

**Piedras Blancas Light Station Association
Minutes from Board Meeting
Rabobank Conference Room - Cambria, CA
January 28, 2015**

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

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

David Cooper called the meeting to order at 6:03 pm.

Announcements: Jim Harris stepped down as secretary. He held the position since 2011 and was thanked for setting a high benchmark with precise minutes. Jim will remain on the board as the point person for the tower rehabilitation project where his engineering skills will be utilized. Jackie Howland has been appointed Secretary and Holly Gant is recording secretary. Jackie needs official wording for the bank signature card. David Cooper and Holly Gant are working together on Holly's updated job description/duty statement; it hasn't been reviewed since she was hired in 2011.

Approval of the Agenda: Agenda was approved.

Reports:

1. Secretary Report – Jim Harris previously emailed a copy of the minutes of December 3, 2014 for review. *M/S/P Minutes of December 3, 2014 approved.*
2. Financial Status and Treasurer's Report – Harry Thorpe presented an overview of the co-op agreement between PBLSA and BLM to eschew any confusion (see appendix 1 for Treasurer's report and visitor summary). Profit is overall including dividends, capital gains, all taxable income, not just gift shop revenue. Net profit is about \$7,000 year. Some equity from Fidelity accounts needs to be reported as capital gains and the yearly taxes will reflect that. BLM income is from the ASAP account (Automated Standard Application for Payments) and is currently \$11,250.50. Those funds are pending the tower and shuttle bus studies. \$8,000 has been used for school transportation costs already this year. Ryan said that \$137,000 has been approved to draw from for previously requested and approved projects. Harry and Ryan will meet to discuss ASAP accounts and projects. Harry is working on detailing these accounts so the funds are clearly marked. Harry stated that the cooperative agreement and BLM will give the association up to \$500,000 if funds are available. Harry will find out where the money is drawn from on the BLM side to fund our ASAP account. Harry will bring in an overview of all expenses and have a CPA recommendation at the February board meeting. David encouraged using a local CPA for taxes.
3. Gift Shop Report – Holly Gant presented a 2014 summary of gift shop sales (profit minus credit card fees, but not including cost of material) and comparison with every year since 2011 (see appendix 2). The board appreciated the yearly summary of item popularity and best sellers. Holly stated that online sales totaled \$1500 that included \$700 each for membership and bricks, and \$100 for GS items. As a side note, 175 bricks have been sold for a gross of \$17,823 dollars since January 2013. David asked Holly to write a short summary for The Beacon detailing where the gift shop money goes and mentioning the online gift shop.
4. BLM Update – Ryan Cooper presented the BLM report (see appendix 3). He noted that the water system is being tested and a major issue is dealing with the briny water from reverse osmosis. Without room for an evaporation pond there is a problem. The new well head by the cattle guard will be tested; water is sitting about 30 feet below the surface. Hauling water is not an option. Old fuel house could be rebuilt and used as a treatment plant. Jim Harris inquired about the wetland grant. That money is gone; due to permitting issues and the consensus that we would miss

