



**AIRPORT COMMISSION
MEETING Minutes
THURSDAY, January 8th, 2026, 7:00 P.M.
CITY HALL ADMINISTRATIVE CONFERENCE ROOM
100 CIVIC CENTER PLAZA, LOMPOC, CA**

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ROLL CALL COMMISSIONERS: Carlo De La Fuente, Carla De La Fuente Travis Kalin, Brad Manibles

STAFF: Wayne Wilks, Julie Wilks

Public: None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

The minutes from the previous meeting were presented for approval.

- **Motion to approve:** Brad
- **Seconded by:** Travis
- **Approved unanimously.**

PUBLIC COMMENTS: (Limited to 5 minutes)

No members of the public were available for comments.

ORAL AND/OR WRITTEN COMMUNICATION:

An individual not present at the meeting requested a copy of the expenditure and revenue report. Wayne Wilks noted he would provide a copy to the individual. There were no other public comments.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT:

The Airport Staff provided the following updates:

- **Security and Cleanup:** Staff is actively working to improve airport security and clean up debris and trash. Locks and a gate code have been implemented at gates, which seems to have reduced intrusions and homeless encampments. A long-term, large-scale project for a full security upgrade, including perimeter fencing for animal deterrence, is in the works, pending funding acquisition.
- **Hangar Updates:** The maintenance hangar is nearly available for re-lease (target mid-February) pending the removal of the last tenant's belongings (including a "Sinatra jet"). A proposal from an existing tenant to purchase and store other containers on leased land was discussed, contingent on a maintenance agreement to prevent the aircraft from becoming derelict.

- **Pilots' Lounge:** Improvements are underway, including security camera installation, door modifications to allow restroom access from the lounge, and plans for a keypad entry system. A reminder was issued that the lounge door must remain shut to prevent unauthorized access and potential abuse.
- **T-Hangar Renovations:** Details are pending.
- **Gate Code Change:** Due to reports of unauthorized individuals and vehicles (e.g., a car, a red truck, a water district employee) driving recklessly on the field and in front of planes, the gate code will be changed soon (aiming for within the month), and all locks will be updated to match.

OLD BUSINESS:

Locks on Walk-Through Gates: This was discussed in the Administrative Report. The administrator is actively looking for suitable double-sided keypad locks that can be fabricated to fit the non-standard gates. Funding is expected to be found within the existing budget.

NEW BUSINESS:

Camera System and Wi-Fi Access:

- The existing city cameras do not allow live remote access due to city liability policies; a monitor is available in the office for viewing.
- The administrator is exploring legal options for a separate, department-specific system that might offer live alerts, and encouraged private cameras on hangars.
- Free Wi-Fi ("Airport") is available in the pilot's lounge. The commission discussed adding password protection or time-sensitive access to prevent abuse, which the administrator will investigate.

Access Control (Key Cards): Commissioner Carla inquired about the cost of a magnetic swipe card system used at other airports. The administrator agreed this is the long-term goal and part of his security plan, envisioning a system where cards can be deactivated remotely and users pay a deposit/replacement fee. This would significantly reduce unauthorized access compared to a shareable gate code.

Skydiver Operations Safety Concerns (Carlo):

- Commissioner Carlo noted significant safety hazards caused by the skydive center using both North and South landing zones simultaneously, often causing jumpers to drift across active runways below safe altitudes while aircraft were taking off/landing.
- Concerns were raised about transient pilots not being aware of the dual landing zones, and the skydiver's radio transmissions being unclear.
- The administrator will speak with the skydive operator (Dave) to address compliance. Failure to comply will result in restricting operations back to the original North-side landing zone.
- It was suggested that the AWOS "Remarks" section should be updated to caution pilots about skydiver activity on the South side.

Meeting Schedule Frequency:

- Following a discussion about missed meetings, the commission voted to officially calendar and post meetings monthly for the entire year.
- The intention is to meet every other month as a minimum. Meetings may be postponed by one month if there is no pending business to discuss, provided two weeks' notice can be given.

PUBLIC COMMENTS/ Requests (Limited to 5 minutes)

No Public comment

COMMISSIONER REQUEST:

Commissioner Brad offered several suggestions for the pilots' lounge lock system. A discussion confirmed the plan to implement a keypad lock system similar to those already used on the administration building. This security measure, along with strict adherence to keeping the lounge door closed, is vital for maintaining accountability and preventing unauthorized access, such as homeless intrusions and potential damage to the facility. These security measures will need to be closely monitored.

A request was made by Commissioner Carlo to repaint the ground-based segmented circle and the "Lompoc, Elevation 88 feet" marking on the taxiway.

- Volunteers offered assistance, but airport staff agreed to take care of these maintenance issues promptly.

SCHEDULE FOR NEXT MEETING:

The next meeting was scheduled for Thursday, February 5th, 2026, dependent on having sufficient items to discuss.

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting was adjourned at 7:40PM by Brad Mandibles. Seconded by Carlo De La Fuente and Thirded by Travis Kalin

The next meeting is scheduled for 7PM, February 5th 2026, at City of Lompoc Council Chambers.

Minutes submitted by: Wayne E. Wilks

Date: January 20th 2026