



# CONTRA COSTA COUNTY

## AGENDA

### Airport Committee

Supervisor Diane Burgis, Chair  
Supervisor Ken Carlson, Vice Chair

---

**Thursday, December 5, 2024**

**10:00 AM**

**181 John Glenn Drive, Suite 100,  
Concord | 3361 Walnut Blvd., Suite 140,  
Brentwood |  
<https://cccounty-us.zoom.us/j/85228138838>  
38 | Call in: 888-278-0254 Conference  
code: 232255**

---

**<https://cccounty-us.zoom.us/j/85228138838>  
Calling in: (214) 765 0478 or Toll Free (888) 278-0254  
Conference code: 232255**

The public may attend this meeting in person at either above location. The public may also attend this meeting remotely via Zoom or call-in.

#### HOW TO PROVIDE PUBLIC COMMENT:

Persons who wish to address the Committee during public comment on matters within the jurisdiction of the Committee that are not on the agenda, or who wish to comment with respect to an item on the agenda, may comment in person, via Zoom, or via call-in. Those participating in person should offer comments when invited by the Committee Chair. Those participating via Zoom should indicate they wish to speak by using the “raise your hand” feature in the Zoom app. Those calling in should indicate they wish to speak by pushing \*9 on their phones.

Public comments generally will be limited to two (2) minutes per speaker. In the interest of facilitating the business of the Committee, the total amount of time that a member of the public may use in addressing the Committee on all agenda items is 10 minutes. Your patience is appreciated.

Public comments may also be submitted to Committee staff before the meeting by email or by voicemail. Comments submitted by email or voicemail will be included in the record of the meeting but will not be read or played aloud during the meeting.

Agenda Items: Items may be taken out of order based on the business of the day and preference of the Committee.

1. Introductions

2. Public comment on any item under the jurisdiction of the Committee and not on this agenda (speakers may be limited to two minutes).
3. Review and approve record of meeting September 19, 2024. [24-4033](#)  
**Attachments:** [Airport Committee Minutes DRAFT 9-19-24](#)
4. Unleaded Fuel Update [24-4034](#)
5. Santa's Jolly Landing [24-4035](#)
6. Future Agenda Items
7. The next meeting is currently scheduled for TBD
8. Adjourn

#### General Information

This meeting provides reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities planning to attend a the meetings. Contact the staff person listed below at least 72 hours before the meeting. Any disclosable public records related to an open session item on a regular meeting agenda and distributed by the County to a majority of members of the Committee less than 96 hours prior to that meeting are available for public inspection at 181 John Glenn Drive, Suite 100, Concord, during normal business hours. Staff reports related to items on the agenda are also accessible on line at [www.co.contra-costa.ca.us](http://www.co.contra-costa.ca.us).

For Additional Information Contact:

Greg Baer, Director of Airports  
Phone (925) 608-8000  
[Greg.Baer@airport.cccounty.us](mailto:Greg.Baer@airport.cccounty.us)



# CONTRA COSTA COUNTY

1025 ESCOBAR STREET  
MARTINEZ, CA 94553

## Staff Report

---

**File #:** 24-4033

**Agenda Date:** 12/5/2024

**Agenda #:** 3.

---

Advisory Board: Airport Committee

Subject: Review and approve record of meeting September 19, 2024.

Presenter: Greg Baer

Information:



# CONTRA COSTA COUNTY

## Committee Meeting Minutes - Draft

### Airport Committee

Supervisor Diane Burgis, Chair  
Supervisor Ken Carlson, Vice Chair

---

**Thursday, September 19, 2024**

**11:00 AM**

**181 John Glenn Drive, Concord  
3361 Walnut Blvd., Suite 140, Brentwood**

---

**Zoom: <https://cccounty-us.zoom.us/j/82329860153> | Calling in: (214) 765 0478 or Toll Free (888) 278-0254 Conference code: 232255**

The public may attend this meeting in person at either above location. The public may also attend this meeting remotely via Zoom or call-in.

#### HOW TO PROVIDE PUBLIC COMMENT:

Persons who wish to address the Committee during public comment on matters within the jurisdiction of the Committee that are not on the agenda, or who wish to comment with respect to an item on the agenda, may comment in person, via Zoom, or via call-in. Those participating in person should offer comments when invited by the Committee Chair. Those participating via Zoom should indicate they wish to speak by using the “raise your hand” feature in the Zoom app. Those calling in should indicate they wish to speak by pushing \*9 on their phones.

Public comments generally will be limited to two (2) minutes per speaker. In the interest of facilitating the business of the Committee, the total amount of time that a member of the public may use in addressing the Committee on all agenda items is 10 minutes. Your patience is appreciated.