- the required timeframe to complete the project. BLM will remove riprap and cap the well. CA Coastal Trail- David stated the Association would match funds for supplies to help with the project. Communication tower is being revisited to see if standoffs can be consolidated to reduce clutter on tower. Bus service- Jodie suggested we get a firm start date from Caltrans on when they will start highway realignment. That will impact tour operations at the motel. Shuttle bus may be cost prohibitive or only needed on Saturdays. Lis Covello will cater Jim's memorial and PBLSA will fund the food and refreshments. The entrance gate project will be announced via the formal invitations. John Bogacki is working on the gate design so it will accommodate large vehicles. Ryan is applying for the PBLS manager position.
5. Website Development – See Old Business below.
 6. PBLSA Events – Abel mentioned the possibility of Hearst Castle Theater hosting an event, possibly of a whale documentary feature. Abel will contact Lee Putnam. Holly mentioned the keeper's cottage has been renovated and is a possibility again. There is a whale/sunset tour March 14, 2015.
 7. Grants – Jackie will attend the Cambria Community Council meeting on February 3 and pick up the association's grant check. No one has heard a result about the maritime grant Michelle Roest and Jim Boucher submitted.
 8. Membership – Tim Postiff reiterated that sending accomplishment books to delinquent members was very beneficial and had a huge response (see appendix 4). He is looking for ideas for something eye catching to entice members this year. David suggested a color page, or addendum to the booklet.
 9. Tower Project Update – Jim Harris met with Bruce Elster of Shoreline Engineering and will meet again in early February (See appendix 5). Bruce will be at the February board meeting. Jim stated there are a lot of new materials to offset costs and he wonders how the 2007 plan came up with an estimate of \$8-9 million. Jim Harris is optimistic and thinks it's doable for much less, partly because the top levels would be built on the ground and then lifted on top as one piece. A replica cast iron top would weigh 400,000 pounds but a composite replica including stairs, landing, etc would weigh 8,000 pounds. Restoration needs to be defined- how much leeway is there and still make it a feasible project? David cited the importance of community support and of researching best practices for historic replication to make sure the SHPO (State Historic Preservation Office) guidelines are met. SHPO has no objections to a replica in new materials. David requested the February meeting be devoted to the tower replica discussion and Bruce's plan.

Old Business

1. Boucher Memorial Follow-up – The *M/S/P approved electronically by the board that supports building the entrance gate (see appendix 6 for report)*. David emphasized that 6 community partners, 11 people, 46 email communications resulted in approving the memorial trail. David stated that this accomplishment sets precedence for the future and that PBLSA can be a collaborative partner with PBONA members and that the board is committed to working together on decisions in a cohesive manner. Abel praised the collaborative efforts and transparency of the group. Holly stated there is \$750 in the memorial account.
2. Webcam – David Cooper stated that the board respected questions/concerns and discussed them seriously (see appendix 7 for response for questions/concerns). The board supports webcam provided it is thoughtfully placed and is used as an outreach tool. The corresponding webpage should have educational content and it is the hope of the board that the camera will bring increased public benefits to PBLS. *M/S/P Motion to approve and fund (up to \$4,000) a pilot program for one year*. This would cover camera costs, placement, infrastructure, and operational costs. The board will revisit the camera in one year. Motion charges BLM park manager with placement based on guidelines with respect to prior concerns of educational outreach. Holly and David will work with Ryan and Jodie on operational guidelines and educational content of webpage.

New Business: None

Discussion Items: None

David Cooper adjourned the meeting at 8:07 pm.

Appendix 1: Financial Status and Treasurer's Report 1/28/15 Harry Thorpe

TREASURER'S REPORT for November 2014

1. OPERATIONS INCOME: Last Month: \$2,927.57 YTD: \$67,996.90

PROFIT:* Last Month: <\$1,190.65> YTD: \$28,699.73

BLM SUPPORT EXPENSE: Last Month: \$151.00 YTD: \$65,895.89

BALANCES: H. O. Bank: \$25,859.09 ASAP: \$137,000

* Profit includes \$726 from investment dividend, <\$2,415> annual insurance payment and <\$1,000> into December.

YTD Profit includes \$22,100 from investment dividend/income.

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>
Nov 2014	577,906.75	1,253.25	718.54	--	--	579,878.54
Oct 2014	574,924.33	2,151.21	839.22	--	<8.01>	577,906.75
Sept 2014	582,077.56	<8,052.02>	898.79	--	--	574,924.33

4. OTHER:

- Worked with Fred Apitz to analyze/correct Fidelity Investment download recon.
- Completed Fidelity Investment secondary trades, reducing cash position.
- Worked with Holly to create month-end checklist.
- Performed detailed audit of Sept/Oct financial statements.
- Renewed insurance for general liability, D&O and property coverage – briefly reviewed policies.

