



**SUMMARY MINUTES**  
**Delta Protection Commission Meeting**  
**Thursday, January 21, 2021**

Meeting conducted via Zoom and telephone as authorized by Governor's Executive Orders [N-29-20](#) and [N-33-20 during the COVID-19 emergency](#)

**ADMINISTRATIVE AGENDA**

**1. Call to order**

Chair Nottoli called the meeting to order at 4:02 p.m. and led the meeting participants in a flag salute.

**2. Welcome and roll call**

Commission Clerk Sis Hendrix called the roll. Present at roll call: Chair Nottoli, Vice-Chair Winn, Commissioners Burgis, Vasquez, Villegas, Fuller, Nakanishi, Paroli, Slater (for van Loben Sels), Bugsch, Agar (for Kim), Lester-Moffitt (for Ross), and Vogel (for Crowfoot). Commissioner Mussi was absent with no alternate present, and the Commission seat representing cities in Sacramento and Yolo counties is vacant.

Chair Nottoli acknowledged Commissioner Villegas' service as Commission Chair in 2019-2020, and also thanked Commissioners Cabaldon, Sandeen, and Krieg for their service as Commission members. He welcomed new Commission members John Vasquez and George Fuller, representing Solano County Board of Supervisors and cities in Contra Costa and Solano counties (Oakley City Council), respectively.

**3. Public comment- Opportunity for the public to address the Commission regarding items not on the agenda**

There was no public comment.

**4. Commissioner comments/announcements**

Commissioner Agar indicated that he would provide an updated map showing Caltrans transportation and construction projects throughout the Delta region for distribution to Commission members.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

**5. Approval of November 19, 2020 Minutes**

**MOTION:** It was moved by Commissioner Villegas and seconded by Commissioner Burgis to approve the November 19, 2020 minutes. In a roll call vote, the motion passed 13-0-0 with all Commission members present at roll call voting aye.

## **REGULAR AGENDA**

### **6. Receive Executive Director report**

Executive Director Vink welcomed Andrew Vogel as Commission Counsel, stepping in at this meeting for interim Commission Counsel Nicole Rinke; provided an update on DWR's Delta Conveyance Project, including a description of the proposed Community Benefit Program and mentioning the Commission's participation in the Corps' Section 106 consultation under the National Historic Preservation Act; reported on the ongoing discussions with DWR leaders to discuss the involvement of Delta levee interests in DWR's allocation of Proposition 1 Delta levee funding, and also mentioned that DWR's FY 2021-22 budget as proposed by the Governor includes nearly \$80 million for DWR levee and flood emergency response programs; mentioned the first meeting of the Delta National Heritage Area Management Plan Advisory Committee on January 5; provided an update on ongoing efforts related to broadband access in the Delta; described a pause in the Delta Leadership Program in 2021 but a focus on working with alumni of the program, including a series of online seminars focusing on personal strategic planning; described the Commission's FY 2021-22 budget as proposed by the Governor, including a 5% reduction in operating expenses (a reduction totaling \$34,000) but otherwise stable funding, and a one-time augmentation for contracted fiscal and human resource service costs to be provided by the Department of General Services (DGS) beginning July 1, 2021; and referenced the written report for updates on Commission land use letters, website and social media metrics, and other staff activities.

Chair Nottoli asked for public comment and there was none.

### **7. Receive Delta Protection Advisory Committee report**

DPAC Chair Mark Pruner provided an update on the January 6 DPAC meeting, where the Committee elected Mark Pruner as Chair and Barbara Daly as Vice-Chair for 2021, received a report on the recent meeting of the DCA Stakeholder Engagement Committee (SEC) and discussed the proposed Community Benefits Program, received a report and discussed the vulnerability assessment for the Delta Stewardship Council's Delta Adapts project, received an update on Commission staff activities, and discussed its meeting calendar for 2021.

Chair Nottoli asked for public comment and there was none.

### **8. Consider approval of Delta Protection Commission 2020 Annual Report**

Executive Director Vink introduced the item by describing the statutory requirement for the Commission to report annually to the Governor and Legislature, and highlighted some of the Commission accomplishments in 2020, including activities related to Delta Conveyance Project (monitoring DCA and SEC meetings, commenting on the state and federal environmental scoping documents), the completion of the Economic Sustainability Plan-Agricultural Chapter update (including a State of Delta Agriculture report documenting nearly \$1 billion in 2016 farmgate value), and advancing the Delta National Heritage Area management plan efforts and the Great California Delta Trail master planning efforts.

Chair Nottoli asked for public comment and there was none.

**MOTION:** It was moved by Commissioner Villegas and seconded by Commissioner Vogel to approve the 2020 Commission Annual Report. In a roll call vote, the motion passed 13-0-0 with all Commission members present at roll call voting aye.

**9. Receive report on Delta Stewardship Council activities and Delta Adapts (DSC climate adaptation project)**

Chair Nottoli introduced Delta Stewardship Council (DSC) Chair Susan Tatayon, who provided an update on the Council's general activities. DSC Chair Tatayon then introduced DSC Assistant Planning Director Harriet Ross, who provided an overview of the Council's Delta Adapts project, focusing on climate change and sea level rise impacts in the Delta region. Assistant Director Ross presented the results of the draft vulnerability assessment, indicating how impacts of a changing climate (changes in temperatures, precipitation, and snowfall patterns; sea level rise; air quality impacts from heightened wildlife risk) would be experienced throughout the Delta region.

Commission members asked questions and provided comment. Commissioner Agar asked about DSC coordination with Caltrans climate change studies, Commissioner Vasquez asked about DSC coordination with Bay Conservation and Development Commission climate change efforts and about a proposed funding plan to implement, Commissioner Villegas asked how the information in the report will be used, and Chair Nottoli stated that the report needs broad dissemination.

Chair Nottoli asked for public comment. Gilbert Cosio of MBK Engineers expressed his appreciation for the DSC effort and described his involvement with the technical advisory committee for the project. Paul Seger of Diablo Water District referenced the Adapting to Rising Tides effort from BCDC.

**10. Receive report on Economic Sustainability Plan-Recreation and Tourism Chapter update and consider recommendations**

Program Manager Virginia Gardiner provided an update on the Economic Sustainability Plan - Recreation and Tourism Chapter update, including a recommendation for the Commission to serve as a facilitating entity to convene state and local agencies along with Delta recreation stakeholders. Executive Director Vink highlighted a concern over what Commission activities might be set aside to focus on this effort. Commissioners Burgis and Villegas expressed support for the Commission to take the lead as a facilitating entity.

Chair Nottoli asked for public comment and there was none.

## **11. Receive report on review of Vision 2030 (Commission strategic plan)**

Executive Director Vink provided background on Vision 2030, the Commission strategic plan adopted in May 2015. Commission staff have initiated a review of Vision 2030, including a discussion with DPAC at its November 2020 meeting. Commission staff believe Vision 2030 could be updated to both reflect changed circumstances since 2015 and also to reflect strategic challenges that have since become apparent. He discussed with the Commission a proposed review process involving additional staff and DPAC review before bringing proposed revisions to the Commission for review prior to seeking formal public comments from interested parties.

Chair Nottoli asked for public comment and there was none.

## **12. Adjourn**

Chair Nottoli adjourned the meeting at 6:05 pm. The next Commission meeting will be March 18, 2021.