

**Piedras Blancas Light Station Association  
Board Meeting  
Rabobank Conference Room - Cambria, CA  
June 24, 2015  
6:00 – 7:30 pm**

**AGENDA**

**Call to Order and Announcements** (David Cooper)

**Approval of the Agenda** (David Cooper)

**Reports**

1. Secretary Report (Holly Gant - Minutes from May 27, 2015 meeting- see attachment 1, pg 2)
2. Financial Status and Treasurer's Report (Harry Thorpe – see attachment 2, pg 9)
3. Gift Shop Report (Holly Gant- see attachment 3, pg 10)
4. BLM Update (Ryan Cooper – see attachment 4, pg 11)
5. Website Development (Holly Gant)
6. PBLSA Events (Holly Gant)
7. Grants/Development (Holly Gant)
8. Membership (Tim Postiff)
9. Tower Project Update (Jim Harris – see attachment 5, pg 12)

**Old Business**

1. National Monument Initiative Update (David Cooper – see attachment 6, pg 13)

**New Business**

None

**Discussion Items**

None

**Adjourn** (David Cooper)

## **Attachment 1: Minutes**

### **Piedras Blancas Light Station Association Minutes from Board Meeting Rabobank Conference Room - Cambria, CA May 27, 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), Dave Bauer (FES Chair)

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

**Announcements:** Congratulations to Ryan Cooper for being appointed PBLS park manager. (see appendix 1)

**Approval of the Agenda:** Approved

#### **Reports:**

1. Secretary Report – Holly Gant previously emailed a copy of the minutes of April 22, 2015 for review. *M/S/P Minutes of April 22, 2015 approved.*
2. Financial Status and Treasurer's Report – Reminder that JB Memorial fund will be removed from profit at the end of the year (currently \$2,100). Tax filing extension is now August 15, 2015.
3. Gift Shop Report – New wooden ornament is a big success. New volunteers have been learning the Square system without problems.
4. BLM Update – Build shelter over front door of equipment building and build a box around cables coming out of building. State Parks is supplying busses for 150 people to visit LH on June 5th. Possibly getting 2 interns for the summer to help with maintenance and tours. Looking into bundling a project that will bury power lines and fix phone lines in the future. CA Coastal Trail- State Parks has a part time project manager working with Doug Barker. They have a base map and are working in conjunction with the proposed campground at the old PB Motel. Unit D could use some renovations re: flooring and paint; possible future project.
5. Website Development – Camera approved! Thanks to Karl Schoettler who donated 6 months of webcam service. Holly to develop a checks and balances on camera for evaluation after one year; create baseline of visitors before camera and after.
6. PBLSA Events – Keeper's Cottage tour will be Sunday, June 7<sup>th</sup>.
7. Grants – no word on USLHS grant, maritime grant recipients had capital projects rather than a maintenance project like ours was. Holly and Jodie to compile a list of grants that we've applied for and what we may apply to in the future. Could use Michelle Roest to find grant money.
8. Membership – Renewals are improving with the new letter we're sending out.
9. Tower Update - Everything for FSB is ready, Bruce is assembling things to submit to BLM and then move to State Office for approval.

#### **Old Business:**

1. National Monument- Local planning group is garnering support from local organization.

#### **New Business:**

1. Board Project Managers (Harry Thorpe) - Jim's work with Bruce on the tower, Holly's work with the webcam, David's work with the water tower have kept these projects moving forward. Harry suggests a board liaison for current projects to keep the momentum going to completion. Jim suggested using Cal Poly construction engineering interns to work with Ryan on projects.
2. Port San Luis visit (Jackie Howland) – New ideas from the recent docent visit to Point San Luis: online reservation system for tours to help with logistics; repurpose the USCG barracks for fundraising events. Let's look to the future and technology to help logistics and improve the visitor experience.

**Discussion Items:** None

**David Cooper adjourned the meeting at 7:58 pm.**

## Appendix 1

May 27, 2015

Ryan Cooper  
Park Manager  
Piedras Blancas Light Station

Dear Ryan,

Congratulations on your appointment as permanent Park Manager of the Piedras Blancas Light Station!

The PBLSA Board of Directors pledges its continued support in assisting you and the Bureau of Land Management in fulfilling our shared mission of restoring, preserving, and interpreting the cultural and natural resources of the Piedras Blancas Light Station.

Sincerely,

David D. Cooper, Ph.D., Chair  
Tim Postiff, Vice Chair  
Harry Thorpe, Treasurer  
Jackie Howland, Secretary  
James Harris, Ph.D.

CC: Gabe Garcia

## TREASURER'S REPORT for April 2015

**1. OPERATIONS INCOME:**    Last Month: \$4,959.05    YTD: \$17,099.54

**PROFIT:**    Last Month:\* \$1,246.38    YTD:\*\* \$2,929.27

**BLM SUPPORT EXPENSE:**    Last Month: \$138.16    YTD: \$14,075.34

**BALANCES:**    H. O. Bank: \$35,929.07    ASAP: \$112,272.01

\* Concrete removal: \$750, Grant: \$690

\*\* J.B. Memorial Fund: \$1,900 (2015: \$1,233, 2014: \$667)

### 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>Apr 2015</b>	586,450.98	718.92	896.19	107.59***	--	588,173.68
<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
				*** Royalties		

### 4. OTHER:

- Spoke with accountant, filed extension on tax filing.
- Submitted FS270 to ASAP for tower engineering study, transferred funds.
- Submitted 1<sup>st</sup> quarter FS425 to BLM.
- Filed 1<sup>st</sup> quarter sales tax.
- Audited March transactions – validated entries.
- Submitted corporate officer registration to CA BOE.
- Initiated new signature cards at banks.

