

4. (CONSIDERATION OF SHELL ASSEMBLY BILLS 3399, 3400, 3401, 3402 - W.O. 1495.)

A discussion was had of the bills introduced by Assemblyman J. C. Shell, as amended to May 6, 1955 and now pending before the Judiciary Committee of the Senate, after having been passed by the Assembly. The Chairman requested Mr. George Grover, Deputy Attorney General, to submit a report which he had prepared in response to specific questions which had been asked by the Commission relating to the effect of the pending legislation on the authority and duties of the Commission with respect to the administration of tide and submerged land leasing activities.

In submitting his report Mr. Grover also discussed a number of amendments which had been prepared with a view of clarifying doubtful points referred to in his report. He stated that conferences with the author of the bill had resulted in agreement on all of the amendments except those relating to two major issues. The first of these had to do with Sec. 4 of A.B. 3399. The issue was as to whether the Commission shall offer or may offer certain lands for bidding "whenever a person who possesses the qualifications provided in this chapter makes written request therefor."

It was finally decided to attempt to rewrite this section so as to give the Commission discretionary power in the matter with restraint being placed, however, against undue procrastination on the part of the Commission.

The other point at issue was that relating to bonus bidding on proven lands, as set forth in Sec. 1 of A.B. 3401. It was the final consensus that the provisions of A.B. 3401 in this respect would be acceptable provided that a suitable amendment would be had with respect to Sec. 4 of A.B. 3499.

Mayor John T. Rickard, of Santa Barbara, objected to the provisions of Sec. 3, A.B. 3399, where the new Section 6871.2-(1) might operate to the disadvantage of the City if the County failed to zone against drilling or vice versa. In view of the fact that it had been agreed to reinstate Section 6872 as it now appears in the Code and this reinstatement would accomplish the same purpose of 6871.2-(1) and 6871.2-(2) it was agreed to strike the latter from A.B. 3399.

The meeting was recessed at 12:15 p.m. to reconvene at 2 p.m.

There being no further business to come before the Commission the meeting was adjourned at 4 p.m.

*Rufus W. Putnam*

RUFUS W. PUTNAM  
Executive Officer