



GAIL FARBER
Director of Public Works

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

AVIATION COMMISSION

"To Enrich Lives Through Effective and Caring Service"

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LOS ANGELES COUNTY AVIATION COMMISSION

May 25, 2011, Meeting
El Monte Airport
4233 Santa Anita Avenue
El Monte, CA 91731-1697
(626) 448-6129

COMMISSIONERS

ANGELO R. CARDONO
CHAIRMAN

CLINTON SIMMONS
VICE-CHAIRMAN

DENNIS C. LORD
SECRETARY

EVELYN JEROME ALEXANDER
MEMBER

PETER AMUNDSON
MEMBER

GEORGE G. BUTTS
MEMBER

BOBBY E. CHASE
MEMBER

PENELOPE CORNWALL
MEMBER

HARVEY HOLLOWAY
MEMBER

ARON A. WOLF
MEMBER

IN ATTENDANCE

Chairman Angelo R. Cardono
Vice Chairman Clinton Simmons
Commissioner Penelope Cornwall
Secretary Dennis C. Lord
Commissioner Peter Amundson
Commissioner George G. Butts
Commissioner Evelyn A. Jerome

OFFICIALLY EXCUSED

Commissioner Aron A. Wolf
Commissioner Harvey A. Holloway
Commissioner Bobby E. Chase

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES - DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS STAFF

Mr. Richard L. Smith, Chief, Aviation Division
Mr. George Gomez, Staff Assistant, Aviation Division
Mr. Aaron Walsh, Airport Project Coordinator

AMERICAN AIRPORTS - AIRPORT SERVICES DIVISION STAFF

Mr. Scott Wardle, Regional Director
Mr. Chris Brooks, Manager, El Monte Airport
Mr. Rafael Herrera, Manager, Compton/Woodley Airport
Mr. Steve Irving, Manager, General Wm. J. Fox Airfield
Mr. Andrew Marino, Manager, Whiteman Airport
Mr. Cyle Woodruff, Manager, Brackett Field Airport

GUESTS

Mr. Jack Tippie, Former Chief, Aviation Division
Mr. Scott Stevenson, San Gabriel Valley Airport Association
Mr. Gil Viramontes, San Gabriel Valley Airport Association
Mr. Marvin McAfee, CamGuard Aircraft Specialties

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Cardono called the meeting to order at 7 p.m.

I. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chairman Cardono led the Pledge of Allegiance.

II. MATTERS FOR CONSIDERATION AND ACTION BY THE COMMISSION

A. April 27, 2011, Minutes

The minutes were approved on a motion by Secretary Lord, seconded by Commissioner Butts.

B. American Airports Corporation - Project Manager Report

Mr. Scott Wardle announced that El Monte Airport has a new pilot supply store open to the public.

Mr. Andrew Marino reported on Whiteman events

- **Management and Maintenance**

- 1) Staff will continue making repairs to leaking hangar roofs and replacing ramp area overhead lights and hangar lights around the airport through Tuesday, May 31, 2011.
- 2) A fuel hose on the airport's primary Avgas truck was replaced.
- 3) As a fire safety initiative, brush and weeds were removed from a 200-foot area around the airport's emergency generator room.
- 4) A rim and tire were replaced on the airport's tractor.
- 5) A second sinkhole developed next to Hangar Row D about 50 feet from the sinkhole that was repaired on January 2011, and the sinkhole is currently being filled and repaired.

- **Development and Activities**

- 1) Rick Coulter's hangar project has been completed, and the hangars are now occupied by tenants.
- 2) Jet-A fuel sales for 2011 are down 3.8 percent, and Avgas fuel sales are also down by 1.2 percent from the same period in 2010.
- 3) Airport year-to-date operations are down 3.5 percent from the same period in 2010.
- 4) Hangar vacancy is at approximately 13 percent.

- **Meetings and Events**

- 1) On May 6, 2011, Mr. Marino attended the Van Nuys Career Expo along with the San Fernando Valley 99s; Air Explorers; and the Experimental Aircraft Association (EAA), Chapter 40, and he spoke to many students about aviation in general and various programs at Whiteman Airport.
- 2) On May 21, 2011, the San Fernando Valley 99s hosted a Girl Scouts troop event from the Los Angeles area. The participants had an up close opportunity to tour several airplanes learning aerodynamics and radio communication lessons.

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

- On May 23 and 24, 2011, the FAA's Runway Safety Action Team (RSAT) conducted airport inspections. No major issues were noted.
- Several hangar doors and ramp lights were recently repaired.

Mr. Cyle Woodruff reported on Brackett Field Airport events

- **Management and Maintenance**

- 1) Staff made additional repairs to the sweeper, and a new condenser was installed. The fuel filters were replaced on fuel trucks and fuel farm.
- 2) Weed abatement is ongoing with a focus on keeping the runway/taxiway lights and signs clear of weeds.
- 3) The tires were replaced on the airport's aircraft rescue and fire-fighting (ARFF) vehicle.
- 4) Staff is soliciting bids to remove the two concrete bollards from the southeast ramp area.
- 5) Airport management and the City of La Verne's Fire Department will host an aircraft rescue and fire-fighting drill scheduled for June 15, 2011.

- **Projects**

The Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department (Sheriff's Department) started the installation of four new concrete helipads on its leasehold.

- **Development and Activities**

- 1) The airport has 6,000 square feet of commercial space and 2,000 square feet of office space available for rent.
- 2) The Sheriff's Department expressed interest in leasing the available commercial space located next to its existing leasehold.

- **Meetings and Events**

The Brackett Airport Association meeting is scheduled for the first Thursday of each month at the airport pilot's lounge.