TREASURER'S REPORT for December 2014

1. OPERATIONS INCOME: Last Month: \$10,512.01 YTD: \$78,508.91

PROFIT:* Last Month: \$7,180.26 YTD: \$35,879.99

BLM SUPPORT EXPENSE: Last Month: \$87.30 YTD: \$66,107.05

BALANCES: H. O. Bank: \$25,396.72 ASAP: \$137,272.01

* Profit includes \$7,369.40 from investment dividend/gains and @<\$500> PI adjustment.

YTD Profit includes \$18,702.18 from investment dividend and \$10,803.39 from investment gain.

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>
Dec 2014	579,878.54	<8,125.32>	2931.79	--	--	574,685.01
Nov 2014	577,906.75	1,253.25	718.54	--	--	579,878.54
Oct 2014	574,924.33	2,151.21	839.22	--	<8.01>	577,906.75

6. OTHER:

- Assisted David in establishing memorial fund for Jim Boucher.
- Worked with Holly to review accounting entries required for memorial fund.
- Developed basic overview of ASAP funding process for Board review.
- Contacted tax accounting firm to review yearend process and discuss audit potential.
- Discussed/planned January physical inventory.

BLM COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT

Term: September 2011 – September 2016
Amount: Up to \$500,000 (PBLSA matching) based on availability of funds
Funds: Submitted through ASAP, Total Fed obligation of \$279,406
Balance \$137,272

PROCESS

- PBLSA/BLM define/agree upon the scope and funding of a project.
- PBLSA with BLM assistance submits SF424, SF424A defining project.
- Contracting/Grant officer (CGO)* approves request and forwards “Grant and Cooperative Agreement” to PBLSA showing amount approved and releases funds into ASAP funding system.
- When project is initiated, PBLSA submits SF270 “Request for Advance or Reimbursement” to CGO to authorize fund disbursement.
- PBLSA accesses ASAP and transfers funds to HO Bank, pays/reimburses PBLSA account.
- PBLSA creates quarterly report SF425 and forwards to CGO.

* Currently Leona Parker

Visitor Tour Data provided by Carole Adams

Visitor Income by Month

2014 Visitor Income by Month				
Month	Number of Adults	Number of Youth	Total Visitors	Income Received
January	467	194	661	\$4,605
February	515	58	573	\$5,100
March	523	173	696	\$5,230
April	497	166	663	\$4,700
May	389	43	432	\$3,860
June	579	79	658	\$5,135
July	917	261	1178	\$9,670
August	789	196	985	\$7,760
September	524	77	601	\$8,490
October	521	116	637	\$5,330
November	439	223	662	\$4,180
December	340	64	404	\$3,385
Total	6500	1650	8150	67445

PBLS Tour Summary

Totals for year	Number of Adults	Number of Youth	Total Visitors	Income Received
2008	3718	398	4116	
2009	4069	955	5004	\$31,515
2010	4056	1042	5098	\$34,026
2011	4772	1278	6053	\$43,125
2012	5261	2065	7326	\$57,994
2013	5905	1821	7726	\$61,600
2014	6500	1650	8150	67445

Appendix 2: Gift Shop Report Holly Gant

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

	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

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

Gift Shop Item Popularity 2014

BLANKET	3
BOOKS	
ABBIE, KEEP THE LIGHTS BURNING	22
COOKBOOK, DINNER AT THE LH	11
ELEPHANT SEALS	12
HISTORY PT. PB	75
MY SUMMER AT THE LH	4
BOOKLET, ACCOMPLISH	6
BOOKLET, HISTORY OF PB	34
CARDS	
BOOKMARKS	117
ARCHITECTURAL CARD	21
JUDY LYON CARD	128
PHOTO/FLORAL CARD	30
SET OF 6 JUDY LYON	12
COASTERS	4
FLEECE JACKET	21
FLEECE VEST	20
CAPS	
BLUE	41
TAN	16
JUDY LYON PRINTS	56
MAGNETS	
LOGO	92
PHOTO	230
LIGHTHOUSE MAP	101
MARK ARNOLD POSTER	65
MUGS	107
PASSPORT	107
PATCH	51

