

MINUTES
THE STATE BOARD OF LAND COMMISSIONERS
JUNE 1, 2017

These minutes memorialize the action taken at the meeting and provide a summation of the discussions. The audio recording provides a full record of the proceedings.

Opening:

The regular meeting of the State Board of Land Commissioners (SBLC) was called to order by Chairman Mead at 9:00 a.m. on June 1, 2017 at the Wyoming Department of Transportation's Auditorium.

Board Members Present:

Matthew H. Mead, Chairman/Governor
Edward Murray, Secretary of State
Cynthia Cloud, State Auditor
Mark Gordon, State Treasurer
Jillian Balow, Superintendent of Public Instruction

Office of State Lands and Investments (OSLI) Staff Members Present:

Bridget Hill, Director
Susan Child, Deputy Director
Jason Crowder, Assistant Director
Machá Ledet

Megan Nicholas – Attorney General's Office

A. Minutes

1. April 6, 2017 State Board of Land Commissioners Meeting

Superintendent Balow moved to approve the April 6, 2017 State Board of Land Commissioners minutes. Secretary Murray seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Board Action: Approved

(Board Vote: Mead, Murray, Cloud, Gordon, and Balow voting Aye)

B. Reports

Director Hill addressed standard reports to the Board.

Director Hill presented to the Board the following board matters that were amenable for treatment on a consent list: Board Matters D-1, D-2, D-3, D-4, D-5, D-6, D-7, D-8, D-9, D-10, E-1, E-2, E-3, E-4, E-5, E-6, E-7; F-1, F-2, F-3, F-4, F-5; G-1, G-2; and H-2 and noted that all relevant information within these board matters had been presented to the Board, in advance, for review.

Secretary Murray moved to approve the consent list: D-1, D-2, D-3, D-4, D-5, D-6, D-7, D-8, D-9, D-10, E-1, E-2, E-3, E-4, E-5, E-6, E-7; F-1, F-2, F-3, F-4, F-5; G-1, G-2; and H-2. Superintendent Balow seconded the motion. The motion carried.

(Board Vote: Mead, Murray, Cloud, Gordon, and Balow voting Aye)

Superintendent Balow moved to accept the Director's recommendations for all board matters presented on the consent list. Treasurer Gordon seconded the motion. The motion carried.

(Board Vote: Mead, Murray, Cloud, Gordon, and Balow voting Aye)

D. Surface Lease Matters

1. Consider Grazing and Agriculture Lease Renewal Applications
2. Consider Director's Request for Cancellation of Lease Grazing and Agriculture Lease No. 3-8053 and 3-8342
3. Consider Assignments of Grazing and Agricultural Lease and Special Use Lease
4. Consider Grazing and Agricultural Sublease Agreement
5. Consider Applications for Construction of Improvements
6. Consider Renewal Application for Special Use Lease, Lease No. SU-574, Coffey Computers, LLC, Natrona County, Wyoming
7. Consider Amendment of Special Use Lease, Lease No. SU-655, QEP Energy Company, Sublette County, Wyoming
8. Consider Application for Special Use Lease, Lease No. SU-907, Liberty Resources Management Company, LLC, Campbell County, Wyoming
9. Consider Application for Special Use Lease, Lease No. SU-909, Encore Energy Partners Operating, Inc., Carbon County, Wyoming
10. Consider Request for Consent to Petition for Change of Point of Diversion and Means of Conveyance and Place of Use

Board Action: Approved

(Mead, Murray, Cloud, Gordon, and Balow voting Aye)

E. Oil and Gas Matters

1. Consider State of Wyoming Oil and Gas Lease Term Extension for EOG Resources, Inc.
2. Consider State of Wyoming Oil and Gas Lease Term Extension of EOG Resources, Inc.
3. Consider State of Wyoming Oil and Gas Lease Term Extension for GRMR Oil and Gas, LLC
4. Consider State of Wyoming Oil and Gas Lease Term Extension for Wold Energy Partners, LLC
5. Consider Application from Underwood Oil and Gas for Suspension of Operations
6. Consider Segregating State of Wyoming Oil and Gas Lease, Lease No. 98-00568 and 04-00305
7. Consider Segregation State of Wyoming Oil and Gas Lease, Lease No. 78-0107

