



PALOMAR AIRPORT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

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

Vacant
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, August 20, 2026

Shirley Anderson called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m. on Thursday, August 20, 2026.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Shirley Anderson, Gordon Nesbitt, Armen Kurdian, Kevin Karpé and Howard Krausz, were present, which represented a quorum.

Cliff Kaiser arrived while the meeting was already in session.

MEMBERS ABSENT

Gary Greening and Clayton Lackey.

COUNTY STAFF PRESENT

Jamie Abbot, Cathe Johnson, Ursula Null and Yadira Aguilar

PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS REGARDING ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA

Ro Zinniger raised concerns about take-offs and landings, elevation levels and late-night flights by large aircraft after 10 P.M. emphasizing the negative impact on residents and the need for improved enforcement and communication from airlines.

Cathy Gillin recommended replacing both flags, the United States flag and California flag at the airport admin building entrance which are faded. She stressed that keeping these flags in good condition is important for presenting a respectful image to visitors and passengers.

APPROVE MINUTES FOR MAY 2026 MEETING

The PAAC members reviewed the draft meeting minutes for May 2026.

Mr. Nesbitt moved the minutes to be approved, Mr. Karpé, seconded. Minutes were approved with 5 votes in favor. Shirley Anderson, Armen Kurdian, Gordon Nesbitt, Kevin Karpé and Howard Krausz, and 3 absent members, Cliff Kaiser, Gary Greening and Clayton Lackey.

APPROVE MINUTES FOR JUNE 2026 MEETING

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The PAAC members reviewed the draft meeting minutes for June 2026.

Mr. Kurdian moved the minutes to be approved, Mr. Nesbitt, seconded. Minutes were approved with 5 votes in favor. Shirley Anderson, Armen Kurdian, Gordon Nesbitt, Kevin Karpé and Howard Krausz, and 3 absent members, Cliff Kaiser, Garry Greening and Clayton Lackey.

RULES OF PROCEDURE PROPOSED REVISIONS– C. Kaiser

Chairperson Kaiser and PAAC members reviewed the proposed revisions to the Rules and Procedures, previously presented to the committee. Noting both previously reviewed items and new proposed edits from Mr. Krausz.

Page 2: PAAC committee discussed language addressing the outcome when a motion fails because of a tie vote, agreeing the item should be eligible for reconsideration at a future meeting rather than being treated as an automatic outcome. The committee recommended removal of the last two sentences of that paragraph.

Page 6: Extended discussion addressed the meaning of "calling the question" under Robert's Rules of Order. Mr. Kurdian clarified that calling the question is a motion to end debate, which itself requires a two-third vote to pass, and is distinct from the chair calling for a vote on the underlying motion. After discussion, the committee agreed that the paragraph was correct as written and no change was needed.

Cathy Gillin comment that a motion approved at the January 15, 2026, PAAC meeting providing that PAAC members need not recuse themselves from votes or declare conflicts of interest was not addressed in the proposed revisions and stated her view that the January motion may be inconsistent with County policy, the Brown Act, and Robert's Rules of Order. Staff responded that County Counsel had previously advised that recusal is not required of PAAC members, including Mr. Lackey, given the nature of this committee, and confirmed there is no current intention to revise the rules on this point. Staff agreed to provide the committee with a presentation on the relevant recusal policies and procedures at a future meeting.

PAAC Committee re-took the vote on this item to ensure proper order.

Mr. Kurdian moved to approve the revised Rules of Procedures, incorporating the single change made on page 2 and all items highlighted in yellow as part of the official document; Mr. Kaiser seconded. Motion passed with 6 votes in favor. Cliff Kaiser, Shirley Anderson, Armen Kurdian, Gordon Nesbitt, Kevin Karpé and Howard Krausz, and 2 absent members, Garry Greening and Clayton Lackey.

Staff noted that once signed, the revised Rules of Procedure will be forwarded to the Clerk of the Board for filing.

HEADING AND FLIGHT PROCEDURES– K. Karpé

Mr. Karpé provided background on how instrument flight procedures are developed, noting it is a lengthy, multi-step, FAA process rather than something the County can design or publish

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unilaterally. He explained that Runway 24 westbound departures currently follow an obstacle departure procedure 245 heading.

Mr. Karpé asked Ms. Johnson whether an obstacle review had been conducted recently. Ms. Johnson noted she had not been with the airport long enough to speak to the historical record, but that the airport's recent FAA inspection and certification review did not identify this as an issue.

Mr. Nesbitt clarified for the audience that these instrument departure procedures apply only to aircraft operating under Instrument Flight Rules (IFR). Aircraft operating under Visual Flight Rules (VFR) do not necessarily follow these same patterns.

