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Acting 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
MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF MARCH 26, 2008
El Monte Airport
4233 Santa Anita Avenue
El Monte, CA 91731**

COMMISSIONERS

EVELYN JEROME ALEXANDER
CHAIR

ROGER L. PERSONS
VICE CHAIRMAN

PENELOPE CORNWALL
SECRETARY

CLYDE G. BAILEY
MEMBER

GEORGE G. BUTTS
MEMBER

ANGELO R. CARDONO
MEMBER

BOBBY E. CHASE
MEMBER

DENNIS C. LORD
MEMBER

CLINTON SIMMONS
MEMBER

ARON A. WOLF
MEMBER

IN ATTENDANCE

Chair Evelyn Jerome Alexander
Commissioner Clyde G. Bailey
Commissioner George G. Butts
Commissioner Angelo Cardono
Commissioner Bobby Chase
Commissioner Dennis C. Lord
Commissioner Clint Simmons

OFFICIALLY EXCUSED

Secretary Penelope Cornwall
Vice Chairman Roger L. Persons
Commissioner Aron A. Wolf

LOS ANGELES COUNTY - DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS STAFF

Mr. Richard L. Smith, Chief, Aviation Division
Mrs. Miriam Gomes Oprüsan, 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. Sheldon Bresin, Brackett Field Airport Association
Mr. Dave Kolstad, Whiteman Airport Association
Mr. Bill Logan, Whiteman Airport
Mr. Charles Peter, El Monte Airport
Mr. George Prewitt, Fox Field Airport Association
Mr. Kevin Robert, visiting pilot
Mr. Joe Serotko, Los Angeles County Department of Public Works

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Jerome Alexander called the meeting to order at 10 a.m.

A. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Commissioner Butts led the Pledge of Allegiance.

B. MATTERS FOR CONSIDERATION AND ACTION BY THE COMMISSION**1. Minutes of the Meeting of February 27, 2008**

The minutes were amended to read the following changes: on page four, fourth paragraph, fifth sentence, "...Commissioner Lord commented that this could lead to a serious misunderstanding by the City, and others, should another rotary training facility backfill the need for training and many flights resume. It is important to remember that this closure does not solve long term impacts on local residents". Commissioner Cardono noted that the February's meeting was adjourned at 10:45 a.m. Commissioner Butts made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Commissioner Bailey. The minutes were approved and adopted as amended.

2. American Airports - Project Manager's Report

Mr. Jared Fox-Tuck reported on events at Brackett Field Airport. Initial earthwork has begun on the southeast corner of the field for the Sunrise Pacific hangar development. Water lines for fire hydrants have been installed and approved by the City of La Verne. American Airports Corporation (AAC) and the County have been working with airport tenants neighboring the new development to amend a license agreement issued in 1988. Once completed, the actual construction process will begin. AAC is finishing up with improvements to taxiway signage. New hardware and energy efficient bulbs have been installed in taxiway signs, which will last longer and cost less. Notices for the annual hangar inspections have been mailed to airport tenants.

Inspections will begin in approximately 30 days. The original HVAC unit at Brackett Field is still in use and being maintained and improved as best as possible. The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) conducted a test of the Instrument Landing System at Brackett Field Airport on March 7, 2008. The system passed with no issues. The City of La Verne was notified that some obstruction lighting on the approach to the airport was inoperable and the City fixed the lights the next day. Rescue 1, the airport's primary crash-fire rescue vehicle, has been out of service for seven days due to a major oil leak and is expected to be repaired within 7 days. Public Works' Road Maintenance Division will be repairing some pot holes in the area of the Pomona Police Department facility. Mr. Fox-Tuck will be working with Eagle Helicopters to install barricades at the edge of their helipads to help with traffic flow. A complaint was received by an airport tenant that debris has been left on the ramp by one of the flight schools performing maintenance on the field. The flight school was notified, and they plan to lease a full size hangar where future maintenance will be performed.

Mr. Fox-Tuck announced that the antique aircraft and automobile show is held every third Sunday of the month at Brackett Field Airport. Two scholarships are currently available through the San Gabriel Valley 99's for women who want to learn how to fly.

Chair Jerome Alexander asked Mr. Scott Wardle if the conversion to energy efficient lighting is expected at all County-owned airports. Mr. Wardle responded that AAC would like to take advantage of any opportunities to increase efficiencies at the airports, but conversions would have to be examined on a case by case basis.

Commissioner Lord added that Long Beach Airport has implemented their solar trees project, in an attempt to generate power and offset the cost of running the airport.

Mr. Jason Morgan reported on events at Whiteman Airport. Mr. Morgan provided the Commission with a slide presentation highlighting current and anticipated developments at Whiteman Airport.

