

**MINUTES**  
**BOATING AND WATERWAYS COMMISSION MEETING**  
**COLUSA, CALIFORNIA**  
**FEBRUARY 24, 2016**

Pursuant to due and regular notice, the meeting of the Boating and Waterways Commission was called to order by Chairman Livingston on February 24, 2016 at 9:00 a.m. at the City of Colusa, City Hall Chamber Office 425 Webster Street, Colusa, California 95932.

**INTRODUCTION OF COMMISSIONERS AND STAFF**

A quorum of Commissioners were present: David Livingston, Chair; Frank Peralta, Commissioner; Doug Metz, Commissioner; Randy Short, Commissioner; Cecily Harris, Commissioner; Katherine Pettibone, Commissioner. State of California, Department of Parks and Recreation (State Parks) staff present was Lynn Sadler, Deputy Director, Division of Boating and Waterways (DBW); Kathryn Tobias, Legal Counsel; other DBW staff and registered visitors. Virginia Madueno, Vice Chair, arrived at 9:15 a.m.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Commissioner Short mentioned from the November 18, 2015 minutes on page 1 under the “Commissioner Activities Update” a minor correction in the word CMAT. The correction is C-M-A-N-C, California Marine Affairs and Navigation Conference which refers to an organization of major ports throughout California. Please move forward to approve minutes.

*MOTION: It was moved by Commissioner Short and seconded by Commissioner Metz that the Boating and Waterways Commission Minutes of November 18, 2015 meeting be approved. The motion carried unanimously.*

**CHAIRMAN’S REPORT**

Chairman Livingston offered no report.

**COMMISSIONERS’ ACTIVITIES UPDATE**

Commissioner Metz expressed concerns regarding the utilization of some Boating Instruction Safety Centers (BISCs), of which there are approximately 40 in the State. Each is run by a different nonprofit or governmental entity. Each receives some support from the Division of Boating and Waterways (DBW). The concern is about the oversight of BISCs generally.

Commissioner Metz requested a staff report as an agenda item at a future meeting --delineating the programs, the participation in each of the programs, demographics of the participants, the costs for participation, and other defining information. Especially requested was identification of services to under-utilized populations in the immediate geographic area, DBW's funding for each BISC, and the management of each BISC and any future plans. Additionally, Commissioner Metz requested a description of the DBW oversight functions over all the BISCs with a list of reports DBW receives.

### **ELECTION OF OFFICERS 2016:**

Chairman Livingston opened nominations for Vice Chair.

*MOTION: It was moved by Commissioner Peralta and seconded by Commissioner Metz to approve the Randy Short as Vice Chair. Motion passed 7-0.*

Chairman Livingston opened nominations for Chair.

*MOTION: It was moved by Commissioner Peralta and seconded by Commissioner Metz to approve David Livingston as Chair. Motion passed 7-0.*

### **DEPUTY DIRECTOR'S REPORT – DIVISION ACTIVITIES UPDATE**

Deputy Director Lynn Sadler gave a brief update of Boating and Waterways Division activities.

In December 2015, Boating and Waterways managers attended the Transformation Leadership Meeting in Asilomar.

Boating Facilities Development and Financing Unit staff recently toured Richardson Bay to view the status of mobile pump out activities. Commissioner Madueno and staff also met with the City of Modesto to view non-motorized boat launching facilities. Staff also toured Lake Oroville with folks from the Department of Water Resources regarding potential boating improvement projects.

Staff continues to work through the third of three phases in response to the Office of the Inspector General's audit of the Federal 2009 Clean Vessel Act Grant.

California State University of Sacramento is working on questionnaires Boating Needs Assessment and requests the Commissioners' input on that as they complete the first draft. The Commissioners recommended to hosting a workshop adjacent to a Commission Meeting regarding the Boating Needs Assessment.

The Yacht and Ship Licensing Section of Boating Operations Unit is currently going through the rule-making process to set fees for implementing that program. They are also evaluating the need to update the current data system.

Law Enforcement Training is in full swing; 20 classes remain in this calendar year. The Equipment Grant applications are due the end of April. The budget is \$1.2 million.

The Vessel Operator Card Program is launched and the first Technical Advisory Group meeting is March 3. Corrina Dugger is the new manager over the Vessel Operator Card Program.

Education Outreach has awarded the Aquatic Center grants. 42 agencies will receive a total \$1 million. The \$2 million multimedia campaign contract has been awarded to the Glass Agency. Accident statistics for 2015 will be released in May.