PIN	90
POSTCARD	614
PRISM	9
PUPPETS	
BABY OTTER	10
DOLPHIN	5
HARBOR SEAL	11
SEA OTTER	6
PUZZLE	48
SHOT GLASSES	87
STUFFED ANIMALS	
ESEAL	51
HARBOR SEAL	98
OTTER	52
SEA LION	54
SWEATSHIRTS	
NAVY	14
STONE BLUE	15
T-SHIRTS	
STONE BLUE LS ADULT	48
STONE BLUE SS ADULT	75
BLACK SS ADULT	3
STONE SS YOUTH	36
GRAY LS ADULT	51
NAVY SS ADULT	30
RED SS ADULT	11
SEPIA LS ADULT	29
TILE	25
WHISTLE	101
WATER	103

Appendix 3: BLM Update Ryan Cooper

BLM Update 1/28/15

Communication Tower:

The transfer of the equipment from the old tower to the new tower is getting closer. The Bakersfield radio guy is going to be out here on Jan 28th to look and see what else needs to be done. Our realty folks have been working on the leases for the users.

Fog Signal Bldg (FSB):

Hopefully we are getting a report from Shoreline Engineering at the PBLSA meeting. BLM has requested funding but we will have to wait and see if it is approved.

Special Event:

Birthday celebration tour Feb 14, 2015

Educational Outreach:

Vineyard Elementary came out with 4 classes and Monarch Grove Elementary will have approx. 60 students out on the 28th.

Bus Service:

There has been little discussion about the bus service. If this is something we want to try we need to discuss the details.

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:

State Parks is a little behind schedule with their IT upgrade work. They are still planning on being out here soon to complete the updates.

Jim's Memorial Service:

There is going to be a gathering at the lighthouse on March 8th to celebrate Jim's life.

Water System:

BLM has been funded to develop a water system on the lighthouse property. The process has begun and we are awaiting water test results from the Sea Well.

Entry Gate:

BLM will be replicating the entrance gate near the cattle guard. We are in the planning stages and should have much more to report at the next PBLSA meeting.

Web Camera:

There has been much discussion in the past few weeks about the web camera. BLM has web cameras in other offices and has no policy against such cameras. There still needs to be some discussion on where the camera would be located if the PBLSA decides they want to pursue placing a web camera.

Lighthouse Manager Position:

BLM will be advertising the position for the Lighthouse Manager in February. The plan is to have the permanent manager in place by the end of March.

Appendix 4: Membership Report Tim Postiff and Holly Gant

2013-2014 Membership Revenue

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun
2013	\$535	\$680	\$500	\$400	\$750	\$400
2014	\$1,050	\$400	\$600	\$400	\$400	\$250

	Jul	Aug *	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
2013	\$100	\$200	\$150	\$500	\$500	\$300
2014	\$200	\$2,050	0	\$250	\$450	\$725

	Total Revenue	Total Members	New Members
2013	\$5,015	71	12
2014	\$6,775	72	6

- 51 members received a total of 83 passes with their memberships or renewals.
- *Accomplishment booklets were sent out beginning in July 2014 to any outstanding members since January 2014.

Appendix 5: Tower Project Update Jim Harris

Replica Tower Top Project Summary 1/28/15 Jim Harris

In Fall 2012 Jeff Emrick, CEO of Garing, Taylor and Associates of Arroyo Grande, on the recommendation of Paul Neel, the retired Dean of the College of Architecture and Environmental Design, was contacted by the PBLSA to pursue the concept of replacing the top of the Piedras Blancas Light Station Tower with a replica top. The replica top concept is to use modern, lightweight materials for constructing the top missing three levels of the tower, an approach that is not strictly a restoration but would still provide all the functional and architectural features of a restored top. The three stories (about 30 feet in height) would be constructed on the ground and then lifted and connected to the existing bottom of the tower. The top was removed after damage from an earthquake in 1948.

