

**Piedras Blancas Light Station Association  
Minutes from Board Meeting  
Rabobank Conference Room - Cambria, CA  
April 22, 2015**

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

Board Members absent: David Cooper

Others present: Holly Gant (PBLSA), Jodie Nelson (BLM)

**Tim Postiff called the meeting to order at 6:02 pm.**

**Announcements:** None

**Approval of the Agenda:** Approved

**Reports:**

1. Secretary Report – Holly Gant previously emailed a copy of the minutes of March 25, 2015 for review. *M/S/P Minutes of March 25, 2015 approved.*
2. Financial Status and Treasurer's Report – An extension was filed with IRS to give Lynne Singer's office time to file taxes; they should be filed in May. *M/S/P Investment Policy approved.*
3. Gift Shop Report – Holly noted that there is currently \$1650 in Jim Boucher Memorial Fund and 187 bricks have been sold for \$19,000.
4. BLM Update – None.
5. Website Development – Holly stated that the webcam guidelines and objectives are complete. She is scheduling a meeting with Ryan and Offshore Theater to walk the area for camera placement. She developed a webpage for the camera and asked for comments/edits from the Board.
6. PBLSA Events – Keeper's Cottage tour will be Sunday, June 7<sup>th</sup>.
7. Grants –No word on Maritime Grant or USLHS grant.
8. Membership – 25 renewal letters were mailed out and 15 have renewed so far with 2 new memberships.

**Old Business:** None

**New Business:**

1. Tim gave a tour to the US District Attorney and she was very impressed and will be a good contact in the future.
2. The Board voted via email in favor of supporting the Antiquities Act.

**Discussion Items:** None

**Tim Postiff adjourned the meeting at 6:46 pm.**

## **TREASURER'S REPORT for March 2015**

**1. OPERATIONS INCOME:** Last Month: \$3,286.75 YTD: \$12,140.46

**PROFIT:** Last Month:\* <\$1046.79> YTD:\*\* \$1682.89

**BLM SUPPORT EXPENSE:** Last Month: \$12,334.57 YTD: \$12,785.75

**BALANCES:** H. O. Bank: \$11,114.91 ASAP: \$137,272.01

\* J.B. Memorial Event: \$400, Internet: \$180, Payroll vs. 2014: +\$300, Promo \$372

\*\* J.B. Memorial Fund: \$975

### **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>
<b>Mar 2015</b>	585,658.32	<36.23>	828.89	--	--	586,450.98
<b>Feb 2015</b>	576,993.02	7,999.26	786.04	--	--	585,658.32
<b>Jan 2015</b>	574,685.01	1,690.71	617.30	--	--	576,993.02

### **4. OTHER:**

- Held Investment Committee meeting with Fidelity – kept portfolio as is.
- Reviewed investment policy with Board. \*\* Postponed until April.
- Filled in for Holly with postings.
- Audited February transactions, made adjustments.
- Filed 4Q2014 sales tax return.
- Filed Statement of Information with state of CA.

## Appendix 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	2,309	2,278	2,512			

	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	\$ \$	\$ 9,415
2012	\$ \$	\$ 8,580
2013	\$ \$	\$ 13,513
2014	\$ \$32,259	\$ 15,518
2015		

## Appendix 3: Website Report

### **PBLS Webcam Objectives and Placement Guidelines**

#### 1. Goals and Objectives of Webcam

The primary purpose of a webcam at Piedras Blancas Light Station (PBLS) is to promote the light station as an educational, scientific, and recreational site. The principal goals of the webcam are to enhance public understanding, engage the public, and raise awareness about PBLS, including the historic, plant, wildlife, and maritime significance of the site.

Secondary purposes include increasing visitation and tour fees, gaining community support, keeping PBLS in the public eye, attracting volunteers, and boosting association memberships and donations.

#### 2. Guidelines for Placement of Webcam

Camera placement should be inconspicuous and offer a wide expanse of coastline with the lighthouse and support buildings in view. Visitors' faces should never be clearly identifiable, but it is okay if tour groups are seen from a distance. The camera must be easily and safely accessible for cleaning. The camera angle and movement should be adjustable remotely to allow for variable views and seasonal changes.

The landing page for the Webcam on the PBLS Website will include appropriate and themed text and graphics consistent with the goals of interpretation and public outreach: e.g., information about annual weather patterns, historic shipwrecks, volunteer activities, building restoration, and site-specific research. It will also have links to various scientific websites such as NOAA, National Weather Service, American Cetacean Society, and other resources that will enrich the viewer's understanding and experience of the coastline, marine life, flora and fauna, and Central Coast maritime history.

#### 3. Suggestions for Webcam Placement

- ✓ North peak of the Tank House roof
- ✓ West peak of Unit A
- ✓ North peak of Fog Signal Building
- ✓ Northwest corner of water tower railing

#### 4. Budget

The PBLSA has budgeted \$4,000 for purchase of camera, installation, infrastructure upgrades, and related expenses.

April 15, 2015

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## Live view from Piedras Blancas Light Station



### A beautiful, but treacherous coast



The British bark Harlech Castle sailed from San Francisco for Iquiqui, Peru, on July 16, 1869 with a cargo of barley. She experienced heavy weather most of the time until August 29th, when she struck a sunken rock off San Simeon, San Luis

Obispo County, and sunk the following morning. Vessel and cargo were a total loss. Two seamen were lost by swamping of a boat. Captain and survivors arrived at San Francisco on the 8th. (Humboldt Times 09-18-1869, Martin)

San Simeon, CA

59°

6:43 pm PDT

Cloudy



October 16, 1869 the steamer Sierra Nevada left San Francisco for San Luis Obispo. Monterey was left the next day in a thick fog, which lasted all thru the day. She was feeling her

way at 6.5 knots speed when at 10:30 PM she grounded with moderate force. While trying to back off, a heavy swell picked up the steamer, carried her farther over the rock and then dropped her with such force that the bottom was stove in and her boilers were lifted off their beds. Lifeboats were at once launched and occupied, remaining near the wreck until the fog lifted in the morning.

The Sierra Nevada was grounded about three-quarters of a mile off shore and three miles from San Simeon. The boats all rowed to San Simeon, where they landed. Both Sierra Nevada and her cargo were a total loss, being quickly reduced to kindling by the heavy surf. However there was no loss of life among her forty-two passengers and crew.

## Appendix 4: Tower Project Update

Summary of tower top project

4/22/15 Jim Harris

The letter of intent to the United States Light House Society preservation grants program for a proposal for a one year, \$10K grant to support the engineering design of the tower top by Shoreline was submitted by Holly Gant on March 31, 2015. No news yet but expect something after May 1 (assuming typo for notification stating around "April 1"). If accepted, then the proposal will be due June 15, 2015 with notification by August 31, 2015.

So far no response from the ad for a part-time internship at Shoreline placed on the website of the Architectural Engineering Department at Cal Poly.

Bruce Elster has been working on the Fog Signal Building as his priority for this past month, but has found time to initiate prototyping the integration of an opening model (windows and doors) into the tower model. The opening model merge will be more involved than first expected, but no expected problem in approach.

Bruce will contact Harry Thorpe by the end of this month about submitting an invoice on the work so far for the tower project.

*Fog Signal Building status:* Bruce is finishing the final calculations and design for the seismic retrofitting of the Fog Signal Building, and plans on completion by the end of this week. He will be getting in touch with Ryan Cooper to deliver the plans and to submit the final invoice for this work.