



# PALOMAR AIRPORT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

*McClellan-Palomar Airport ♦ 2192 Palomar Airport Road ♦ Carlsbad, California 92011 ♦ (760) 431-4646*

Larry Cohen  
*General Public*

Shirley Anderson  
*Vice Chair*

Clifford Kaiser  
*Chairperson*

Howard Krausz  
*General Public*

Clayton Lackey  
*Industry Representative*

Gordon Nesbitt  
*Oceanside Representative*

Armen Kurdian  
*Vista Representative*

Gary Greening  
*Carlsbad Representative*

Kevin Karpé  
*San Marcos Representative*

## MINUTES

**Thursday, March 20, 2025**

Chairperson Kaiser called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m. on Thursday, March 20, 2025.

### **ROLL CALL**

The roll call was taken.

### **MEMBERS PRESENT**

Cliff Kaiser, Shirley Anderson, Garry Greening, Howard Krausz, Armen Kurdian, Kevin Karpé, and Larry Cohen were present, which represented a quorum.

### **MEMBERS ABSENT**

Clayton Lackey and Gordon Nesbitt

### **COUNTY STAFF PRESENT**

Present were John Otto, Jamie Abbott, Mark Reiner, and Yadira Aguilar.

### **PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS REGARDING ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA**

Mr. Betro expressed his concerns regarding noise, the flight path and pilots not being considerate of following the VNAP.

Chairperson Kaiser received comments and answered from the public.

### **APPROVE MINUTES FOR JANUARY 2025 MEETING**

The PAAC members reviewed the minutes for the January meeting.

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Mr. Karpé, moved the minutes be approved, Mr. Kurdian seconded. Minutes were approved with 6 votes in favor Cliff Kaiser, Shirley Anderson, Armen Kurdian, Garry Greening, Howard Krausz, and Kevin Karpé. 1 abstention from Larry Cohen, and 2 absent members, Clayton Lackey, and Gordon Nesbitt.

## **DIRECTOR'S REPORT – J. ABBOTT**

Mr. Abbott updated the PAAC committee and the public about the new Director of Public Works, Marisa Barrie.

Mr. Abbott advised that they continue to coordinate with FAA for Roundtable discussion. Mr. Abbott said it will be a webinar with a section for Q&A. Questions must be submitted ahead of time. Mr. Abbott will continue with updates as new information becomes available.

Mr. Abbott advised that Sky Harbor RFP will extend timeline to April 18<sup>th</sup> for anyone interested. Please visit the following website for more information [Business Opportunities](#).

Mr. Abbott received comments and answered questions from committee members. There was no comments or questions from the public.

## **FINANCIAL REPORT UPDATE**

Mr. Abbott provided a PowerPoint presentation regarding the Airport Enterprise Fund (AEF).

Mr. Abbott advised that the fund is a self-supporting fund, separate from other County funds it is used to budget continuing airport operations, and it funds the maintenance and management of the eight County airports collectively and the services to the airport community. Funding sources for the AEF include the following: FAA grant funding, on-site lease agreements and fees: landing fees, tie-down fees and fuel flowage. Funding is used for items such as: safe and efficient operations of airports and on-going maintenance such as the runway / taxiways, airport grounds, terminal buildings, capital improvements, infrastructure improvements, safety and 24/7 operations.

Mr. Abbott advised that the financial planning process is a continuous cycle. Right after Board adopts the budget in August, the next operational plan cycle begins. The first step in this cycle is developing the 5 Year Forecast. The forecast, along with capital and major maintenance planning, feeds the basis of the next operational plan. Then working to develop the next year's operational plan.

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Mr. Abbott said that The Auditor and Controller prepares Annual Comprehensive Financial Reports. These reports are typically available in December for the fiscal year that runs July through June.

Presentation is posted in the PAAC website at [Palomar Airport Advisory Committee](#).

Mr. Abbott received comments and answered questions from committee members and the public.

## **STAFF REPORT – J. OTTO**

Mr. Otto updated the PAAC committee and public about the new noise monitor that will be installed in the HOA that is Northwest of Palomar Airport the lease was already signed and should be installed by the end of March. Lease is in the process for the second noise monitor that will be at Pacific Rim Elementary School, installation should be done by the end of June.

Mr. Otto gave an update about the Palomar VNAP videos, there will be two different videos, one for the community and one for the pilots. The video for the community is already on the website, changes are being made to the video for the pilots. You can find the videos in this link: [Noise Information](#)

Mr. Otto announce that Commercial Service started on February 13, 2025, with American Airlines.

Mr. Otto received comments and answered questions from committee members. There were no comments or questions from the public.

## **Update and challenges on unleaded fuel for Palomar Airport – J. otto**

Mr. Otto provided a presentation about challenges and updates on unleaded fuel for Palomar Airport. Unleaded fuel candidates update: GAMI “G100UL” FAA approved Model List STC (AML STC) – Certified Piston Engine Airplanes. SE01966WI Part 33 Engine AML STC includes all FAA type-certificated spark-ignition piston engines. SA0196WI Part 23 Airplane AML STC includes all type-certificated fixed-wing airplanes. Project for Rotorcrafts STC ongoing. Vitrol Aviation has produced 1.3 million gallons. G100UL currently available at Reid-Hillview CA, Watsonville CA, and Tupelo MS. Swift Fuels “100R” FAA issued initial STCs for limited airframe and engine. SE4651CH Part 33 Engine STC for Lycoming IO-360-L2A engines. SA04652CH Part 23 Airplane AML STCs ongoing. Working with ASTM International to obtain

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an industry consensus production specification. For more information on the Power Point Presentation click: [Palomar Airport Advisory Committee](#)

Mr. Otto received comments and answered questions from committee members. There were no comments or questions from the public.