The BLM had a structural engineering study performed in 2007, which estimated that it would cost upwards of \$7-8M to restore the top. Initial thoughts in 2012 were that a replica top could be provided for around \$1M, and therefore would be a practical way to achieve the "restoration" of the light station to its era of historical significance (at least for the public visiting the light station). The goal for the replica tower top project is to determine the feasibility and cost of replacing the tower top with a replica.

Jim Boucher as BLM Park Manager ascertained that replacing the tower top with a replica was acceptable since it could satisfy State of California historical regulations for the PBLS. With this understanding, the PBLSA financed a site visit in December 2012 by Jeff Emrick and his staff to PBLS to meet with Jim Boucher to discuss the replica tower top concept. Jim Boucher gave Jeff a copy of the complete set of BLM's documentation of the tower site, including the 2007 tower structural evaluation and analysis documents. Over a year went by after the visit with little effort on the replica tower top project due to the fact that Jeff did not have the resources to devote to the project due to Garing & Taylor's other commitments. In March 2014 Jeff suggested that Steve Puglisi, an architect working in San Luis Obispo, be contacted to perform the study, as he and Steve had worked on many projects together in the past. Jeff gave Steve the set of documentation that he had been given by BLM. Accepting that suggestion, PBLSA met with Steve at his office, and also gave Steve a tour of the PBLS and tower. In response, Steve contacted Peabody RFTC Concealment (located in Corona) who had worked with him on other projects, regarding the construction of a replica tower top. Peabody in August 2012 presented Steve with a proposal to construct a complete replica top for \$222K. The tasks that remain to be performed are to perform a structural static and seismic analysis of the existing tower and to design the connection for the replica tower top from Peabody.

Because of previous structural engineering work performed at PBLS (Fog Signal Building and Water Tower), Shoreline Engineering of Morro Bay was contacted and responded in September 2014 with a proposal for evaluation of masonry lighthouse tower Piedras Blancas Light Station at a cost estimated to be \$22K. The PBLSA accepted the proposal (which is priced as a time and materials effort), and assigned Jim Harris to be the project liaison for Shoreline Engineering. The PBLSA directed that Shoreline Engineering prepare a project milestones document which can be used to develop a schedule and payment plan. This request was relayed to Shoreline Engineering in discussions begun in November 2014. Unfortunately a number of agreed upon deadlines for responding to this request has not resulted in a preliminary milestone document for the project, and currently Shoreline is not responding to any of PBLSA's inquiries.

Appendix 6: Boucher Memorial Subcommittee Report

January 13, 2015

TO: PBLSA Board of Directors
Harry Thorpe, Tim Postiff, Jackie Howland, Jim Harris

FROM: David Cooper, PBLSA Chair

RE: Jim Boucher Memorial Subcommittee Report

CC: Ryan Cooper, BLM Interim Park Manager
Jodie Nelson (BLM)
John Bogacki (BLM)

On December 3, 2014 the PBLSA passed a motion establishing the Jim Boucher Memorial Fund. The motion directed me to convene a subcommittee consisting of PBONA partners to solicit ideas and suggestions for a suitable memorial project.

The subcommittee I set up includes Nick Franco (CDPR), Donovan Marley (PBLSA, FES), Carole Adams (PBLSA), Tim Postiff (PBLSA, FES), Jodie Nelson (BLM), John Bogacki (BLM), Abel Martinez (PBLSA), and Michele Roest (San Simeon Tourist Alliance). In addition to PBLSA Board members, I copied the following individuals on all subcommittee correspondence: Jack Morehead (Chair Emeritus, PBLSA), John Skibinski (BLM), and Ryan Cooper (BLM).

Given scheduling difficulties and for the convenience of subcommittee members during the Holidays, I solicited suggestions for memorial ideas via email. I first contacted subcommittee members on December 15, 2014 and suggested a response deadline of January 9, 2015. I posted a follow-up reminder on January 5, 2015. I received 16 replies from 7 subcommittee members and 7 replies from individuals I copied.