## Appendix 3: 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		

	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		

## Appendix 4: BLM Report

### **BLM Update 5/26/2015**

#### **Communication Tower:**

We held a meeting a few weeks ago and it went well. There is work being done to try to lessen the visual impact. I foresee equipment being moved late summer early fall.

#### **Fog Signal Bldg (FSB):**

No update on my end. Hopefully the board has more info.

#### **Special Event:**

June 5<sup>th</sup>, Open House / Sunset event.

June 7<sup>th</sup>, Keepers Cottage tour.

June 10<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the NLCS youth event.

June 15<sup>th</sup>, 6 day a week tours.

#### **Educational Outreach:**

Doing outreach for next year

#### **Sierra Club Service Trip:**

We have been contacted by the Sierra club again to plan a service trip again in the fall.

#### **Computer/Telephone System Upgrade:**

ATT switched the lines over. Looking at upgrading line from Hwy to Light Station

#### **Water System:**

We pumped the Terrace Well and have water at the lab now. We have also explored drilling a well on SP property closer to the Hwy. We are currently in the process of completing the ROW paperwork to get an official ROW for the entry road which will include the use of underground utilities.

#### **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:**

The Offshore Theater guys came out and made test videos which we should be able to view at the meeting or sooner.

#### **Lighthouse Manager Position:**

It's me!

#### **California Coastal Trail**

State Parks is taking the lead

#### **Lower Parking Lot**

Looking into renovations when we remove the old tower and com building.

#### **Whale Counters**

They are finishing up their season. They have offered up to fix the electrical near the platform if we can find an electrician.

## Appendix 5: Tower Project

Summary of tower top project  
5/27/15 Jim Harris

This past month Bruce Elster has been completing the work on the Fog Signal Building as his priority. He is assembling the entire set (calcs, test protocol, construction plans) for peer review submittal and plans to get it to Ryan Cooper by the end of this week.

A summer internship to work on the tower study has been arranged for a graduate of the Architectural Engineering Department at Cal Poly, and should start work at Shoreline after June 15. After that date, the priority will be the completion of the tower study.

I met this past month with Dr. Cole McDaniel, a faculty member of the Architectural Engineering Department at Cal Poly, who specializes in seismic analysis. He is interested in the tower study, and will meet with Bruce at Shoreline in Morro Bay in July. Cole has some exciting instrumentation that may be able to experimentally verify the Shoreline tower study - a lab test that can be performed at the tower in an afternoon.

Bruce plans to submit the two invoices by the end of this week or early next week, one for the Fog Signal Building and the other for the tower study.

There is still no news on the status of our letter of intent to the United States Light House Society preservation grants program. So, the assumption is that it was not successful. If we get word it is accepted in the near future, then the proposal will be due June 15, 2015, and we anticipate we still can be responsive.

Now that Ryan Cooper has been appointed as the new Park Manager, I will work with him on the coordination of the offer by the paint company for support of the repainting of the tower. The concept is to merge the planning for the repainting of the tower with the results of the current tower study.

## Appendix 6: National Monument Update

25 May 2015

TO: PBLSA Board of Directors

FROM: David Cooper, Chair

RE: California National Monument Initiative Update

On April 27, 2015 the California National Monument Initiative work group met with the National Monuments Campaign Director for The Wilderness Society. After discussing ways The Wilderness Society can assist our campaign for national monument status, we took him on a tour of the entire ONA.

On May 5, 2015 we coordinated a meeting about the initiative and hosted a tour of the ONA at the request of Greg Haas from Congresswoman's Capps San Luis Obispo office. In addition to Haas, attendees included a member of Congresswoman's Capps' Washington, D.C. office, Brooke Gutierrez (California State Parks), Ryan Cooper, Donovan Marley, and myself. We discussed legislative processes and communications best practices.

We have also been in contact with a member of Senator Boxer's field staff.

We continue to update and refine an informational e-brochure we use to solicit support. We currently have resolutions of support from 30 service and civic organizations.



## Attachment 2: 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

#### 5. 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>May 2015</b>	588,173.68	<443.32>	898.32	--	--	588,528.58
<b>Apr 2015</b>	586,450.98	718.92	896.19	107.59***	--	588,173.68
<b>Mar 2015</b>	585,658.32	<36.23>	828.89	--	--	586,450.98
				***Royalties		

#### 6. 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 3: Gift Shop Report

#### Net Sales

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun
2011	884	1,009	1,354	2,517	1,435	2,216
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	TOTAL	Subtotal Thru June
2011	\$ 22,042	\$ 9,415
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2013	\$ 30,184	\$ 13,513
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2015		

## **Attachment 4: 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 9<sup>th</sup> - Piedras Blancas Volunteer Summit

August 8<sup>th</sup> - 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 this and Tim, Able and BLM Staff will be coordinating it next year. 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 P arks 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 5: 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.

**Attachment 6: Monument Initiative**

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.