Guest
Ms. Connie Farmer, General William J. Fox Airfield Guest
Mr. Dean Richards, General William J. Fox Airfield Guest
Mr. James Miller, Civil Air Patrol

CALL TO ORDER

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

I. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Commissioner Lord led the Pledge of Allegiance.

II. MATTERS FOR AND ACTION BY THE COMMISSION

A. Minutes for the August 30, 2023, meeting

Approval of the minutes for the August 30, 2023, meeting was deferred to the next Commission meeting due to lack of a quorum.

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

Commissioner Lord provided to the Commission a brief overview of General William J. Fox Airfield.

Aircraft Operations (Takeoffs and Landings) and Fuel Sales

The overall aircraft operations for all five County airports were up 6 percent in the month of August 2023, as compared to the same month last year.

The overall fuel sales for all five County airports in the month of August 2023, were up 16 percent from the previous month, as compared to the same month last year.

County is exploring the means to bring unleaded avgas (UL94) to the airport.

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.

The annual Airport Capital Improvement Plan meeting with the Federal Aviation Administration is tentatively scheduled for next month.

A task authorization will be issued to the on-call consultant to begin the design of the reconstruction project for San Gabriel Valley Airport.

Input received from various airport stakeholders was incorporated into the updated proposed design concept for the new terminal building for Compton/Woodley Airport.

Airport Property Management

Repairs are scheduled for the mid-field north side vehicle access gate at Brackett Field Airport.

At Compton/Woodley Airport, repairs were made to the airport beacon light and are scheduled for the Precision Approach Path Indicator lights.

At San Gabriel Valley Airport, the County self-serve Avgas fuel dispensers are still out of service and fuel is provided by Billion Air Aviation.

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

Airport staff hosted on-site inspections of the fueling facilities for the proposers selected to provide full-serve and self-serve fueling services at General William J. Fox Airfield and Whiteman Airport.

Airport Events and Activities

The Annual Taste of La Verne Food Festival event will take place at Brackett Field Airport on October 18, 2023.

On September 23, 2023, Compton/Woodley Airport hosted the Girls in Aviation Day event and had approximately 300 to 400 attendees. On October 15, 2023, the El Dia Del Ranchero event will be held at the airport. The airport will host the Annual Air Fair on October 28, 2023.

San Gabriel Valley Airport will host the Porsche Club of America's San Gabriel Valley Region event on October 15, 2023.

At Whiteman Airport, the Experimental Aircraft Association Chapter 40 provided flights to 60 kids at their Young Eagles event on September 23, 2023.

The annual Whiteman Airport Air Fair and Career Day will be held on October 7, 2023, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Whiteman Airport Community Advisory Committee

Mr. Maselbas stated that the final report for Re-envisioning Whiteman Airport – A Community Driven Process was submitted to the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors on September 25, 2023. The report can be viewed at <https://lacounty.gov/government/board-of-supervisors/board-correspondence/>.

Airport Marketing and Public Relations

The on-call planning consultant is conducting individual and group meetings with various tenants, businesses, users, and the aviation non-profit organizations. An online survey for local residents, airport users, and those who were unable to participate in the interviews will be available soon.

D. Airports Rents Study

Hangar/Tiedown Rental Rate Study

Mr. Maselbas reported that Public Works' consultant is currently finalizing the rental rate study for each airport and is expected to complete it by October 6, 2023. Public Works will recommend to the Board of Supervisors as soon as possible that non-aeronautical rates be increased to the Fair Market Value figures that the consultant has provided. The increases will range from about 10% to 60%. It was also reported that although the preliminary study findings indicate that most of our current aeronautical hangar and tiedown rental rates are below rates at competitive airports, Public Works does not plan to increase rates for at least one year. Public Works is currently preparing a comprehensive capital asset management plan for the airport system. The results of this needs assessment will be incorporated in a 10-year funding plan.

Annual Fixed-Base Operator Rent Adjustments

Mr. Maselbas outlined the challenges in taking over 1,500 leaseholds from American Airports Corporation, particularly in ensuring that correct rent amounts were being collected in accordance with the terms of lease agreements. He apologized for the delay in processing required annual Fixed Based Operator rent adjustments and assured the Commission that future annual adjustments would be performed timely.

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

No discussion on this item.

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

No discussion or action was taken due to lack of a quorum.

III. PUBLIC COMMENT – OPEN FORUM

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

IV. NEXT COMMISSION MEETING WILL BE ON:

**Wednesday, October 25, 2023, at 10 a.m.
at Whiteman Airport
10000 Airpark Way
Pacoima, CA 91331-7393**

Commissioner Lord adjourned the meeting at 7:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Forouzan Golshani, Secretary
Los Angeles County Aviation Commission

PHM:vt