



COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

AVIATION COMMISSION

"To Enrich Lives Through Effective and Caring Service"

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Gail Farber
Director of Public Works

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ARON A. WOLF
MEMBER

LOS ANGELES COUNTY AVIATION COMMISSION MEETING
JANUARY 28, 2009
Brackett Field Airport
1615 McKinley Avenue
La Verne, CA 91750-5837

IN ATTENDANCE

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

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. George Gomez, Staff Assistant, Aviation Division

AMERICAN AIRPORTS - AIRPORT SERVICES DIVISION STAFF

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. Garry Wilt – Brackett Field Airport
Mr. Gerald J. Collier – Brackett Field Airport
Mr. Jack Kenton – Compton/Woodley Airport
Mr. Sheldon Bresin – Brackett Field Airport
Mr. Don Hagopian – Whiteman Airport Association
Ms. Shellie Hagopian – Whiteman Airport Association

Mr. John Margis – Brackett Field Airport
Mr. Bill Zander – Brackett Field Airport

CALL TO ORDER

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

A. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Commissioner Lord led the Pledge of Allegiance.

B. MATTERS FOR CONSIDERATION AND ACTION BY THE COMMISSION

1. November 26, 2008, Minutes

The minutes were approved and adopted as written. Chair Penelope Cornwall made a motion for approval, seconded by Commissioner Dennis C. Lord.

2. American Airports - Project Manager's Report

Mr. Jason Morgan reported on events at Whiteman Airport:

Mr. Morgan provided updates on the new hangar development for Vista Aviation. He indicated that this project is near completion, and the developer started to move into the new facility.

Mr. Morgan stated that the Aereotique development is complete, and the 2,500 square-foot hangars are being occupied. He also reported that the tenant stakeholder's meeting was productive and well attended.

Mr. Morgan indicated that American Airports Corporation (AAC) and Aviation Division are evaluating and coordinating improvements to the apron lighting area, movement area, lighting around the airfield, and some of the stormwater runoff issues at Whiteman Airport.

Mr. Morgan mentioned that a new Airport Safety and Security Working Group Committee will be formed to create airport safety and security guidelines. There are currently 12 volunteers who would like to be considered as committee members. The committee will hold quarterly meetings, and the first meeting will be scheduled in March. Chair Cornwall asked Mr. Morgan to provide the Commission with a plan on the development of safety and security guidelines.

American Airports will have an Open House event at Whiteman Airport this year. The Experimental Aircraft Association (EAA) is considering an Open House for the first time at Whiteman Airport. The Aviation Explorers will be coordinating an aircraft wash on February 8, 2009.

Mr. Morgan stated that Sun Quest Aviation is no longer operating at Whiteman Airport. Airport operations personnel removed two T-hangars from the Sun Quest site, and the maintenance hangar is being dismantled. Mr. Morgan also announced that as of January 2009, there are only two or three tiedown vacancies and zero hangar vacancies.

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

Mr. Marino stated that the landscaping project is complete. In addition, hangar Row O was painted, and the contractor is working on Row I. He indicated that this hangar painting project is being funded by the County.

Mr. Marino stated a start date is being discussed with a contractor to begin the Row N restroom project. This project consists of updating the floors and fixtures of the restroom facilities.

Commissioner Lord recommended having an electronic light system installed at the Row N restrooms to prevent lights from being on at all times.

Mr. Marino stated that the Holiday Party was successful with 75 attendees. Also 62 toys were collected for the Toys-for-Tots Foundation.

Commissioner Lord requested Mr. Richard Smith prepare a letter to the Compton City Council to illustrate that the County is addressing their concerns.

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

Mr. Irving reported on a snow event in the Antelope Valley. Three inches of snow accumulated on the ramp and runways, and the airport operated as normal. Also, he indicated that the International Flight Training Academy (IFTA) has been using Airport facilities since November 1, 2008, due to bad weather at Bakersfield.

Mr. Irving stated that a new pilot briefing room will be developed at the end of the hallway of the terminal building. The briefing room will be equipped with chairs and computers. This is expected to be complete within three to four weeks.

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

Mr. Herrera reported that the installation of grass and an irrigation system at the Universal Air Academy is complete. In addition, new lighting was installed at the wash rack.

Mr. Herrera reported that Public works Traffic and Lighting Division painted stop signs in a high traffic area near Universal Air Academy. He also had restrooms signs painted on some hangars identifying their location.

Commissioner Chase thanked Mr. Gabe Lopez from the San Gabriel Valley Airport Association for the historical picture display in the terminal building. Commissioner Chase expressed his satisfaction of seeing the restaurant's success.

Commissioner Lord asked Mr. Herrera about the helicopter noise issues. Mr. Herrera informed the Commission that the level of noise has decreased and no complaints have been filed.

