

**Piedras Blancas Light Station Association
Minutes from Board Meeting
Rabobank Conference Room - Cambria, CA
June 24, 2015**

Board Members in attendance: David Cooper (Chair), Tim Postiff (Vice Chair), Harry Thorpe (Treasurer), Jackie Howland (Secretary), Jim Harris.

Board Members absent: None

Others present: Ryan Cooper (BLM), Holly Gant (PBLSA), Abel Martinez

David Cooper called the meeting to order at 6:02 pm.

Announcements: None

Approval of the Agenda: M/S/P May 27, 2015, approved. Late additions of new business may be tabled to the next meeting.

Reports:

1. Secretary Report – Holly Gant previously emailed a copy of the minutes of May 27, 2015 for review. *M/S/P Minutes of May 27, 2015 approved.*
2. Financial Status and Treasurer's Report – Shoreline Engineering invoices were reviewed by Jim Harris and clarified before payment. Harry met with the accounting firm: as of July 1 we will comply with new state sick leave law. Every 30 hours worked, employees will accrue 1 hour sick leave.
3. Gift Shop Report – We're continuing the trend of increasing profit every year. Possibility of using a bar code scanner to expedite sales. Holly will research scanners and make a recommendation at the next meeting.
4. BLM Update – CHP redesigned tower and moved 2 antennas into bottom tank and all but 2 to north side of tower. Archaeologist thinks she won't have to go back to SHPO with the changes. FSB- 3-4 month timeframe during construction and FSB will be off limits. After anchor bolt test, Bruce will give us estimate of construction costs. David stressed that the board wants to expedite the process and keep project moving forward, but doesn't want to vet bids. Volunteer Summit 7/9 @ 1 pm- Sack lunch with volunteers to brainstorm ideas for light station. Email will come from Ryan inviting volunteers. Water- up the highway the geologist thinks the water will be better where a fault line could be holding back the water from the mountains. Another test well will be needed there. Funding is already available for it. Jim asked about the bus idea that we talked about in the past; not a priority with other projects now, but pilot project may be next summer. Ventana Wildlife Society will have an office in Unit C beginning in August when the condors are released above the Castle. The board wishes to support Ventana Wildlife Society.
5. Website Development – Offshore Theater installed the camera on Monday and it looks great. We are waiting for State Parks IT to get it live online. Should be online by July 3. Holly to make sure the images are approved by Ryan before it's live on our website.
6. PBLSA Events – Keeper's Cottage Tour made \$1322. Abel praised the volunteers and said it was a very enjoyable and informational experience. Jackie praised Carole for her outstanding efforts in coordinating the event among her tireless work with other projects at the light station.
7. Grants – Official word from USLHS we did not get the grant.
8. Membership – Holly to send out SASE to members asking for emails so they can receive updates and invitations as they come up. Tim has some swag ideas for our next renewal

letter. Tour vouchers have been successful for renewals.

9. Tower Update – See attached.

Old Business:

1. National Monument- Supportive air at event on June 5. 67 support resolutions so far. Domain name purchased and website with petition form should be live in a week. On agenda with County Board of Supervisors.

New Business:

1. The Beacon- the board does not wish to change the beacon. Board is very satisfied with the product and appreciative of her hard work, but would like to improve communication between the board and Carole on editing, collaboration and co-ownership of the newsletter.
2. PBLSA/BLM Brochure- tabled until next meeting.

Discussion Items: None

David Cooper adjourned the meeting at 7:42 pm.

Attachment 1: Treasurer's Report

TREASURER'S REPORT for May 2015

1. OPERATIONS INCOME: Last Month: \$4,331.58 YTD: \$21,431.12

PROFIT: Last Month: \$358.75 YTD:** \$3,253.47

BLM SUPPORT EXPENSE: Last Month: \$1,723.25 YTD: \$16,056.32

BALANCES: H. O. Bank: \$34,554.30 ASAP: \$112,272.01

** J.B. Memorial Fund: \$2,150

3. INVESTMENT BALANCE – FIDELITY INVESTMENTS

<i>Month</i>	<i>Beg Bal</i>	<i>Market Chg</i>	<i>Div/Int</i>	<i>Deposit</i>	<i>W/D</i>	<i>Ending Bal</i>
May 2015	588,173.68	<443.32>	898.32	--	--	588,528.58
Apr 2015	586,450.98	718.92	896.19	107.59***	--	588,173.68
Mar 2015	585,658.32	<36.23>	828.89	--	--	586,450.98
				***Royalties		

4. OTHER:

- Proposed Board liaison role for FSB restoration.
- Audited May transactions – validated entries.
- Submitted request for on-line access to Rabobank.
- Reviewed Shoreline Engineering invoices and recommended revisions.

