



MARK PESTRELLA, Director

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

AVIATION COMMISSION

"To Enrich Lives Through Effective and Caring Service"

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**LOS ANGELES COUNTY
AVIATION COMMISSION
Virtual Meeting
April 27, 2022, at 7 p.m.**

COMMISSIONERS

CURT CASTAGNA
CHAIR

CHRISTINA PASCUCCI
VICE-CHAIR

JEFF MORT
SECRETARY

PETER AMUNDSON
MEMBER

RYAN ANTOON
MEMBER

FOROUZAN GOLSHANI
MEMBER

HARVEY HOLLOWAY
MEMBER

DENNIS C. LORD
MEMBER

GABRIEL PEREZ
MEMBER

CLINTON SIMMONS
MEMBER

IN ATTENDANCE

Chair Curt Castagna
Vice-Chair Christina Pascucci
Secretary Jeff Mort
Commissioner Ryan Antoon
Commissioner Forouzan Golshani
Commissioner Harvey Holloway
Commissioner Dennis Lord
Commissioner Clinton Simmons

OFFICIALLY EXCUSED

Commissioner Peter Amundson
Commissioner Gabriel Perez

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES – DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS STAFF

Mr. Paul Maselbas, Assistant Deputy Director
Mr. Jason Morgan, Assistant Chief, Aviation Division
Mrs. Claudia Delgado, Staff Assistant

GUESTS

Twenty-six attending guests were able to listen or participate live via telephone or by joining the meeting through the Zoom application.

I. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Commissioner Clinton Simmons led the Pledge of Allegiance.

II. MATTERS FOR CONSIDERATION AND ACTION BY THE COMMISSION

A. Minutes for the April 27, 2022, meeting

The meeting minutes as written, were unanimously approved on a motion by Commissioner Dennis Lord and seconded by Commissioner Forouzan Golshani. Motion passed 7 to 0 (Chair Castagna excused).

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

Mr. Morgan and Mr. Maselbas informed the Commission that the Aviation Commission meeting will resume until the Board of Supervisors has resumed their in-person meetings. Thus, the May 2022, Aviation Commission meeting will be held virtually.

Mr. Morgan stated the mission for the five County airports which is to manage, maintain, operate, and develop the County owned airports in a smart, active, safe, and stable manner. He also informed that based on feedback received from the Commission, future reports will include vacancies at each airport, aircraft operations, and fuel sales.

On April 20, 2022, an aircraft crash landed adjacent to the 210 freeway. The pilot was killed and there were no injuries to persons and only minor damage to property on the ground. The accident is under investigation by the National Transportation Safety Board and Federal Aviation Administration.

Aircraft Operations (Takeoffs and Landings) and Fuel Sales

Aircraft operations for Brackett Field Airport were down 14 percent, General William J. Fox Airfield were up 15 percent, Whiteman Airport were down 13 percent, and San Gabriel Valley Airport were up 13 percent in the month of March 2022, as compared to the same month last year. Compton/Woodley Airport does not have an Airport Traffic Control Tower; therefore, an official traffic count is not available.

Brackett Field Airport Jet-A sales were up 60 percent and Avgas sales were up 32 percent. Overall sales were up 41 percent, as compared to the same month last year.

San Gabriel Valley Airport Jet-A sales were down 28 percent and Avgas sales were up 9 percent. Overall sales were down 9 percent, as compared to the same month last year.

General William J. Fox Airfield Jet-A sales were up 60 percent and Avgas sales were up 30 percent. Overall sales were up 60 percent, as compared to the same month last year.

Whiteman Airport Jet-A sales were down 11 percent and Avgas sales were down 8 percent. Overall sales were down 9 percent, as compared to the same month last year.

Compton Airport Avgas sales were 23 percent, as compared to the same month last year. Avgas is the only fuel available at Compton Airport.

C. Los Angeles County Public Works Aviation Division – Airport Management Update

Airport Projects (including Grant Funding)

None.

Airport Property Management

At Brackett Field Airport, Howard Aviation has closed business and is no longer providing aircraft maintenance services. Brackett Aviation, a full-service maintenance provider will be subleasing and is expected to begin providing maintenance services at the airport within a few weeks.

On April 1, 2022, at General William J. Fox, power was lost to the runway and taxiway lights, airfield signage, and PAPI for Runway 24. A Notice to Airmen was issued and electrical repairs were completed on April 13, 2022.

On April 13, 2022, at Compton Airport, there was an accident on Alondra Boulevard in front of the terminal building. One of the vehicles involved deviated onto the terminal handicap ramp. No injuries were reported.

At Compton Airport, a banner tow aircraft released its banner on powerlines soon after departure. No injuries reported and the Federal Aviation Administration is investigating the incident.

On April 7, 2022, a vehicle pedestrian deviation occurred at Brackett Field Airport. No aircraft disruptions or incidents were reported.

Airport Events and Activities

At Compton Airport, Fly Compton Aero Club held their monthly event and provided free orientation flights to the local youth.

General William J. Fox Airfield, two MD-80 Aero Tankers continue conducting training and recertifications.

San Gabriel Valley Airport continues to host the COVID-19 testing site in the south parking lot.

On April 23, 2022, the Young Eagles held their event and continued their aircraft build, Project Jackpot at Whiteman Airport.

The Whiteman Airport Association is planning an open house event. Tentative date for the event is June 25, 2022.

Airport Marketing and Public Relations

The next Whiteman Airport Community Advisory Committee meeting will be held virtually on April 28, 2022, at 6 pm.

Mr. Maselbas informed the Commission that Aviation Division continues to work with a consultant to assist with the Marketing Plan and the consultant has provided a proposal for the update of the website.

D. Special Topics (s) – Replacing 100LL Avgas with Unleaded Alternative

Mr. Morgan provided an update on steps that Aviation Division is taking to introduce unleaded alternative Avgas to the airports.

Chairman Castagna commended Aviation staff for pursuing the option of introducing the unleaded alternative fuels to the airports.

E. Whiteman Airport Federal Aviation Administration First Step Board Motion – Board Report

Mr. Maselbas provided a summary on the Whiteman Airport Federal Aviation Administration - First Step Board Motion and informed that on April 7, 2022, Aviation Division submitted the report to the Board of Supervisors and a copy of the report was provided to each member of the Commission.

III. PUBLIC COMMENT – OPEN FORUM

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

IV. NEXT VIRTUAL COMMISSION MEETING WILL BE ON:

Wednesday, May 25, 2022, at 7 p.m.

Chair Castagna adjourned at meeting at 7:47 p.m. in memory of Mr. John King, a long-time pilot and tenant at Whiteman Airport.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeff Mort, Secretary
Los Angeles County Aviation Commission

PHM:cmd