



COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

AVIATION COMMISSION

"To Enrich Lives Through Effective and Caring Service"

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Gail Farber
Director of Public Works

COMMISSIONERS

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MEMBER

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MEMBER

ARON A. WOLF
MEMBER

LOS ANGELES COUNTY AVIATION COMMISSION

APRIL 29, 2009, MEETING

Whiteman Airport

12653 Osborne Street
Pacoima, CA 91331-2192

IN ATTENDANCE

Chair Penelope Cornwall
Vice Chairman George G. Butts
Secretary Angelo R. Cardono
Commissioner Evelyn Jerome Alexander
Commissioner Bobby E. Chase
Commissioner Clinton Simmons
Commissioner Harvey Holloway
Commissioner Peter Amundson
Commissioner Dennis C. Lord

OFFICIALLY EXCUSED

Commissioner Aron A. Wolf

LOS ANGELES COUNTY - DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS STAFF

Mr. William H. Higley, Deputy Director, Administration
Mr. Richard L. Smith, Chief, Aviation Division
Mr. Bill Bird, Assistant Chief, Aviation Division
Mr. George Gomez, Staff Assistant, Aviation Division
Mrs. Carmela Brust, Division Secretary, Aviation Division

AMERICAN AIRPORTS - AIRPORT SERVICES DIVISION STAFF

Mr. Edward R. Sause, President
Mr. Scott Wardle, Regional Director
Mr. Jared Fox-Tuck, Manager, Brackett Field Airport
Mr. Andrew Marino, Manager, Compton/Woodley Airport
Mr. Steve Irving, Manager, General Wm. J. Fox Airfield
Mr. Rafael Herrera, Manager, El Monte Airport
Mr. Jason Morgan, Manager, Whiteman Airport

GUESTS

Mr. Peter Albiez, Whiteman Airport Association
Mr. Don Hagopian, Whiteman Airport Association
Mrs. Shellie Hagopian, Whiteman Airport Association
Ms. Marcie Torrez, Pacoima Beautiful
Ms. Maria Guzman, Pacoima Beautiful
Ms. Sandra Lopez, Pacoima Charter School
Ms. Yolanda Medina, Pacoima Charter School
Ms. Lidia Medina, Pacoima Charter School
Ms. Marina Ulloa, Pacoima Charter School
Mr. Dave Kols, Whiteman Airport Association
Mr. Ed Strucke, Whiteman Airport
Mr. Jorge Villanueva, Pacoima Beautiful
Mr. Barry Marshall, Millennium Aerospace
Mr. Jack Kenton, Compton Airport

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Penelope Cornwall called the meeting to order at 10 a.m.

A. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Commissioner Chase led the Pledge of Allegiance.

B. MATTERS FOR CONSIDERATION AND ACTION BY THE COMMISSION

1. March 25, 2009, Minutes

The minutes were approved and adopted on a motion by Vice Chairman Butts and seconded by Commissioner Lord.

2. American Airports - Project Manager's Report

Mr. Rafael Herrera reported on events at El Monte Airport:

- On April 15 and 16, 2009, El Monte Airport hosted the Chevron fuel Quality Control training. Over 51 members from the Fixed Base Operator (FBO) business community and American Airports Corporation employees participated in this event. Chevron staff was happy using the airport facilities and is interested in using El Monte Airport as a training site.
- On April 17, 2009, the yearly fire extinguishers inspection and recertification service was held at El Monte Airport.
- A high volume of aircraft visited the airport facilities on Sunday, April 29, 2009, for our static display event.

Mr. Andrew Marino reported on events at Compton/Woodley Airport:

- A new gate motor and anti-tailgate system were installed at the Central Avenue gate.
- New stairs were installed at the FBO hangars.
- The airport lawn mower is out of service with its turbo currently being replaced. It is scheduled to be back in service by Monday, May 4, 2009.
- On April 24, 2009, Andrew Marino and Jason Morgan participated in the Aviation Career Day at Van Nuys Airport.

Mr. Jared Fox-Tuck reported on events at Brackett Field Airport:

- The hangar construction on the southeast corner is making progress. The roof and doors are being installed, and the hangar construction is expected to be completed within the next three to four months.
- There are problems with the software for the gate system. The new modems are not communicating properly with the main computer, and technicians are working to solve the problem.
- In May 2009, fuel filters will be replaced at the fuel self-dispenser island. To prevent any inconvenience to the airport users, fuel will be provided with the fuel truck at self-dispenser fuel price.
- The yearly fire extinguishers inspection and recertification service is scheduled for June 1, 2009.

