

19. (RENEWAL OF LEASE OF VACANT STATE SCHOOL LAND IN INYO COUNTY, MERLE F. OTTO - P.R.C. 516.) The Commission was informed that on April 28, 1950 (Minute Page 1115, Item 15), it authorized the issuance of a lease of 90 acres of vacant school land in Section 36, T. 23 S., R. 42 E., M.D.B. & M., Inyo County, for an initial term of one year, for an annual rental of \$50.00, with the option on the part of the lessee to renew the lease annually for fourteen (14) additional periods of one year each. The lease was issued to provide a site for a camp, millsite, and other operations in connection with an adjoining gold mining lease. An application has been received from the lessee for renewal of the subject lease for a period of one year. Annual rental in the amount of \$50.00 has been deposited by the applicant.

UPON MOTION DULY MADE AND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED A RESOLUTION WAS ADOPTED AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTIVE OFFICER TO ISSUE TO MERLE F. OTTO AN EXTENSION FOR A TERM OF ONE YEAR OF LEASE P.R.C. 516, COVERING NINETY (90) ACRES OF VACANT SCHOOL LAND IN SECTION 36, T. 23 S., R. 42 E., M.D.B. & M., INYO COUNTY, AT A RENTAL OF \$50.00, ALL TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF LEASE P.R.C. 516, AS AUTHORIZED ORIGINALLY, TO BE CONTINUED IN FULL FORCE AND EFFECT.

20. (PROPOSED PURCHASE OF VACANT FEDERAL LANDS - COLONEL R. A. ELLSWORTH - S.W.O. 5281 - SERIAL NO. 073199 LOS ANGELES.) Colonel Ellsworth has requested that the State acquire through exchange some 5489.34 acres of federal government land in the Salton Sea area in T. 10 S., R. 10 E., S.B.M., and sell to him the acquired federal lands at the appraised value of the lands involved. Colonel Ellsworth, in the prospective acquisition of said lands, proposes to expend a large amount of money in providing water for use on the land and the development of the property. The project would appear to be highly desirable and would afford a development in the Salton Sea area that could not be done unless some public agency prosecuted the actual development and the expenditure of the money.

Accordingly, the State's application was filed March 29, 1948, to select 5489.34 acres of vacant federal land in T. 10 S., R. 10 E., S.B.M., in exchange for 5495.60 acres of surveyed school lands in Joshua Tree National Monument. On December 20, 1950, the Bureau of Land Management advised that an examination of the records of that office shows that there are no springs or water holes needed or used by the public for watering purposes and no hot or medicinal springs on the selected lands, that it has been determined that the selected lands are available for exchange and that the values of the selected and offered lands are approximately equal for the purpose of exchange, that there are no outstanding contests or protests of record, that the requirements pertaining to the application have been made, and that publication of the exchange was authorized.

In accordance with instructions from the Bureau of Land Management, the notices of the exchange application describing both government lands and State lands were published for the required period in the papers designated by the Bureau of Land Management.

Before the government land desired by Colonel Ellsworth will be patented to the State, it is necessary for the State to convey to the federal government by grant deed 5495.60 acres of surveyed State school lands in the Joshua Tree National Monument offered in exchange.

Section 6444 of the Public Resources Code provides: "Whenever in the judgment of the commission it is to the advantage of the State to exchange any of its public lands, as provided in Sections 6441, 6442 and 6443, the commission shall so certify to the Governor, who shall thereupon execute, on behalf of the State, any instruments of conveyance necessary to effect the exchange."

It is proposed that the State acquire this land and sell it after publication of notice to receive bids at a price of not less than \$2.00 per acre. This price has been approved by the staff after inspection.

UPON MOTION DULY MADE AND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED A RESOLUTION WAS ADOPTED, PURSUANT TO SECTION 7405.1 OF THE PUBLIC RESOURCES CODE, APPROVING THE SELECTION OF THE SUBJECT LAND AND CERTIFYING THAT IT IS TO THE ADVANTAGE OF THE STATE TO EXCHANGE THE 5495.60 ACRES OF SURVEYED SCHOOL LANDS IN THE JOSHUA TREE NATIONAL MONUMENT IN SAN BERNARDINO AND RIVERSIDE COUNTIES, OFFERED TO THE UNITED STATES IN EXCHANGE FOR 5489.34 ACRES OF GOVERNMENT LANDS IN T. 10 S., R. 10 E., S.B.M., IMPERIAL COUNTY, OF APPROXIMATELY EQUAL AREA AND VALUE, AND AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTIVE OFFICER TO EXECUTE, ON BEHALF OF THE STATE LANDS COMMISSION, THE CERTIFICATE PROVIDED FOR IN SECTION 6444 OF THE PUBLIC RESOURCES CODE.

THE COMMISSION FURTHER AUTHORIZED THE EXECUTIVE OFFICER TO ADVERTISE AND RECEIVE BIDS FOR THE SALE OF SAID 5489.34 ACRES AT A MINIMUM PRICE OF \$2.00 PER ACRE, GIVING COLONEL ELLSWORTH THIRTY DAYS AFTER OPENING OF BIDS IN WHICH TO MEET THE HIGHEST QUALIFIED BIDS, AND REPORTING THE RESULTS TO THE COMMISSION FOR FINAL ACTION.

21. (PROPOSED EXCHANGE OF 4400.73 ACRES OF VACANT FEDERAL LAND, INYO COUNTY, AND SALE TO ROLAND H. WILEY OF LAS VEGAS, NEVADA - S.N.O. 137 AND S.W.O. 5207.) The Commission was informed that at the meeting of February 25, 1949, at Page 952 of the Minutes, Item 39, it approved the selection of 6440 acres in Fahrump Valley in behalf of Roland H. Wiley of Las Vegas, Nevada.

On March 23, 1950, Page 1100 of the Minutes, Item 7, the Commission authorized the sale, upon the approval of the selection, to Mr. Wiley without advertising, at a cash price of \$2.00 per acre for said 6440 acres of federal government land.

On April 27, 1949, Pages 954 and 955 of the Minutes, Item 21, the Commission authorized the selection of an additional 3074.50 acres of federal land in Fahrump Valley and its sale, upon approval of the selection, to Mr. Wiley at a cash price of \$2.00 per acre.

On November 21, 1949, Pages 1038 and 1039 of the Minutes, Item 52, the Commission authorized the selection of an additional 9573.11 acres of federal land in the Fahrump Valley, which is contiguous to the lands previously selected in behalf of Mr. Wiley. The Commission further authorized the execution of a certificate to accompany to the Governor's office a grant deed to the federal government covering 9573.11 acres of State lands in the Death Valley National Monument offered to the United States for government lands of equal area and value, selected in behalf of Mr. Wiley as above outlined. Said 9573.11 acres of State lands were accordingly conveyed to the United States by the State by grant deed executed by the Governor on November 22, 1949, and on February 17, 1950, the 9567.12 acres of government lands selected in behalf of Mr. Wiley were patented to the State by the United States.