Mr. Morgan announced that the next meeting of the Whiteman Airport Pilots' Association will be held on April 17, 2008.

Commissioner Butts commented on the possible lack of sufficient space on the west side of Whiteman Airport for parking aircraft. He also noted that the number of operations has decreased significantly at all the airports compared to last year's figures.

Mr. Andrew Marino reported on events at Compton/Woodley Airport. On March 18, 2008, the airport recharged and recertified approximately 100

airport fire extinguishers. In response to tenant concerns over the condition of the "N" row restrooms, the process of updating and replacing the fixtures has begun and will continue for the next month or two. New graphics and signage have been added to the terminal building windows and doors.

The County performed a storm water pollution prevention inspection at the airport and no defects were noted.

On March 15, 2008, two 16-year old students set aeronautical records at Compton/Woodley Airport. One student performed a solo flight in four different airplanes, and the other performed a solo flight in a helicopter and six different airplanes.

Commissioner Lord inquired about the roof leak at the EAA Young Eagles' hangar at Compton/Woodley Airport. Mr. Marino answered that he will look into that.

Mr. Marino stated that a pre-design meeting was held on March 12, 2008, for the Pavement Rehabilitation Project and 20 locations were marked for pavement borings. The borings are scheduled from April 7 to April 8, 2008, and is not expected to affect operations at the airport.

Commissioner Simmons inquired as to how the locations for the pavement rehabilitation project borings were chosen. Mr. Marino responded that the 20 locations were marked in an effort to get an overall representative sample of the pavements and underlying soils present at the airport.

Commissioner Cardono inquired as to the date of commencement of operations by the new Fixed Based Operator (FBO) at Compton/Woodley Airport. Mr. Marino answered the FBO is currently operational.

Commissioner Lord noted that he has noticed some evidence of overspray on the ramp at the airport and stated that this could result in a violation during a storm water inspection. Mr. Marino responded that evidence of spray painting will be investigated.

Mr. Steve Irving reported on events at General Wm. J. Fox Airfield. Mr. Irving reported on an incident where the perimeter fence and a gate were cut and opened near the maintenance facility on the east side of the airport. A Cessna C-150 aircraft was broken into and was taxied or moved and struck a nearby Cessna C-172 aircraft. Mr. Irving noted that the owner of the C-150 aircraft had recently removed its radios. Steps have been taken to deter this type of incident such as more frequent patrols by airport personnel. The airport has experienced incidents where auto fuel was stolen from the airport fuel storage facility located outside

the airport, easily accessible from the street. It is unknown whether these two incidents are related. The Sheriff's Department informed airport personnel that similar incidents have taken place recently in the area. Commissioner Bailey inquired about damage sustained to the aircraft involved in the incident. Mr. Irving responded that the C-150 received damage to the wingtip and the door lock. The other aircraft, a Cessna C-172, received extensive damage to the rudder.

Commissioner Simmons inquired about the radio gear being removed from the C-150 aircraft involved in the incident. Mr. Irving responded that ownership of the aircraft has recently changed and the new owner had removed the radios with the intent to upgrade to newer equipment. Mr. Irving added that the Transportation Security Administration conducted an investigation of the incident and informed him of an increase in recent aircraft thefts.

The new hangars on the west end of the airport have received their Certificate of Occupancy and are about 35 percent full at this time. The Experimental Aircraft Association plans to bring their B-17 aircraft to the airport from March 26 to March 28, 2008.

Mr. Rafael Herrera reported on events at El Monte Airport. A cracked section of asphalt was repaired between the "M" and "L" rows. Some minor repairs were made to the roof of the administration building. Fuel filters were replaced in the fuel trucks and the fuel island as part of their annual service. Progress has been made on the new hangar development; electrical service has been installed and the roof beams will be hung soon. Annual fire extinguisher servicing will take place from April 7 to April 14, 2008. Fire extinguishers will be ready for pickup after April 15, 2008.

Commissioner Chase commented that the recently installed bicycle racks are much appreciated and would like to see more at El Monte Airport. Mr. Herrera responded that there are plans to install more bicycle racks in the future.

Commissioner Lord announced that a job fair and static display will be held at Long Beach Airport from November 15 to November 16, 2008. The event will be held by the Wings Over Long Beach Foundation, whose primary purpose is to help bring together aviation job seekers and the aerospace industry. A large static display is expected to include military aircraft and representatives of major aerospace firms. Volunteers will be needed to help support this event.

3. County - Contract Administrator's Report

Mr. Richard Smith provided the Commission with copies of the Expense and Revenue Report for February 2008, and offered to answer any questions.