Chair Cornwall inquired about the standardization of the gate system throughout the County airports.

Mr. Wardle stated that all five airports are currently using the same software system.

Mr. Steve Irving reported on events at General Wm. J. Fox Airfield:

- A new ambulance service company at Antelope Valley is currently purchasing fuel and renting one of the hangars at General Wm. J. Fox Airfield. This company is expected to operate from the airport in the near future.
- The airport operations were low during March as a result of heavy winds sweeping through the Antelope Valley, so most efforts were redirected to small painting and tree trimming projects throughout the airport.
- The Young Eagles event was postponed due to the heavy winds.

Mr. Jason Morgan reported on events at Whiteman Airport:

- Vista Aviation is accessible and fully operational in its new facility.
- The security and safety group meeting will be held on Thursday, May 14, 2009, at 6:30 p.m., at Whiteman Airport.
- The San Fernando Valley 99's poker run event is scheduled for May 9, 2009.
- An air compressor was purchased as recommended by tenants and airport users.
- On April 18, 2009, at Brown Field Airport, a pilot lost directional control upon landing. The husband and wife, who were tenants at Whiteman Airport since 2003, were killed in this accident.

3. County Contract Administrator's Report – Mr. Richard Smith

- The Commission was provided with copies of the expense and revenue report for the month of March, and Mr. Smith offered to answer any questions.
- The annual Customer Service Survey was distributed to all airport tenants on April 1st, and the closing period for consideration of the survey will be the end of April. The results of the survey will be presented at the next Commission meeting at Fox Field on May 27, 2009.
- The Best Value/Qualification solicitation of proposals for the automated weather observation system (AWOS) closed on Thursday, April 23, 2009. An evaluation committee will evaluate the proposals early next week and construction is expected to begin this summer.
- Construction Division's specification writers for the Brackett Field lighting and signage relocation project received 95 percent submittals for the project last week.
- Additional plans and specs were requested from the contractor for the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Compliance and Picnic Area Improvement project at Brackett Field and General Wm. J. Fox Airports.
- The pavement rehabilitation project for Compton/Woodley Airport has been approved for 100 percent funding by the Federal Aviation Administration under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. A request to the Board of Supervisors for authorization to apply for and accept the grant is scheduled to be submitted for approval on May 19, 2009. Advertising for construction bids is expected by June 2009.

- The final plans for the El Monte Airport taxiway development were received from the consultant, and bids are expected to begin July 21, 2009.
- A Request for Qualifications (RFQ) for the General Wm. J. Fox Airfield Master Plan Update was advertised on April 20, 2009, and is scheduled to close on May 14, 2009.

C. PUBLIC COMMENT – OPEN FORUM

Mr. Don Hagopian suggested having DMJM Aviation attend the next Whiteman Airport Association meeting, and provide open forum for tenants to communicate their concerns regarding the Whiteman Airport Master Plan.

Mr. Dusty Rhodes informed and invited the Commission to the grand opening of Vista Aviation's new facilities on May 16, 2009.

Ms. Maria Guzman expressed her concern regarding expansion of Whiteman Airport.

Commissioner Jerome Alexander explained that the Whiteman Airport Master Plan is for the purpose of reorganizing the airport for best and most efficient usage of the current facilities and will not result in an expansion of airport land usage.

Mr. Jorge Villanueva expressed concern about the environmental impact that the Master Plan will bring to the Pacoima community. He also requested having Spanish translators for upcoming meetings for better understanding by the Hispanic community.

Ms. Eva Torres requested additional information in Spanish for the Pacoima community regarding the Whiteman Airport Master Plan.

OTHER ITEMS

Mr. Richard Smith introduced Mrs. Carmela Brust as the new Aviation Division Secretary.

Chair Cornwall announced the retirement of Department of Public Works Deputy Director, Mr. William H. Higley. The Commission presented Mr. Higley with a plaque for his support of general aviation and the County airports since 2005.

D. THE NEXT AVIATION COMMISSION MEETING WILL BE HELD ON:

**Wednesday, May 27, 2009, 10 p.m.
General Wm. J. Fox Airfield
4555 West Avenue G
Lancaster, CA 93536-8401
(661) 940-1709**

Chair Penelope Cornwall adjourned the meeting at 11:07 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Secretary Angelo Cardono
Los Angeles County Aviation Commission