Mr. Karpé indicated he would like the FAA to review the initial climb and consider where an altitude waypoint could be placed to route departures over less residential areas; he noted the FAA, not the County or the committee, would ultimately determine the specific procedure design. Mr. Karpé explained that, as airport proprietor, the County would need to formally request that the FAA evaluate feasibility through the FAA's TERPS Gateway. The FAA would then conduct an airspace and obstacle review, an environmental review, and a flight-check validation before publishing any new procedure. Alternatively, a private firm could be retained to design and coordinate the procedure directly with the FAA for a fee.

Ms. Johnson indicated she had located prior correspondence between former staff member Mr. Otto and the FAA regarding this issue and noted she has handled similar TERPS Gateway requests before at Gillespie Field. She is working to confirm whether a formal request was ever submitted for Palomar; if not, she will submit a gateway request with TERPS to evaluate an east bound departure procedure as well as a 250 vs. 245 heading revision. Ms. Johnson emphasized this is a lengthy review process; the last one she submitted took almost 2 years for FAA review and implementation.

The committee agreed that a motion directing staff to formally request an FAA feasibility study for a Runway 24 eastbound departure procedure should be placed on a future meeting agenda for action.

MONTHLY PERFORMANCE REPORT SUBCOMMITTEE – Mrs. Anderson

The Monthly Performance Report last received a substantive committee review in 2017; the report was reviewed by a small group of people, including Mr. Kaiser and Mrs. Anderson.

Consistent with the committee's recent decision on meeting frequency, the Monthly Performance Report will now be discussed at every other meeting rather than at every meeting, to help shorten agendas. Mrs. Anderson noted the County's newer online noise dashboard has improved significantly and contains more real-time information than the printed monthly report and asked that a subcommittee be formed to further review the report and align it with the dashboard for greater transparency.

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Mrs. Anderson stated she would prefer to wait until new PAAC members are seated before moving forward, noting the process of appointing new members has historically been laborious. Mrs. Anderson indicated she would bring the subcommittee proposal back up again in the future.

No formal action was taken.

Comments and questions were received from the committee and from the public.

VNAP SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS UPDATE

Ms. Johnson reported on efforts to date implementing the VNAP subcommittee's recommendations: the website has been updated with a new, more streamlined noise-complaint form; the team's capacity has been expanded with a three-business-day response goal for noise responses. FAQs are being updated to support community education, and a voicemail transcription system has been added to streamline retrieving voicemail complaints.

Ms. Johnson showed the committee through the new noise page. WebTrack remains available as an option for technically inclined residents who want to research individual flight tracks themselves. A second, new option — an electronic noise-submission form — has been added, which staff links to the WebTrack portal on the back end to save residents time and keep the dashboard accurate. Staff will respond to noise concerns within three nautical miles of the airport; low-flight concerns and noise concerns beyond three nautical miles are FAA matters.

Chairperson Kaiser asked why personally identifying information (name/address) is required on the form. Ms. Johnson explained that location information is needed to pinpoint the aircraft and to provide an accurate, education-oriented response to the residents' questions as well as the established data reporting metrics.

Mrs. Anderson asked if a link be added on the City of Carlsbad's airport webpage directing residents to the County's noise-complaint page, noting the average citizen may not know whether the City or County is responsible for the airport. Ms. Johnson agreed to raise this at the next meeting with the city.

Ms. Johnson received comments and answered questions from the committee and from the public.

STAFF REPORT

Chairperson Kaiser referenced a prior written request that staff report on the status of a potential runway heading change. Ms. Johnson noted the matter was previously addressed at the May 2026 meeting: if a change to the runway's published magnetic heading is determined to be warranted, it would be evaluated and implemented together with the upcoming EMAS project, currently in design and estimated to occur in approximately two to three years.

Ms. Johnson stated that Runway 24 current published heading remains within acceptable tolerance based on the airport's most recent Part 139 and 5010 inspections and the Runway

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Safety Action Team committee review. Chairperson Kaiser asked that this determination be presented to the committee more formally as Oceanside changed theirs. Ms. Johnson clarified that a heading change at one airport does not necessitate a change at another, as runway alignments differ by facility, and confirmed that a heading change could be pursued with the EMAS project, as this would be the least impact to stakeholders and combining the projects would be a financially responsible course of action.

Mr. Kurdian noted the meeting had reached approximately two hours in length.

COMMITTEE MEMBER COMMENTS

This item was not addressed due to time.

SET AGENDA FOR THE NEXT MEETING – September 17, 2026

- Staff presentation on PAAC recusal/conflict-of-interest policies and procedures.
- Possible motion directing staff to formally request an FAA feasibility study for a Runway 24 eastbound departure procedure.

Mrs. Anderson asked that County Staff Noise Office response team join meetings. Ms. Johnson noted that the committee met Mr. Melendrez at the last meeting and Mr. Estrada has other obligations and has not yet been able to attend the evening meeting.

ADJOURN

Mr. Kurdian moved the meeting to be adjourned; Mr. Karpé seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 8:02 PM.

By: _____
Yadira Aguilar, Administrative Secretary I