



DRAFT SUMMARY MINUTES
Delta Protection Commission Meeting
Thursday, November 21, 2019

Bridgeway Lakes Boathouse
3650 Southport Parkway
West Sacramento, CA 95691

ADMINISTRATIVE AGENDA

1. Call to Order

Chair Villegas called the meeting to order at 5:31 p.m.

2. Roll Call

Commission Clerk Shelley Eckler called the roll. Present at roll call: Chair Villegas, Commissioners Winn, Burgis, Thomson, Kott, Sandeen (for Cabaldon), van Loben Sels and McElhinney (for Kim). Commissioner Bugsch arrived at 5:36 p.m. and Vice Chair Nottoli arrived at 5:44 p.m. Commissioners Mussi, Nakanishi, Ross, Crowfoot and Biagi Jr. were absent with no alternates present.

Chair Villegas announced the appointment of new Alternate Commissioner Dan McElhinney representing the State Transportation Agency; Mr. McElhinney is District Director for Cal Trans District 10 (Stockton). Villegas also welcomed new Commission Clerk Shelley Eckler who began her post at the Delta Protection Commission on October 16, 2019.

Commissioner Winn noted Commissioner McElhinney's many contributions to Cal Trans over the years.

3. Welcome and Public Comment- Opportunity for the Public to Address the Commission Regarding Items Not on the Agenda

Chair Villegas asked for public comment and there was none.

CONSENT AGENDA

4. Approval of September 19, 2019 Meeting Minutes and 2020 Commission Meeting Dates

MOTION: It was moved by Commissioner Burgis and seconded by Commissioner Sandeen to approve the September 19, 2019 meeting minutes and 2020 Commission meeting dates. In a voice vote, the motion passed unanimously with all 8 Commissioners present at roll call voting aye.

REGULAR AGENDA

5. Receive Executive Director Report

Executive Director Vink presented an overview of progress on the Great California Delta Trail master plan, including meetings of the Stakeholder Advisory Committee on December 4 and the Technical Advisory Committee on December 5; mentioned the day-long Community Design Workshop scheduled for January 11, 2020 in Walnut Grove; discussed the Delta Conveyance Design and Construction Authority (DCDCA) Stakeholder Engagement Committee, including a kick-off meeting on November 13 and an upcoming meeting on December 11, with Commission staff monitoring this effort; updated the Commission on Welcome to the Delta sign installation, with Commissioner McElhinney offering to help with Caltrans encroachment permits and suggesting an unveiling ceremony for the signs; announced the Commission receipt of the Sandhill Crane Festival's Conservation Award on November 1; shared a copy of a new Delta Recreation map produced jointly with the Delta Conservancy; announced the November 22 kick-off of the Delta Leadership Program 2020 and invited all Commissioners to a reception to meet the participants, and also mentioned a concluding reception on March 13, 2020 at Bogle Vineyards; and concluded his report by announcing the passing of Charles Warren, the former Executive Officer of the State Lands Commission who was integral in the early efforts leading to the creation of the Delta Protection Commission.

Chair Villegas asked for public comments related to the Executive Director's report and there was none.

Chair Villegas suggested that future Commission meeting agendas include an opportunity for Commissioners to report on Delta activities and a Chair's report on Delta Stewardship Council actions. Chair Villegas then presented an update on the Delta Stewardship Council and stated the Council is working on a climate vulnerability assessment that includes adaptation strategies, had received an update on DWR's levee program efforts for fiscal year 18-19, and also provided a brief report on the consolidated science discussion at the Delta Plan Interagency Implementation Committee (DPIIC) meeting on November 4. Vice Chair Nottoli thanked Chair Villegas for the update on the Council's progress and asked if there is a specific role that Commission will be playing in the consolidation of the science efforts. Chair Villegas noted that the initiative will bleed over to work already being done by the Commission and the Council will rely on Executive Director Vink's ongoing input.

Commissioner Nottoli also asked about the Commission's efforts on the new Delta conveyance project.

Executive Director Vink stated that DWR is anticipated to release a CEQA Notice of Preparation (NOP) by the January 16, 2020 Commission meeting, providing details about the proposed project. He further stated that Commission staff expect to comment extensively on the environmental documents.

6. Receive Delta Protection Advisory Committee (DPAC) Report

DPAC Chair Mark Pruner thanked Executive Director Vink for travelling to Clarksburg to view the move of the Old Schoolhouse to a new location. He also thanked the Commission for their support of the Schoolhouse project.

DPAC Chair Pruner provided an overview of the most recent DPAC meeting, including a presentation from (DCDCA) Stakeholder Engagement Committee member Jim Wallace on the November 13 kickoff meeting.

Chair Villegas asked for public comment and there was none.

7. Consider Approval of Delta Protection Commission Tribal Consultation Policy and Implementation

Commission Program Manager Melinda Dorin presented background information and an overview of the Commission's proposed Tribal Consultation policy. She stated that she had received no comments from tribal interests relating to substantive issues with the policy, and recommended adoption of the policy by the Commission with no recommended changes.

MOTION: It was moved by Commissioner Thomson and seconded by Commissioner Kott to adopt the Tribal Consultation Policy. In a voice vote, the motion passed unanimously with all 10 Commissioners present voting aye.

8. Delta National Heritage Area (NHA)

Commission Senior Environmental Planner Blake Roberts and Executive Director Vink presented background information on the National Heritage Area (NHA) and plans to prepare a Management Plan for the Delta NHA, required within three years of the NHA designation or the Delta NHA becomes ineligible for further National Park Service's heritage funding until completed.

Dr. Roberts reviewed the Commission's release of a request for proposals to prepare components of the required management plan and stated that Commission staff recommends the Commission award the contract to Point Heritage Development Consulting, in an amount not to exceed \$150,000.

Commissioner Nottoli commented on the east-coast focus of Point Heritage Development Consulting staff, whether their bid included significant travel expenses, and their understanding of the Delta. Executive Vink clarified that the proposed budget only includes several trips to California, that most of the work is expected to occur remotely, and further noted the firm's deep involvement with NHAs nationwide and that their hourly rate is significantly less than the California-based firms that had submitted proposals. Chair Villegas requested a timeline of deliverables in order to track that we are incrementally reaching goals. Vink noted the intention was to complete the work under the contract within a one-year time frame.

MOTION: It was moved by Commissioner Nottoli and seconded by Commissioner Bugsch to authorize Executive Director Vink to execute a professional services contract with Point Heritage Development Consulting in an amount not to exceed \$150,000. In a voice vote, the motion passed unanimously with all 10 Commissioners present voting aye.

Chair Villegas noted that the appointment of a Commission Subcommittee to work on the NHA Management Plan will be considered at the January 16, 2020 Commission meeting.

9. Closed Session

Chair Villegas called for a break in the meeting to precede the Commission going into closed session for Item 10 (Executive Director performance review). The meeting went into closed session at 6:42 p.m. and was reconvened in open session at 7:30 pm with nothing to report from the closed session.

10. Adjourn

Chair Villegas adjourned the meeting at 7:30 p.m.