Commissioner Simmons questioned the increased amount of spending on special projects compared to the previous year totals. Mr. Smith explained that the contract between the County and AAC allows the County to do work outside of the normal scope of the contract. Previously, AAC would pay all the bills originated from such work and be reimbursed by the County. However, as instructed by our auditors, such expenses are currently being deducted from the monthly revenue. Due to all these changes the amount of spending on special projects reflects a big variance. Mr. Smith also explained that the increase is also due to the security system upgrades at all the County-owned airports including digital video recorders and increased number of cameras.

The Commissioners are invited to attend the Sixth Annual Leadership Conference on May 21, 2008, from 8:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. The event will be hosted by the Quality and Productivity Commission of Los Angeles County and will be held at the Music Center in Los Angeles.

Mr. Smith introduced Mr. George Khoury to the Commission. Mr. Khoury is a civil engineer with the County and will be bringing his high level of experience to the Aviation Division for project design and other tasks.

The County Police contract that has been in place for security patrols at Brackett Field and Whiteman Airports will be changed to an as-needed contract with significant cost savings.

The annual customer service survey will be conducted throughout the month of April. All airport users are encouraged to participate in the survey, which can also be done online. Results of the survey will be reported during the May meeting of the Aviation Commission.

Mr. Smith provided an update on the search for alternate helicopter training sites in the County. Meetings with County Flood Control District and Waterworks personnel were held in hopes of finding an area within the County infrastructure that would be suitable for helicopter training. No suitable sites have been found thus far. However, there is a possibility of constructing concrete helicopter pads on some of the existing levies. Identification of suitable sites for helipads is proving to be a very challenging task.

The Monument Sign Project at General Wm. J. Fox Airfield has begun with survey of the site and excavation for the footings. The contractor has provided a schedule of work, but some unforeseen challenges have caused delays.

A scheduling meeting was held at General Wm. J. Fox Airfield on March 19, 2008, concerning the Pavement Rehabilitation Phase III Project. The contractor is scheduled to begin construction in mid April. Some impact to airport tenants is inevitable, and Mr. Irving has begun coordinating with these tenants to cause as little inconvenience as possible.

The Whiteman Airport Master Plan Update fee estimate was higher than the FAA Grant award as stated last month. The FAA advised the County to break up the scope of work into two parts and apply for a second phase grant to cover the additional cost. The FAA agreed to contribute preliminary funding, if needed, in order to keep the work schedule on track while the logistics of the second phase grant are worked out.

A scoping meeting was held with Kennedy & Jenks Consultants at Brackett Field Airport on March 25, 2008. The scope of work for Brackett Airport's Runway Safety Action Plan Project was discussed. This project will involve relocation of the taxiway lighting and signage as a result of the taxiway hold line relocation accomplished previously. The project will include the design of a high speed exit from runway 26R, which will be adjacent to a new taxiway holding area on the north taxiway.

Board of Supervisors' approval to apply for grant funding for the Whiteman Airport Aircraft Parking Ramp is scheduled for April 8, 2008. Advertisement for construction bids is scheduled for April 15, 2008, with a bid opening date of May 20, 2008. The FAA Grant for this project must be awarded by June 30, 2008, so we are still on track for an August start date as stated previously.

The bid opening for the development of Minimum Standards for Aeronautical Activities at the County-owned airports is scheduled for April 17, 2008.

4. El Monte Airport Additional Items

No additional items for El Monte Airport.

C. PUBLIC COMMENT – OPEN FORUM

Commissioner Chase introduced Mr. Kevin Robert who regularly flies to El Monte Airport on business.

Mr. Kevin Robert commented that he has flown into a lot of neighboring facilities and is pleased to have discovered El Monte Airport. Mr. Robert appreciates the ease of use, a great restaurant, and great service at the airport and welcomed any plans to improve the facility.

Mr. Bill Logan commented on an advertisement aimed at bringing jets to Whiteman Airport and stressed the fact that the airport should be used primarily by small airplanes. He also voiced his displeasure with the current security contract.

Commissioner Simmons commented that the introduction of jets to the airport may cause future noise issues.

Commissioner Lord commented that Citation Jets are not likely to use airports with 4,000 foot runways, but very light jets may likely use the facility as they already have visited El Monte Airport.

Mr. David Kolstad stated the importance of using the limited available land at the airport in the most efficient way possible in order to protect the future of the airport. He also mentioned the possibility of parking derelict aircraft on the southwest side of the airport near the ATCT.

Mr. George Prewitt inquired about the status of the Fox Field Monument Sign and the delays that have been experienced with the contractor.

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

**Wednesday, April 30, 2008, at 10 a.m., at
Whiteman Airport
12653 Osborne Street
Pacoima, CA 91331-2192
(818) 896-5271**

Chair Jerome Alexander adjourned the meeting at 11:25 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Secretary Penelope Cornwall
Los Angeles County Aviation Commission

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