Public comments may also be submitted to Committee staff before the meeting by email or by voicemail. Comments submitted by email or voicemail will be included in the record of the meeting but will not be read or played aloud during the meeting.

Agenda Items: Items may be taken out of order based on the business of the day and preference of the Committee.

#### 1. Introductions

**Present:**

Ken Carlson and Diane Burgis

2. Public comment on any item under the jurisdiction of the Committee and not on this agenda (speakers may be limited to two minutes).

*Allison Picard, Martinez resident, expressed interest in a study session to go over her concerns specific to Buchanan Field noise and leaded avgas.*

*Rashid Yahya, owner of Pacific States Aviation, spoke about his company's desire to move toward unleaded avgas.*

*Vice Chair Carlson and Chair Burgis would like to make the unleaded fuel topic a future agenda item.*

3. Review and approve record of meeting January 22, 2024. [24-2931](#)

**Attachments:** [Airport Committee Meeting Minutes 1-22-24](#)

*The January 22, 2024, minutes were approved. Yes: Chair Supervisor Burgis and Vice Chair Supervisor Carlson, No: none; absent: None.*

**This Discussion Item was approved.**

**Aye:** Carlson and Burgis

**Result:** Passed

4. Appointment of Airport Committee Chair and Vice Chair

*Chair Burgis requested that this item be put on the first Agenda in 2025 so that they can switch board positions again at the appropriate time.*

*Vice Chair Carlson moved that they continue with the current configuration with Supervisor Burgis as Chair and Supervisor Carlson as Vice Chair. Chair Burgis concurred.*

**The motion made to keep the current configuration until the first meeting of 2025 was approved.**

**Motion:** Carlson

**Second:** Burgis

5. Brushy Creek Conservation Bank – Explore Alternatives for Ownership and/or Management. [24-2932](#)

**Attachments:** [Habitat Management Lands Map](#)  
[Brushy Creek Conservation Bank](#)  
[Byron Airport Layout Plan](#)

*Greg Baer, Director of Airports, gave an overview of the Brushy Creek Conservation Bank (BCCB) history and what has been done by the Airports Division to manage the property. He would like to look at alternatives for the management or ownership of the BCCB.*

*The request to look for alternatives for management or ownership of the BCCB was approved. Yes: Chair Supervisor Burgis and Vice Chair Supervisor Carlson, No: none; absent: None.*

**Aye:** Carlson and Burgis

**Result:** Passed

6. Expiring Aviation Advisory Committee Seats in 2025 and Potential Reduction of two Committee Member Seats [24-2933](#)

*Mr. Baer explained how there are three Aviation Advisory Committee (AAC) seats expiring in February 2025: the Member at Large 3 seat, City of Concord, and the Airport Business Association seat. Mr. Baer noted that at the last AAC meeting, there was discussion about removing two seats from the committee to potentially reduce the committee from 13 to 11 members. There was no determination made on the item except to note it as a future agenda item for the AAC. This serves as an informational item only for the Airport Committee.*

*There were public comments made by Allison Picard and Rashid Yahya relative to this topic.*

7. 2024 Buchanan Field Hangar Inspections [24-2934](#)

*Mr. Baer advised that hangar inspections will be conducted beginning October 1st. The purpose of the inspections is to ensure safety and compliance with the FAA's requirements and the Contra Costa County Airports' minimum standards. Airports staff will work with tenants to achieve compliance.*

8. Upcoming Airport Events

- 8.A 2024 Girls in Aviation Day [24-2935](#)

*Mr. Baer announced that on September 28, 2024, Women in Aviation International will be sponsoring Girls in Aviation Day at the Buchanan Field Airport Clubhouse. At the time of the Airport Committee meeting, there were 168 girls registered to participate in the event.*

- 8.B Buchanan Airport Terminal Building Ribbon Cutting [24-2936](#)

*Mr. Baer announced that the Ribbon Cutting for the new ARFF/Administration/Terminal Building will be held on October 29th, from 10am to 12pm. This event is an opportunity to showcase the Airport's value as an asset to the community. Chair Burgis and Vice Chair Carlson concurred.*

*There was an additional comment by Kimmie Snow, of Pacific States Aviation, on an event called the Young Falcon's Camp, being held by Pacific States Aviation the same weekend as Girls in Aviation Day.*

9. Future Agenda Items

*Unleaded fuel update*

10. The next meeting is currently scheduled for December 5, 2024 at 10:00 AM.
11. The meeting adjourned at 11:44 AM.

## General Information

This meeting provides reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities planning to attend a the meetings. Contact the staff person listed below at least 72 hours before the meeting. Any disclosable public records related to an open session item on a regular meeting agenda and distributed by the County to a majority of members of the Committee less than 96 hours prior to that meeting are available for public inspection at 181 John Glenn Drive, Suite 100, Concord, during normal business hours. Staff reports related to items on the agenda are also accessible on line at [www.co.contra-costa.ca.us](http://www.co.contra-costa.ca.us).

