

A regular meeting of the State Lands Commission was held in Room 5100 State Capitol, Sacramento 14, California, on Thursday, April 28, 1955, at 9 a.m.

Present: Robert C. Kirkwood, Chairman
Harold J. Powers, Member
John M. Peirce, Member

Staff Members in Attendance:

Rufus W. Putnam, Executive Officer
J. Stuart Watson, Assistant Executive Officer
Kenneth C. Smith, Supervising Land Title Abstractor
Elsie F. Latta, Acting Secretary

Others in Attendance:

For Item 2, Huntington Beach Consulting Board

E. R. Stanley of Stanley & Stols
Charles E. Bennett
Dr. P. T. Homan

1. UPON MOTION DULY MADE AND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED, THE MINUTES OF THE MEETINGS OF THE STATE LANDS COMMISSION HELD IN SACRAMENTO ON MARCH 31 AND APRIL 13, 1955, WERE CONFIRMED.

2. (CONFERENCE WITH HUNTINGTON BEACH CONSULTING BOARD - W.O. 2049.)

The Commission discussed with the members of the proposed consulting board (Messrs. Stanley, Bennett and Dr. Homan) the problems and scope of a proposed survey and report relating to economic, geologic, engineering and aesthetic phases of an oil development program which has been under consideration by the Commission for the past year over an area of tide and submerged lands toward the southeasterly end of the City of Huntington Beach. Dr. Homan raised the point that his economic study could not be confined entirely to the Huntington Beach project but would have to be State-wide in some of its aspects in order that he could draw general conclusions which would apply to the more detailed considerations at Huntington Beach. It was agreed that this was the correct procedure to follow. Neither Mr. Bennett nor Mr. Stanley, however, felt that their studies need proceed to any extent outside of the area in question, except that Mr. Stanley indicated he might want to go beyond the area in connection with a review of geologic trends.

The Commission's staff was instructed to make available to the consultants a review of all activities, negotiations and actions by the staff and the Commission regarding the proposed leases in that area.

Mr. Kirkwood desired a review by the Attorney General of the rights of the State Lands Commission to enforce the provisions contained in the present lease forms. He further wanted advice from the Attorney General with respect to the tideland legislation now pending, as it approaches the point of passing the Legislature, in order that inconsistencies or deficiencies from a legal point of view might be remedied. The staff of the Commission is to keep the consulting board advised of proposed changes in legislation which might affect their studies at Huntington Beach or the conclusions they are to draw from them.

It was decided that after the consulting board had gotten well into their work that another meeting with the Commission would be advisable.

3. (PROPOSED ACTIVITIES OF CONSULTING BOARD FOR FISCAL YEAR 1955-56 - W.O. 2049.)

At the meeting of the State Lands Commission on April 13, 1955, the Executive Officer presented to the Commission a communication reading as follows:

"The State Lands Commission on March 31, 1955 (Minute Item 17, page 2315) directed, in part, that the Executive Officer define the scope of a State-wide study of offshore leasing problems, and make an estimate of the cost for the purpose of presenting to the Legislature an item in the 1955-56 Budget.

"While further review of the initial study contemplated for the Huntington Beach area has indicated that additional desirable criteria for the State-wide study may be developed during the course of the initial analysis, any proposed revision to the 1955-56 Budget must be presented currently.

"While it has been suggested that the over-all survey covering the entire California coast line be undertaken, an alternative is suggested which will comprehend an investigation of specific areas that may become critical during the current budget year. These may include:

- (1) Seal Beach - Long Beach (Orange, Los Angeles Counties). An area to the westward of that in Lease P.R.C. 186.1 which presently involves drainage by the Monterey Oil Company's island project.
- (2) Summerland (Santa Barbara County). Tide and submerged land area currently being drained to a limited extent by existing onshore wells.
- (3) Montalvo (Ventura County). Tide and submerged lands easterly of oil and gas Lease P.R.C. 735.1, subject to drainage from wells under development on existing lease.
- (4) Capitan (Santa Barbara County). Tide and submerged land area subject to threat of drainage from wells planned for upland development.
- (5) Guadalupe (San Luis Obispo County). Tide and submerged land area currently being drained to a limited extent by existing onshore wells.

"A pre-planned program for the review of all elements entering into leasing of these areas may be more directly to the point than an over-all survey of the coast, which contains many areas of no particular significance.