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

Mr. Fox-Tuck stated tree trimming work had begun at the south side of Brackett Field Airport. He also reported that an incident/accident that occurred on January 20, 2008, in which the pilot lost directional control upon landing. There was minimal damage to the aircraft, and no injuries were reported.

Mr. Fox-Tuck indicated that AAC staff is currently repairing the airport lighting, and this is an ongoing project.

Mr. Scott Wardle reported that AAC sold seven percent less fuel in 2008 than 2007, and he commented that 2009 should be a lot better than previous years in regards to fuel pricing.

3. County - Contract Administrator's Report

Mr. Richard Smith provided the Commission with copies of the Expense and Revenue Report for the month of December and offered to answer any questions.

Commissioner Simmons inquired about the expenditures for Services by Other Divisions line of the Expense Report. Mr. Smith stated that these are charges from Survey, Geotechnical, and Architectural Engineering Divisions to support the design of several capital projects. He also stated that most of the expenditures will be reimbursed through a capital project after receiving grant funding by the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA).

Commissioner Simmons inquired about figures listed on the Contract Administration line of the report. Mr. Smith stated that a few months ago a new Assistant Division Chief was appointed, and this amount represents labor cost. In addition, the amount reported under Staff Support is part of labor cost. Mr. Smith indicated that labor cost increases every year due to union contracts, salary increases, and new hires.

Mr. Smith stated that the Department of Public Works will participate on the Economic Stimulus Package. Public Works is gathering a list of projects and estimated costs. The Aviation Division submitted a list of five projects. Mr. William Higley briefed the Commission on the Department's activities regarding the Federal Economic Stimulus Package. He stated that Aviation Division has been working on creating a list of potential projects that will

meet the criteria for eligibility for some part of this economic stimulus funding. Commissioner Lord asked Mr. Smith to submit a letter to Senator Laura Richardson to include details of the projects submitted for consideration.

Mr. Richard Smith provided an update on the traffic study at Whiteman Airport. After completion of this study, Traffic and Lighting Division, reported that the road is too curvy to install speed bumps. Therefore, they recommended installing rumble strips and security signs as an alternative.

Mr. Smith informed the Commission that he will be attending a meeting as part of the Steering Committee for the Catalina Airport Master Plan study on February 3, 2009, at Catalina Airport.

C. PUBLIC COMMENT – OPEN FORUM

Mr. Sheldon Bresin commented about the Brackett Field Airport Improvement Plan. He recommended having a diagram of the project plan displayed for viewing. He also requested to have more lighting installed at the north side hangars, and he was concerned about the annual Consumer Price Index (CPI) rent increase.

Mr. Gerald Collier expressed some concerns regarding the CPI increase and suggested that the Commission maintain or reduce the CPI rent. He also recommended installing speed limit signs at the Brackett Field Airport entrance to prevent tenants from speeding and endangering people and aircraft on the ground.

Mr. Jack Kenton informed the Commission that the Southern California Airspace Users Group is considering requesting from the FAA Class E airspace around Ontario Airport.

Mr. Bill Zander asked the Commission to allow tenants to use the perimeter road to drive from the north side to the south side of Brackett Field Airport. Mr. Smith explained that vehicle access is restricted to airport operations vehicles due to the potential to interrupt the Instrument Landing System signal. He added that airport vehicles use the road according to a strict set of rules through a formal agreement between air traffic control and airport management.

Mr. Gary Wilt expressed Brackett Field Airport tenants' gratification to Mr. Jared Fox-Tuck, Airport Manager, for his work managing the airport operations.

Mr. Don Hagopian reported that the Christmas Party for the Whiteman Airport Association was successful with 150 attendees. He also announced the yearly barbecue event is scheduled for July 12, 2009.

Ms. Shellie Hagopian commented that some tenants of Whiteman Airport have not received any updates on the Master Plan Project. Mr. Smith stated that Chapters III and IV of the project have been posted on the Aviation Commission website, and comments or suggestions can be sent to the Aviation Division or directly to the consultant.

Mr. Bill Logan stated that he would like to become a member of the Whiteman Airport Master Plan Committee. Mr. Smith stated that there is no formal committee, and that the project is in the beginning stages of planning. He added the consultants are compiling data, and a public meeting will be scheduled to discuss the alternatives that the consultant is preparing.

Other Items

Mr. Smith presented past Chair Evelyn Jerome Alexander with an award commemorating her second term as Chair of the Aviation Commission and for her invaluable services in 2008.

Mr. Smith introduced Mr. George Gomez to the Commission as the new Staff Assistant for the Aviation Division.

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

**Wednesday, February 25, 2009, 10 a.m.
Compton/Woodley Airport
901 West Alondra Boulevard
Compton, CA 90220-3599
(310) 631-8140**

Chair Penelope Cornwall adjourned the meeting at 11:53 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Secretary Angelo R. Cardono
Los Angeles County Aviation Commission