Subcommittee members made numerous suggestions for memorial projects. They ranged from lighthouse restoration, dedication of the drinking water pond, and construction of a period windmill to publishing booklets for distribution among visiting students and using memorial fund resources to create scholarships for Cuesta and Cal Poly students. Two of the suggestions fell outside the subcommittee charge. One subcommittee member expressed criticism of the process established in the PBLSA motion.

Two memorial project ideas clearly emerged as the most viable options with equal support among subcommittee members: replication of a historic gate at the light station entrance and dedication of the California Coastal Trail segment through the PBONA.

Memorial Gate

Carole Adams nominated the memorial gate. "It would be most appropriate," she argued, "to use memorial funds in a way that is visible to people as being part of the light station. . . . Every time someone who has donated in Jim's memory passes through the gate they will remember they participated in completion of the project. The gate also acts as the bridge between the light station and state park land. Symbolically, and visibly, it seems like the most appropriate project to designate as a tribute. It stands alone and falls within the mission of the light station." Abel Martinez expressed strong support. Others also weighed in. "The entry gate," noted Tim Postiff, "will announce the light station in an attractive way

and is something that will be visible to light station volunteers and the public that contributes to the fund.”

Memorial Trail

Nick Franco nominated the naming of the Coastal Trail segment in Jim’s honor. Some of our PBONA partners favored the idea. “The trail,” Donovan Marley suggested, “is a function of public access while a gate may be seen by some as a device to deny access. Jim was passionate about extending the Coastal Trail through the PBONA.” I questioned the subcommittee about the issue of gate symbolism raised by Marley. Those who replied indicated no objection. Jodie Nelson shared information about the trail project that “may be relevant to [the subcommittee’s] decision.” Given delays in securing necessary compliance and permitting, Jodie predicted “it would be years before we can move forward with formal trail construction . . . One of Jim’s last meetings with Nick Franco of State parks,” Jodie continued, “led to state parks going forward with an informal delineation of the trail route. . . . They will complete the northern stretch in the near future. This informal delineation is as far as trail construction will go for the time being.”

It should be noted that the memorial fund will likely never cover the entire cost of either the gate or the trail. The fund will be used to help offset those costs, including a memorial plaque.

I am herewith respectfully submitting this subcommittee report to the PBLSA Board of Directors to consider these two alternatives and approve one of them for adoption.

Appendix 7: PBLSA Board Response to Webcam Concerns presented by Carole Adams

Concerns about placing a webcam at the light station:

The idea of a webcam sounds like fun, but it is important to carefully think about this suggestion. What is the purpose?

The purpose of a webcam would be in line with the BLM's mission statement for PBLS because it would *provide an opportunity for a compatible social activity that could engage the public and raise awareness about PBLS*. It is an ideal tool for restricted public access, affording the public a virtual visit any time they want, but it especially allows those who cannot visit the light station the opportunity to experience and appreciate the light station. A generous vision of our coastal panorama will bring viewers pleasure and help teach them that our coastline deserves protection and preservation. As set forth in its bylaws, among the specific purposes of the PBLSA are to provide resources (material and financial) to maintain the Piedras Blancas Light Station as an educational, scientific, and recreational site. Positioned thoughtfully, a high definition video camera streaming live on our web site could fulfill all three purposes. More people came to know the iconic valley of Yosemite or the vistas of Grand Canyon through photographs rather than from having been to the places themselves.

Does it fall within the goals of restoration and maintenance of the light station?

No, but it does fall within the goals of interpretation and public outreach which are part of the general and specific roles of the PBLSA that extend beyond "restoration and maintenance."

Where will the money come from?

The PBLSA general account. Funding a webcam falls well within the dedication of assets spelled out in the PBLSA bylaws. Online fundraising campaigns may also be an option.

Is it money that was raised for restoration and maintenance?

Not necessarily. Any motion the board passes with respect to a webcam will address funding.

There is a long list of projects that need to be done. Can the money be better used elsewhere?

Again, the money for the webcam is not substantial and its purpose of public outreach falls in line with PBLSA and the BLM. Any motion we pass with respect to a webcam will address funding. The Board along with the BLM site manager work together to agree on what projects should be funded.