Mr. Rafael Herrera reported on Compton/Woodley Airport events

- **Management and Maintenance**

- 1) The airport's beacon tower was painted.
- 2) The compressor room was cleaned up and is now free of bird residue.
- 3) Hangar inspections are now 70 percent complete.
- 4) On May 5, 2011, the State of California's Department of Transportation Division of Aeronautics performed its annual airport inspection.
- 5) The lighting project at the Compton Court House was completed.

- **Projects**

- 1) A new pilot controlled lighting system was installed and is working properly.
- 2) The installation of fencing along the perimeter road on the east and west side of the airport is complete.
- 3) Painting of Hangar Row Q will begin on June 16, 2011.

Mr. Chris Brooks reported on El Monte Airport events

- **Management and Maintenance**

- 1) Hangar inspections are ongoing.
- 2) The floors in the airport terminal building were waxed and polished.
- 3) Electrical issues were resolved on Hangar Row A.
- 4) Weed abatement throughout the airport is ongoing.
- 5) Several leaking hangar roofs were repaired.

- **Projects**

Ongoing meetings are being conducted with representatives of the County, American Airports Corporation (AAC) and the City of El Monte to discuss trimming/removing the trees at the Rio Vista Park, which are in violation of Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Regulation, Part 77, 7:1 - Transitional Surfaces.

- **Development and Activities**

- 1) The airport has a 13-percent vacancy rate.

2) The airport sold 11,956 gallons of Avgas fuel and 2,292 gallons of Jet-A fuel in April 2011.

- **Meetings and Events**

1) May 22, 2011 - Pilot Fly-In and Static Aircraft Display Day.

2) May 23, 2011 - Antique and Custom Hot-Rod Show.

3) May 26, 2011 - Angel Flight Plane Wash Charity event.

- **Miscellaneous**

No significant incidents were reported.

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

Mr. Smith introduced Mr. Aaron Walsh to the Commission as the new Airport Project Coordinator for the Aviation Division.

The Commission was provided with copies of the April 2011 expense and revenue report, and Mr. Smith offered to answer any questions.

Commissioner Butts inquired about the expenses listed under insurance. Mr. Smith stated that the variance between last year and the current year insurance expenses depend on when the invoices are processed, and that insurance expenses remain stable.

Mr. Smith updated the Commission on the following subjects:

- On May 31, 2011, Public Works will request Board of Supervisors (Board) approval of a new 20-year lease agreement for the Federal control tower at El Monte Airport.
- The City of Los Angeles Department of Water and Power's (DWP) project of constructing a 1-million gallon water tank on top of the hill at Whiteman Airport is moving forward with soil testing.
- A special Commission meeting will be held at Catalina Island Airport on July 20, 2011, at 11 a.m.

In addition, Mr. Smith updated the Commission on the following capital improvement projects:

- The As-Needed Planning and Design and Engineering Evaluation Committee has reviewed and selected three as-needed planning and three as-needed design and engineering consultants. The official announcement memo is being prepared.

- Preliminary field surveying is scheduled for May 27, 2011, at Brackett Field Airport as part of the Airport Pavement Assessment Project. The process will take approximately four to six days.
- The County anticipates receiving Board approval to advertise for construction for the Brackett Field Slurry Seal Runway and North Taxiway Project on May 31, 2011.
- Chapters 1 through 3 of the General Wm. J. Fox Airfield Master Plan Update are posted and available on the Commission's Web site. The consultant is preparing the facility requirements and alternatives analysis for submittal to the County.
- The County anticipates receiving Board approval to advertise for construction for the Slurry Seal Northwest Aircraft Parking Ramp Project at Whiteman Airport on May 31, 2011.
- The County received for review a draft copy of the Air Quality Report section of the Whiteman Airport Master Plan Update.
- LA City DWP has commenced with the removal of the utility pole located on the site of the Airpark Way Entrance Improvement Project.

D. Annual Rate Adjustment

Agenda item deferred for the next Aviation Commission meeting.

E. Customer Service Survey Results

Mr. Smith provided the Commission with the results of the 2011 Customer Service Survey. Approximately 1,500 surveys were distributed, and 305 responses were received. The overall average for all airports was 3.54 out of 5 points possible with 5 being the highest in overall satisfaction.

F. El Monte Airport Additional Items

No additional items.

III. PUBLIC COMMENT – OPEN FORUM

Mr. Gil Viramontes asked the Commission to consider all factors of the current economy and the big vacancy rate at the County-owned airports before making a recommendation to the Board regarding the annual rent adjustment.

Mr. Marvin McAfee addressed the Commission requesting Fullerton Airport to be considered as a source to promote engine additives. Chairman Cardono stated that Fullerton Airport does not belong to the County; therefore, he should address the Orange County Commission.

Mr. Scott Stevenson addressed the Commission and requested not to consider increasing the hangar rent this year.

OTHER ITEMS

Secretary Lord informed the Commission that in conjunction with the Experimental Aircraft Association Chapter 96, he is planning a public EAA Fly-in and Model Expo event at Compton/Woodley Airport to introduce aviation to young people promoting general aviation. The tentative date for the event is August 7, 2011, 8 a.m. – 4 p.m. Additional information will be provided at the next Commission meeting.

IV. NEXT COMMISSION MEETING

**Wednesday, June 29, 2011, 7 p.m.
Brackett Field Airport
1615 McKinley Avenue
La Verne, CA 91750-5837
(909) 593-1395**

Chairman Cardono adjourned the meeting at 8:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Dennis C. Lord, Secretary
Los Angeles County Aviation Commission

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