

~ MINUTES ~
CALIFORNIA STATE LANDS COMMISSION
MEETING OF JUNE 23, 2020

VIRTUAL MEETING

APPEARANCES

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT

- Betty T. Yee, State Controller
- Eleni Kounalakis, Lieutenant Governor
- Gayle Miller, Chief Deputy Director and Alternate for Director of the Department of Finance Keely Bosler

STAFF MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

- Jennifer Lucchesi, Executive Officer
- Seth Blackmon, Chief Counsel

REPRESENTING THE OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

- Andrew Vogel, Deputy Attorney General

NOTE: The final approved Minutes also include the Agenda and corresponding staff reports (incorporated into the draft Minutes by reference) approved as presented unless otherwise indicated in the Record of Action. A list of individuals making statements before the Commission and the entities they represent, along with the Executive Officer's Report, are included in a complete transcript of the proceedings, which is on file in the Sacramento offices of the Commission and posted on the Commission's website at www.slc.ca.gov. Also included on the website is the voting record of the meeting with the staff report for each agenda item linked to the respective consent, regular or informational item number. A link to a recorded Cal-span.org webcast of the meeting is also available on the Commission's website. All of these items may be found under Previous Meetings, by date of the meeting.

**RECORD OF ACTION TAKEN BY THE
CALIFORNIA STATE LANDS COMMISSION
MEETING OF JUNE 23, 2020**

Chair Betty Yee called the meeting of the California State Lands Commission to order at 11:11 A.M. via Zoom webcast; also present was Commissioner Eleni Kounalakis. Commissioner Alternate Gayle Miller joined the meeting at 11:17 A.M.

Confirmation of the Minutes of the April 29, 2020 meeting was approved as presented by a vote of 3-0 (Yee–Yes; Kounalakis–Yes; Miller–Yes).

EXECUTIVE OFFICER’S REPORT

Executive Officer Jennifer Lucchesi updated the Commission on the following items:

Racial Justice and Equity: Executive Officer reiterated Commissioners’ comments about addressing racial injustices and systemic and institutional racism , The Executive Officer also affirmed Commission staff’s commitment to racial justice and equity.

COVID-19 Rent and Application Expense Deferral Program: At the April Commission meeting, the Commission approved this rental and expense deferral program. Since then, staff has received 18 applications; of which seven applications were approved, four declined, and seven applications were incomplete.

Decommissioning Projects Update:

- Rincon Leases: Commission staff continues to make progress in abandoning the offshore and onshore wells at the former Rincon leases. Offshore, 38 of the 50 wells have been plugged. Onshore, 24 of the 25 wells have been abandoned. Total project costs are estimated at \$35.6 million, which is \$4.1 million or 11.5 percent below plan. In total, 62 of the 75, or a little over 81 percent, of the state well abandonments have been completed. Project completion is still expected before June of next year.
- Platform Holly: ExxonMobil and the Commission have suspended plugging and abandonment operations on Platform Holly pursuant to the pandemic response plan. Although a small crew has been conducting preventive maintenance and minor construction, due to the significant space constraints to work with sufficient physical distancing and risk mitigation, staff and ExxonMobil are preparing to terminate further work until it is safe to resume the plugging and abandonment operations. Meanwhile, equipment from our service providers will be removed or warehoused to avoid deterioration from the offshore elements.

RECORD OF ACTION CONTINUED

- Piers 421 Wells: Commission staff is continuing to proceed with the decommissioning and removal of the 421 Piers in the shorezone area.
- El Capitán State Beach: In April, the California Geologic Energy Management Division (CalGEM) notified Commission staff that State Parks had discovered an uncapped orphan well at El Capitán State Beach near the group campgrounds. The orphan well had been drilled in 1930 and abandoned in 1931. In May, State Parks requested that the Commission help develop a well abandonment plan and execute that plan to abate the hazard caused by the 20-inch diameter well hole, which exposed to a depth of approximately a hundred feet. Commission staff and its contractor, DrilTek, plugged and abandoned the El Capitán orphan well in early June. This work successfully abated a public hazard and was completed before the campgrounds were reopened.

Tijuana River Pollution Crisis: In connection with the United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement, Congress recently allocated \$300 million to the U.S. EPA to spend on border projects. In May of this year, the U.S. EPA announced that the entire amount would go toward addressing pollution in the Tijuana River watershed. While they did not list the specific projects, they are expected to include the projects endorsed in the Commission's December 2019 resolution. The feasibility study process will start at the end of June and take about a year. And after, the U.S. EPA will select projects to fund, with final design and construction expected to take another two to four years.

CONSENT CALENDAR

- Consent Items 02, 39, 52, and 55 were removed from consideration
- Consent Items 01, 03-38, 40-51, 53, 54, and 56-60 were approved as presented by a vote of 3-0 (Yee–Yes; Kounalakis–Yes; Miller–Yes)

INFORMATIONAL CALENDAR

ITEM 61 – was informational, no vote required

ITEM 62 – was informational, no vote required

RECORD OF ACTION CONTINUED

REGULAR CALENDAR

ITEM 63: An informational presentation was made to the Commission on the status of efforts to develop the Commission's 2021-2025 Strategic Plan and to solicit comments and suggestions from stakeholders.

Item 63 – was informational – no vote required

ITEM 64: A presentation was made to the Commission to consider authorization, as trustee of the School Land Bank Fund, for the issuance of a patent to the Lone Pine Paiute-Shoshone Reservation of 38.75 gross acres, more or less, of State-owned school land located in Section 36, Township 18 South, Range 36 East, MDM, north of Cartago, Inyo County.

Item 64 – was approved as presented by a vote of 3-0 (Yee–Yes; Kounalakis–Yes; Miller–Yes)

ITEM 65: was removed from the agenda.

(The State Lands Commission adjourned into closed session from 12:50 P.M. to 12:54 P.M., then resumed open session at 12:56 P.M.)

The Commission meeting public session was adjourned at 12:56 P.M.

**STAFF AND PUBLIC ADDRESSING
THE FOLLOWING STAFF REPORTS
JUNE 23, 2020**

PUBLIC COMMENT

- Molly Basler, Climate Reality Project/LA & Green Dream Campaign
- Ann Cantrell, Sierra Club Los Cerritos Wetlands Task Force
- Anna Christensen, Member, Protect the Long Beach Los Cerritos Wetlands
- Francis Coats
- Tom Hafer, President, Morro Bay Commercial Fishermen
- Marcia Hanscom, representing Ballona Institute and Sierra Club
- Marc Saltzberg, representing West LA Democratic Club
- Jennifer Savage, California Policy Manager, Surfrider Foundation
- Steve Scheiblaue, The Alliance of Communities for Sustainable Fisheries

EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT

Jennifer Lucchesi, Executive Officer, CSLC

- Jennifer Savage, California Policy Manager, Surfrider Foundation

ITEM 63

Katie Robinson-Filipp, Sea Grant Fellow, CSLC

- Tom Rudolph, Officer, U.S. Oceans, Pacific, The Pew Charitable Trusts
- Jennifer Savage, California Policy Manager, Surfrider Foundation

ITEM 64

Jennifer Mattox, Environmental Program Manager, CSLC

Kathy Jefferson Bancroft, Tribal Historic Preservation Officer, Lone Pine
Paiute-Shoshone Reservation

- Charlotte Lange, Chairperson, Mono Lake Indian Community
- Danelle Gutierrez, Tribal Historic Preservation Officer, Big Pine Paiute Tribe