### For Additional Information Contact:

Greg Baer, Director of Airports  
Phone (925) 608-8000  
[Greg.Baer@airport.cccounty.us](mailto:Greg.Baer@airport.cccounty.us)

DRAFT



# CONTRA COSTA COUNTY

1025 ESCOBAR STREET  
MARTINEZ, CA 94553

## Staff Report

---

**File #:** 24-4034

**Agenda Date:** 12/5/2024

**Agenda #:** 4.

---

Advisory Board: Airport Committee  
Subject: Unleaded Fuel Update  
Presenter: Greg Baer, Director of Airports

### Information:

Update on the Transition to Unleaded Aviation Gasoline (“Avgas”)

### Referral History and Update:

The general aviation industry, including airports across the nation, are committed to eliminating lead from Avgas prior to the Federal Government’s legislative mandate of January 1, 2031. The transition away from lead must be done in a safe and reliable way without jeopardizing the operational safety of piston powered aircraft. As passed into law through SB 1193, California’s ban on leaded Avgas has the same deadline of January 1, 2031. The Federal ban on lead in Avgas was promulgated through the Federal Aviation Administration’s (FAA) 2024 Reauthorization Bill, that also created the requirement for general aviation airports like Buchanan Field and Byron Airport to continue to provide 100 low-lead (100LL) until the 2031 deadline, or when a certified unleaded alternative is available at airports. Discontinuing the sale of 100LL prior to either one of those milestones would be a violation of the County’s FAA Grant Assurances.

Over the last six to nine months, the developments and progress towards an unleaded Avgas future has unfolded at a rapid rate. While an unleaded option (Swift UL94) has been in the marketplace for the last couple of years, it does not eliminate the use of leaded fuel because it can only be used in approximately 68% of all piston powered aircraft. UL94 has an octane rating of 94, six points lower than the needed 100 octane to run in all aircraft. Lead is the additive in gasoline used to achieve the higher octane. To that end, the challenge remains bringing a safe, widely accepted, and commercially viable 100 octane fuel to all airports.

Currently, there are three companies (GAMI, Swift, and LyondellBasell/VP Racing) leading the way in bringing an unleaded alternative to market, with each company taking a different path to achieve regulatory approval, as well as industry and end-user acceptance. Within the last month, GAMI achieved its first sales at Santa Clara County’s Reid Hillview Airport, and subsequently started selling at the Watsonville airport. Swift fuels’ 100R product has limited approval for certain Cessna aircraft models, and is being used at a flight school at the San Carlos airport. The most notable difference between the three current developers/producers of unleaded Avgas is that Swift and LyondellBasell/VP Racing are going through an industry consensus production specification process through an ASTM (American Society for Testing and Materials) International procedure, whereas GAMI has said it will not subject its fuel (G100UL) to an ASTM process. From a risk and liability perspective, there are industry concerns related to airframe and engine warranties, as well as those involved in fuel supply chain, given GAMI’s lack of ASTM testing.

The transition to unleaded Avgas requires more than FAA regulatory approval, it’s going to need acceptance from aircraft owners, fuel distributors, Fixed Base Operators (FBO), and local governmental entities who must



perform their own risk analyses.

**Recommendation(s)/Next Step(s):**

The Airports Division will continue to work towards bringing unleaded fuel to both of its airports. This must be done in partnership with our FBO operators (fuel concessionaires) at Buchanan Field, which may begin with Swift's UL94 product prior to the arrival of a 100-octane drop-in replacement.

The County owned and operated fuel concession at Byron consists of only one fuel tank. Thus, a transition to UL94 prior to the delivery of a drop-in replacement would have to include a tank infrastructure plan and an associated capital project for an additional tank.



# CONTRA COSTA COUNTY

1025 ESCOBAR STREET  
MARTINEZ, CA 94553

## Staff Report

---

**File #:** 24-4035

**Agenda Date:** 12/5/2024

**Agenda #:** 5.

---

Advisory Board: Airport Committee

Subject: Santa's Jolly Landing

Presenter: Greg Baer, Director of Airports

### Information:

Santa's Jolly Landing will occur on Saturday, December 14, 2024, from 10am to 12pm. This free event is open to the public to see Santa arrive on ARFF 129 (Aircraft Rescue and Fire Fighting Truck), and then have an opportunity to take a photo with Santa and his Elf. Multiple airport businesses will be showcasing their services and offering raffle prizes. Participants will also have the opportunity to donate to the Food Bank of Contra Costa and Solano.