Has the BLM requested a webcam?

No, but there are numerous BLM webcams across the country and our local office has been receptive to the idea.

What are some of the ramifications of a webcam? Where will it be placed?

Perhaps we will have increased visitation, but time will tell. It will be placed where it won't be obtrusive per the BLM Park Manager's recommendation.

It is important to keep in mind that we volunteers should not be seen doing things the public is not allowed to do.

Inevitably, the public will observe BLM volunteers doing activities that the public is not allowed to do. It is important that the public understand that the volunteers are doing work that is necessary for the operation of the light station and that they be encouraged to join as a volunteer. For the most part, the webcam will focus on the scenery and won't be focused on the ground. If this does become a problem we can alter the view away from frequent

work areas. We could have a disclaimer explaining that volunteers may be in closed areas doing restoration work.

We usually try to avoid working in native plant areas during tours because visitors are not allowed to go off the path. If the public views volunteers at the point or in off-path areas, they will want to go there too.

See previous answer. This is a teachable moment and the public should be informed of the opportunity to become a volunteer.

We do not arrange private tours for less than 10 people. Although we request volunteers have guests come out as part of tours, occasionally volunteers come out during non-tour times. If the public views small groups on the trail during non-tour times they will want to know why they can't do it too.

It would simply be addressed as above: our volunteers do many things the public isn't allowed to do as part of their service, but all of them fit within our goals of outreach, restoration, and maintenance.

The public is not allowed to go to the top of the lighthouse. If the public views people on top of the lighthouse they will want to know why they can't go there.

Again, the webcam would probably not generate any complaints of this nature, but if it did, the complaint could be addressed based on the circumstances. As an example, if a tourist stopped at the gate at Hwy 1 saw a volunteer or employee on top of the tower and complained, we would simply explain that our employees and volunteers are performing their duties at the light station and encouraged to volunteer. A general disclaimer could be listed on the webpage.

Will the webcam show that people occasionally stay at the light station? The public is not allowed to do so.

No, it wouldn't show this as a matter of course. However, if the question was posed by a webcam viewer as a complaint, just as it could be posed by a visitor on a public tour, it would simply be explained that employees, volunteers, groups and contractors do stay temporarily at the light station for official purposes.

There have been complaints from people in the past that resented that volunteers were doing things the public can't do. One lady caused quite a ruckus after seeing volunteers having lunch behind Unit C. Another person was upset about a volunteer party to which the public was not invited.

The vast majority of individuals understand that employees and volunteers have access to areas that the general public do not. People understand that special privileges are often afforded to volunteers as long as they don't detract from the overall goals and purposes of the organization. An example: At Hearst Castle, several evenings at the end of summer are set aside for employees, volunteers, and their families to be able to swim in the Neptune Pool.

Security issues also come to mind. There are times when no one is at the light station. If it appears no one is around, some people will seize the opportunity to come out and wander at will.

The webcam isn't going to clearly show whether anyone is present or not. The goal is to simply show the scenery. The chances of someone being able to discern no one is present at the light station via a webcam image and then seizing on that opportunity to come out and wander the grounds at will are much less than a webcam viewer observing suspicious behavior and reporting it. The camera may end up being a good security tool.

What would the webcam show? There are no animals to consistently focus on except sea lions on the Outer Islet. Isn't there a better way to spend the money? What will be gained?

The webcam would show the beauty of a place we are all privileged to experience as volunteers and as trustees of the public we share it with. The view from the webcam can be adjusted to focus in different areas to showcase wildlife, weather conditions, and sea conditions. The ONA is a unique area that many people might enjoy viewing via a webcam. Most webcams are placed in locales with great scenery and PBLS would be no different. Increased visitation may be gained as folks viewing the webcam would see what a great place PBLS is and want to come see it in person. For those that can't physically visit, a webcam would be the next best thing. This is an excellent overall tool to gain community support and keep PBLS in the public eye. Memberships and donations could also be expected out of the increased exposure as well as community support and volunteer recruitment.