Attachment 2: Gift Shop Report

Net Sales

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun
2011	884	1,009	1,354	2,517	1,435	2,216
2012	862	922	1,497	1,812	1,366	2,121
2013	1,848	1,270	1,931	2,849	2,208	3,407
2014	1,853	3,263	3,072	2,447	2,186	2,697
2015	2,873	2,278	2,512	2,604	2,783	

	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
2011	3,481	2,973	1,733	1,445	1,158	1,837
2012	3,718	3,725	1,951	2,653	1,207	1,344
2013	4,351	4,121	2,314	2,048	1,872	1,965
2014	3,838	4,283	3,045	2,528	1,412	1,635
2015						

	TOTAL	Subtotal Thru June
2011	\$ 22,042	\$ 9,415
2012	\$ 23,178	\$ 8,580
2013	\$ 30,184	\$ 13,513
2014	\$ 32,259	\$ 15,518
2015		

Attachment 3: BLM Update

BLM Update 6/24/2015

Communication Tower:

Engineering modifications are being done by CHP engineers and I hope to have an update at the meeting.

Fog Signal Bldg (FSB):

We are meeting with Shoreline and have a report at the meeting

Special Event:

We are in 6 day a week tours.

July 9th - Piedras Blancas Volunteer Summit

August 8th - National Lighthouse day

Educational Outreach:

We received all of the outreach back and all schools will be coming back. Carole has stepped down from coordinating. Estimated cost for next year is around \$7000 which is similar to last year.

Water System:

The water samples came back and nothing too exciting. Not as high in iron and manganese but still high. Also it is still pretty salty. I am talking to State Parks about drilling a well closer to the road.

Entry Gate:

This project is at the top of our list. Jodie is completing the environmental work and I am working on the specs.

Web Camera:

By the meeting the camera should be installed and it should be up and running by the end of the month.

Lower Parking Lot

We are looking into renovations when we remove the old tower and com building.

Whale Counters

They are gone. They had a good year; 400+ cow/calf pairs. They used amazing UAS technology to get information they have not been able to get before.

Condor Project

Ventana Wilderness Society has approached the Light Station and State Parks to join with them on the release of condors in the mountains behind the Castle. We are going to be the office and periodic bunk for the Condor team for the next few years.

Attachment 4: Tower Project

Summary of tower top project
6/24/15 Jim Harris

Bruce Elster completed and submitted the work on the Fog Signal Building to the BLM. Bruce received a preliminary review of the submittal from the BLM and has responded to their comments. A meeting is to be held at Shoreline in Morro Bay Wednesday morning to review the submitted material with Ryan Cooper and interested (and available) PBLSA members. (I am not able to attend due to a previous commitment at Cal Poly.)

A summer internship from the Architectural Engineering Department at Cal Poly started work at Shoreline this month, and will devote all her time to the tower study project. Progress is being made on modeling the tower openings starting with the entrance door.

Dr. Cole McDaniel, a faculty member of the Architectural Engineering Department at Cal Poly who specializes in seismic analysis, and Bruce are planning to meet at Shoreline in Morro Bay in July. He is interested in the tower study, and with his instrumentation may be able to experimentally verify the Shoreline tower simulation model results.

Bruce submitted three invoices from Shoreline this month, one for the Fog Signal Building and two for the tower study.

Unfortunately, our letter of intent to the United States Light House Society preservation grants program was not successful, so we have to wait until next year if we wish to pursue this opportunity.

No action this past month to report on the coordination with Ryan Cooper for a response to the offer by the paint company for support of the repainting of the tower. Again, the concept is to merge the planning for the repainting of the tower so that it is incorporated into the results of the current tower study, and accomplished during the construction phase.

June 22, 2015

TO: PBLSA Board

FROM: David Cooper

RE: Piedras Blancas California National Monument Initiative UPDATE

The PB California National Monument Initiative work group updated the e-brochure we use to solicit resolutions of support from civic and service groups. We have contracted services to launch a web site with petition-signing capabilities. The web site will be active shortly.

New Business: BLM/PBLSA Brochure

Greetings,

It is time to consider whether you want to reprint the joint BLM/PBLSA brochure. Attached is a revision of the last one (one photo changed to include the water tower). The membership panel needs updating, but I wanted to find out from you first if this is something you want to continue. The first time this was printed, the cost was split between the BLM and the Association. I can't remember if it was split the second time, but could look it up if anyone is interested.

Thanks,

Carole

New Business: Beacon

Dear PBLSA Board members,

John Bogacki began the Beacon 2003 as a volunteer newsletter. It lapsed for a while until I resurrected it around 2006, as a volunteer newsletter. By 2007 the Association agreed to pay for it if issues could be sent to members, and of course there would be an Association update included. When the Board was re-formed, the new Board voted in favor of continuing the Beacon in the same manner. You can view all the old issues in a binder in the volunteer office. Just for amusement, attached find one of the old issues.

I get the feeling the present board would like to change the Beacon, both in content and format. Here are a few things to think about.

1. I would be happy to create one more issue, completing Volume 8, this calendar year. That would give you some time to consider what course you want to take. Or if you prefer to change immediately you could do so with the September-December issue.
2. Looking to Point Sur as an example, they do not do fundraising or membership drives in their newsletter. Those pursuits are handled through separate mailings.
3. You could start from scratch and create a totally different publication, one that would not be considered a "joint publication" but rather an Association newsletter. If you do that, I suggest coming up with a different name. You may want to go with an entirely electronic Association newsletter.

The next issue of the Beacon is with the printer and should be out soon.

Being involved with the Beacon has been very rewarding and I appreciate having had the experience.

Best wishes,

Carole