The Division has been transitioning programs to the online grant application system, affectionately known as OLGA. This is the same system that the OHV Division uses. The programs now utilizing that tool are Law Enforcement Equipment, Abandoned Watercraft, Vessel Turn In Program, Aquatic Centers and the Quagga Zebra Mussel Prevention Program.

The Aquatic Invasive Species Unit is modernizing as well. The focus is now on looking at nursery sites using aerial photography, hydro-acoustic mapping, and other means of generally just fighting smarter. This will be aided by eight new field technicians and three scientists, including the only toxicologist in the State Park system. The Unit also has four new boats and trucks to help get the staff out in the field and working. We are gearing up for preparation of a ten-year biological opinion that will allow more seamless operation over time.

In 2015 the Division treated more than 4,445 acres of water hyacinth. That's 900 more than the previous year and the most in 25 years. Based on aerial photos that were shot in October, there's been about a 50 percent reduction in water hyacinth coverage in the eastern and southern parts of the Delta since last July.

The federal government has been working closely with the Unit. The public notice for this year's treatments are being sent out. The next treatment season is getting underway.

The Unit treated 23 sites for more than 1,500 acres of Egeria Densa. In addition, the Quagga grant cycle continues. Round 1 awards and Round 2 applications are due out next month. And each round of that grant cycle is about \$2.5 million.

## **DIRECTOR'S REPORT - PROPOSED GOVERNOR'S BUDGET**

The latest Governor's budget calls for repayment of the full 51 million that was loaned out in 2009, '11 and '12. The Harbors and Watercraft fund balance is at approximately 102 million, which is an increase of about 8 million over last year. The local assistance, Abandoned Watercraft Abatement Fund, and State Operations budgets are about the same as last year.

## **CALIFORNIA STATE PARKS TRANSFORMATION UPDATE**

Steven Szalay who is heading up the Transformation effort for California State Parks, briefed the Commission.

There is a 15 member team, with 2 non-employees and 13 employees from all over the State Parks system. Steve McCormack and Steven Szalay are the two non-parks employees. Steve McCormack has a great background in philanthropy and foundation work and partnerships and relevancy work. Mr. Szalay's expertise is in organizational development.

The team began officially in February 2015 to develop the Transformation Action Plan, and begin to affect changes, over the course of two years. The hope is for an emphasis in the Department on continuous change and the organizational structure will include an innovations unit.

The plan has four strategic goals:

- Develop Excellent Management systems
- Organizational structure
- Service-Based Budget
- Hiring practices

The focus is to maintain high quality operations and public service, create meaningful connections and increase relevancy to people. The service-based budgeting is included in that and results will be compiled in May and then be used to inform the 2017-2018 budget.

## **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

No Public comment.

## **ADVICE AND COMMENT REGARDING PUBLIC GRANTS**

Joe Dux, Project Manager, Boating and Facilities Development and Financing Unit, gave a brief presentation regarding the City of Colusa's request for a \$2.9 million Planning and Construction Grant for the City of Colusa's boat launching facility. Also in attendance from the City of Colusa were:

- Brian Stice, Senior Planner, City of Colusa
- Brad Porter, Engineer, Moffatt & Nichol

The city currently does not have a long-term State Lands Commission lease. DBW recommends the city, at its expense, must acquire a State Lands Commission Lease of no less than 20 years for the construction completion prior to the execution of the Grant Agreement.

*MOTION: It was moved by Commissioner Metz, seconded by Commissioner Short to approve the proposed \$2.9 million Harbors and Watercraft Revolving Fund design and construction grant to the City of Colusa for the Colusa Boat Launching Facility improvements described in the February 24th, 2016, Feasibility Report. The motion passed unanimously.*

## **RECEIVE PUBLIC COMMENTS REGARDING DIVISION PROGRAMS**

Ms. Susan Sykes presented the following programs and the power point is attached to these minutes.

Abandoned Watercraft Abatement Program  
Abandoned Watercraft Abatement Fund Grants  
Vessel Turn-In Program  
Vessel Turn-In Grants  
Boating Safety and Enforcement Programs  
Enforcement Financial Aid Program  
Enforcement Equipment Grant

## **DETERMINATION OF FUTURE MEETING DATES AND LOCATIONS**

Chairman Livingston, Vice Chair, Commissioners, and Lynn Sadler, Deputy Director agreed to arrange future meeting dates and the new meeting schedule for August and November 2016 will be on the May agenda.

May 10 & 11, 2016 in San Francisco, California

August 2016 - TBD

## **SUGGESTED AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING**

None.

Meeting Adjourned at 10:53 a.m.