## **Presentation regarding a BII airport vs. DIII airport**– J. Otto

Mr. Otto presented about a BII airport vs. DIII airport. Mr. Otto advised that the FAA groups similar aircraft into design categories identified by an alpha-numeric code: the letter represents the approach speed, and the number represents the wingspan. The higher the letter and number, the faster and larger the aircraft are within that category. During the master planning process, airport traffic counts were used to identify the largest and fastest aircraft that currently makes regular use of the airport. This is known as the critical design aircraft – this aircraft's category establishes the design standards for the development. Mr. Otto said that currently, over 40% of the aircraft based at Palomar exceed the B-II safety design standards. While the County cannot control what types of aircraft are use at Palomar, it can improve safety on the ground to accommodate them.

Mr. Otto received comments and answered questions from committee members and from the public.

## **VNAP deviation alerts automatically tracked** – J. Otto

Mr. Otto commented that they are currently working with Envirosuite to get numbers of deviations. Dashboard is already available, and the next step is to add the flights during the quiet hours, after the flight deviations. It should be done this year.

Mr. Otto received comments and answered questions from committee members. There were no comments or questions from the public.

## **County stance regarding the ruling of the FAA's control of non-volatile Particulate Matter from Aircraft Engines** – J. Otto

Mr. Otto updated the PAAC committee and public about Environment Services Unit Review/Ruling Overview. Mr. Otto advised that on May 24, 2024, EPA issued the final ruling and adopted standards for non-volatile particulate matter exhaust emissions from aircraft engines, limiting carbon particles emitted by aircraft. The FAA will implement the new emission standards and establish new testing procedures, as adopted by the EPA. According to the ruling, the FAA does not have the authority to make changes to the standards or procedures adopted by the EPA. The ruling aims to minimize environmental impact from aircraft engine emissions, ultimately, improving air quality and public health. The ruling will allow aircraft manufacturers to certify

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aircraft engines to the new emissions standards. U.S. EPA updated their air quality standards for aircraft engines that would improve air quality and public health, and FAA is required to adopt those same standards.

Mr. Otto received comments from committee members. There were no comments or questions from the public.

## **How to improve the VNAP Program** – G. Greening

Mr. Greening shared ideas to encourage the pilots follow the VNAP. Mr. Greening advised that the airport currently has a 24-Hour Voluntary Noise Abatement Procedures (VNAP) Program. The FAA approved a Noise Compatibility Program in 2004. This measure has been in place for approximately 20 years. Palomar Airport also has a Fly Friendly Program which encourages aircraft operators to fine-tune flight procedures and routes to minimize noise impact on local neighborhoods. Mr. Greening said some effective methods to encourage pilots to follow voluntary noise abatement rules are as follows, community engagement, recognition programs, noise monitoring systems, clear communication, voluntary curfews and guidelines. Mr. Greening commented that awards, discounts, recognition, certificates and publications are some ways to motivate the pilots to follow the VNAP.

Chairperson Kaiser commented that VNAP is voluntary, but it is a good idea to continue to educate pilots. Mr. Kaiser said sometimes pilots make business decisions and have to depart earlier.

Mr. Otto received comments and questions from committee members and from the public.

## **AIRPORT MONTHLY PERFORMANCE REPORT-** M. REINER

Report for February 2025:

- Monthly Airline Passengers: 3,680
- Annual Airline Passengers: 5,678
- Monthly Take-Offs and Landings: 12,539
- Annual Take-Offs and Landings: 27,505
- Monthly Complaints: 351
- Annual Complaints: 491
- Community Noise Complaints by Quadrant: Southwest:31; Southeast:7; Northwest:14; Northeast: 7;
- Jet Flights during quiet hours (2200-0700): 62
- Propeller Flights during quiet hours (0000-0600): 5

Mr. Reiner receive and answered comments and questions from the committee members and the

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public.

## **COMMITTEE MEMBER COMMENTS**

Mrs. Anderson asked if agenda items are requested at the time of the meeting for the next meeting?

Chairperson Kaiser explained that email has not been sent as there has been already a lot of agenda items. The agenda item-set agenda for next meeting is the right time to request agenda items, and let the community know if it will be an action or information item.

Mr. Krausz asked what kind of communication the PAAC committee members can have under the Brown Act.

Chairperson Kaiser responded that the Brown Act training they take when they become PAAC members should have that information. Mr. Kaiser said he has sent helpful information to all PAAC members.

Mr. Cohen commented that forming a Sub-Committee for VNAP sounds like a great idea and ways to help pilots follow the VNAP.

Mr. Karpé asked for an agenda item to be included in the next meeting to address the VNAP hours to have the Props match the Jets time, he would like for this item to be a motion item.

Mrs. Anderson requested to discuss FAA Part 150 study on noise best practices and would like a sub-committee to monitor this item and address it.

## **SET AGENDA FOR THE NEXT MEETING** – May 15, 2025

Mr. Karpé requested to include in the next agenda a motion item for VNAP hours to be addressed to have the Props match the Jets time.

Mrs. Anderson requested to add a motion agenda item to form a VNAP Sub-Committee where they can discuss FAA Part 150 study as well as other issues.

Mr. Cohen requested information on what type of penalties, incentives or notices can the city / county use to strongly nudge pilots / companies to follow the VNAP.

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Mr. Kurdian requested to include as part of the noise report a breakdown by hours for the Legoland noise monitor to see the increase of noise event and noise complaints.

## **ADJOURN**

Mr. Karpé moved the meeting be adjourned; Mr. Greening seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 8:31 PM.

By:   
Yadira Aguilar, Administrative Secretary I