Board Action: Approved

(Mead, Murray, Cloud, Gordon, and Balow voting Aye)

F. Miscellaneous Mineral Matters

1. Consider Applications for Coal Lease
2. Consider Renewal Application for Uranium Lease
3. Consider Applications for Sand, Gravel, Aggregate and Borrow Material Lease
4. Consider Renewal Application for Sand, Gravel, Aggregate and Borrow Material Lease
5. Consider Renewal Application for Sand, Gravel, Aggregate and Borrow Material Lease

Board Action: Approved

(Mead, Murray, Cloud, Gordon, and Balow voting Aye)

G. Easements and Temporary Use Permit Matters

1. Consider Applications for Easement
2. Consider Applications for Temporary Use Permit

Board Action: Approved

(Mead, Murray, Cloud, Gordon, and Balow voting Aye)

H. Miscellaneous Land Matters

2. Consider Trust Land Preservation and Enhancement Account Project - Little Snake River Reservoirs

Board Action: Approved

(Mead, Murray, Cloud, Gordon, and Balow voting Aye)

End of board matters approved under consent list.

F. Miscellaneous Mineral Matters

6. Annual Reporting for Non-Exclusive Fossil Removal Permit FRP-00335 - Information Only

Board Action: No action; Information only

H. Miscellaneous Land Matters

1. Final Consideration State Trust Land Exchange - Bear Lodge Cattle Company

Jason Crowder, Assistant Director, gave a detailed outline of the transaction and appraisal process. Mr. Crowder reported to the Board that there were two individual appraisals conducted, noting that both appraisers were instructed by the Office to determine the highest and best use of both parcels.

The Board and the Director discussed various aspects and details related to the parcels of land requested to be exchanged and the appraisal process, including the history of the State parcel.

Senator Ogden Driskill, Bear Lodge Cattle Company, presented to the Board his family's history of the land. Senator Driskill stated that his family is dedicated to preserving and protecting the land and noted that he would like to put a conservation easement on the land closest to the tower.

Bill Crapser, State Forester, reported to the Board the possible timber sales on the Bear Lodge parcel.

The Board and the Director discussed the Board's fiduciary duty to the beneficiaries and how conservation and preservation of viewsheds fits within that duty. Secretary Murray expressed his opposition to the exchange.

Director Hill recommended the Board approve completion of the proposed Bear Lodge exchange, authorize the Director to amend State of Wyoming grazing and agriculture lease no. 2-5464 to remove the acreage disposed of in this exchange, and terminate temporary use permit 00474 and 00873.

Note: The Board reconvened after a ten minute break at 10:40 a.m.

Chairman Mead invited the public to comment on Board matter H-1.

Marguerite Herman, Advocate for School Trust Lands and School Trustee, reported to the Board that she was in favor of Director Hill's recommendation and stated that she appreciated the discussion of the value of conserving scenic views and whether it can override the Board's fiduciary duty.

Senator Driskill, reported to the Board that he would agree to place a conservation easement west of highway 110 and highway 24, noting that he would like to be able

to develop the remainder. Senator Driskill pointed out that requiring a conservation easement as a condition of the exchange would significantly reduce the value of land facing the tower for his family.

Auditor Cloud moved to approve the Director's recommendation with the condition that Bear Lodge Cattle Company place a conservation easement on the land west of highway 110 and highway 24, within four years. Superintendent Balow seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Board Action: Approved

(Mead, Cloud, Gordon, and Balow voting Aye; Murray voting Nay)

I. Forestry Matters – None

Other Matters

Bill Crapsler, State Forester, provided the Board with a forestry update.

Adjournment:

The State Board of Land Commissioners meeting was adjourned at 11:04 a.m. on April 6, 2017. The next State Board of Land Commissioners meeting will be August 10, 2017, 8:00 a.m. in Wyoming Department of Transportation's Auditorium.

Minutes submitted by: Machá Ledet, Executive Assistant

Approved by:

Bridget Hill
Secretary of the State Board of Land Commissioners

***NOTE: Please see the minutes of the following meeting for possible clarifications to discussions.**

Minutes were approved at the State Board of Land Commissioners meeting on August 10, 2017.