



MEETING SUMMARY

November 20, 2008

9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

November 21, 2008

9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Port of Los Angeles, Boardroom

425 South Palos Verdes Street

San Pedro, CA 90731

Day 1- November 20

9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Present:

Mike Chrisman, Secretary for Resources, Council Chair

Linda Adams, Secretary for Environmental Protection

Cindy Aronberg for John Chiang, State Controller, Chair of the State Lands Commission

Geraldine Knatz, Public Member

Absent:

Susan Golding, Public Member

Pedro Nava, State Assemblymember

Darrell Steinberg, State Senator

1. Secretary Chrisman welcomed everyone to the meeting and gave updates on the West Coast Governors' Agreement as well as the Marine Life Protection Act. The Secretary also announced the California Fisheries Challenge 2009 and a new podcast for Thank You Ocean.
 - Brian Baird discussed the Coastal States Organization Call for Action and discussed the future of the Coastal Zone Management Act reauthorization
2. Public comment was heard on non-agenda items:
 - Zeke Grader – Pacific Coast Federation of Fishermen's Association (PCFFA) – gave an update on Institute for Fishery Resource's MPA monitoring program
 - Richard Sadowski – individual – suggested that OPC fund projects that address climate change
 - Jim Holm – individual – suggested that the OPC sponsor an educational tour to the Pacific gyre titled "Voyage of Awareness"
 - Sarah Abramson – Heal the Bay – followed up on a letter sent to the OPC concerning

once-through cooling

- Dominic Gregorio – State Water Board – responded to Ms. Abramson’s comment and discussed the progress of once-through cooling issues in California
 - Marla Jo Bruton – individual – requested that the OPC provide funding to assist the California Coastal Commission
 - David Nelson – CAPE – spoke about problems with once-through cooling
 - Dr. Thomas Murphy – AES, Inc/ Reclamator Technology – commented on the shortfalls of sewage pretreatment requirements and suggested greater enforcement of sewage treatment
3. It was moved (Chrisman) and seconded (Knatz) to implement a strategy for the OPC’s Resolution to Reduce and Prevent Ocean Litter. The original document was amended to include language recommending that as details of the proposed ban on polystyrene are developed, the impacts on jobs and the economy should be considered.
- Approved as Amended** Ayes: Chrisman, Adams, Aronberg, Knatz Nays: 0

Public Comment:

- Leslie Tamminen, speaking on behalf of Lt. Governor Garamendi – spoke in support of the strategy but asked for revisions to the document with timelines and supporting legislation
- Damon Arrowwood – Dart Container Corp. – spoke in opposition
- Angela Howe – Surfrider Foundation – spoke in support
- Steve Aceti – California Coastal Coalition – suggested adding a state-wide public awareness program to the strategy as well as providing aid through grants to cities and communities
- Greg Wilton – Pactiv Corporation – spoke in opposition to polystyrene ban
- Jennifer Voccola – City of Malibu – spoke in support
- Miriam Gordon – Clean Water Action – spoke in support
- Sharon Johnson, Lisa Beville, and Juan Tovar – Pactiv Corporation – spoke in opposition
- David Martinez – Pactiv Corporation – spoke in opposition
- Sherridan Ross – Pactiv Corporation – spoke in opposition
- Hector Gonzales – Pactiv Corporation – spoke in opposition
- Sarah Abramson – Heal the Bay – spoke in support
- Jason Matthews – Pactiv Corporation – spoke in opposition
- Ashley Webster – Pactiv Corporation – spoke in opposition
- Dave Wheeler and Phil Mathews – Pactiv Corporation – spoke in opposition
- Mike Webbe – Pactiv Corporation – spoke in opposition
- Paul Hands – Pactiv Corporation – spoke in opposition
- Rebecca Nelson – City of Malibu –available to answer regarding the community impacts of a current plastic bag ban in Malibu, CA.
- Steve Danner – San Diego Coastkeeper – spoke in support
- Tim Sheehan –Pactiv Corporation – spoke in opposition
- Lia Protopapadakis – Santa Monica Bay Restoration Commission – spoke in support
- Ed Rhodes – Dart Container Corporation – spoke in opposition

- Jeff Frank – Dart Container Corporation – spoke in opposition
- Dean Thomas – Dart Container Corporation – spoke in opposition
- Tim Shestek – American Chemistry Council – spoke in opposition
- Christina Manuel – Dart Container Corporation – spoke in opposition
- Derick Mitchell – Dart Container Corporation – spoke in opposition
- Michelle Mack – Dart Container Corporation – spoke in opposition
- Sonia Diaz – Heal the Bay – spoke in support
- Emiko Thompson – County of Los Angeles County Department of Public Works – spoke in support
- Josephine Miller – City of Santa Monica – spoke in support
- Kaitilin Gaffney – Ocean Conservancy – spoke in support with modifications
- Susie Santinela – individual – spoke in support
- Kirsten James – Heal the Bay – spoke in support
- Santi Roberts – Oceana – spoke in support
- Zeke Grader – Pacific Coast Federation of Fishermen’s Association (PCFFA) – spoke in support

4. It was moved (Aronberg) and seconded (Knatz) to approve the revised OPC funding guidelines and new OPC program priorities for 2009 through 2010. The document was revised to include once-through cooling as a continuing high priority for the OPC.

Approved as Amended Ayes: Chrisman, Adams, Aronberg, Knatz Nays: 0

Public Comment:

- Richard Sadowski – individual – spoke of the need to fund enforcement
- David Nelson – CAPE – suggested adding once-through cooling as a priority
- Leila Monroe – Natural Resources Defense Council – provided suggested edits to the document
- Stephanie Mutz – Commercial Fishermen of Santa Barbara Inc. – spoke in support
- Zeke Grader – PCFFA – spoke in support with additional comments
- Reed Addis – Ocean Working Group – spoke in support

5. Brian Baird, Assistant Secretary for Ocean and Coastal Policy, presented to the council a summary of work being completed by staff on a statewide climate change adaptation strategy, with a particular focus on the ocean and coastal sector. Mr. Baird introduced three speakers who provided data on the type and extent of climate change impacts that may impact California in the future.

- i. Peter Gleick, the Pacific Institute, discussed a vulnerability assessment of San Francisco Bay and Coastal California to Sea Level Rise and Erosion.
- ii. Linwood Pendleton, Coastal Oceans Values Center and the University of California Los Angeles, discussed the economic impacts from changes to beaches in Southern California and beach nourishment considerations.
- iii. Jeffery Dorman, University of California, Berkeley, discussed climate change impacts

on marine species and ecosystems and implications for marine protected areas and fisheries management.

Abe Doherty, project manager, provided an overview of the California's Ocean and Coastal Resources Climate Change Adaptation Strategy outline.

Public Comment:

- Richard Sadowski – individual – commented on the need to decentralize infrastructure to minimize the impacts of climate change
- Joe Geever – Surfrider Foundation – spoke in support but is concerned that by resolving one problem we may exacerbate another
- Marla Jo Bruton – individual – spoke in support of strategy but made other suggestions regarding sewage plants
- Lia Protopapadakis – Santa Monica Bay Restoration Commission – spoke in support
- Leila Monroe – Natural Resources Defense Council – spoke in support but suggested adding a strategy on fisheries.
- Kaitilin Gaffney – Ocean Conservancy – suggested additional components of the strategy

Secretary Chrisman adjourned the meeting at 3:10 p.m.

Day 2- November 21
9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Present:

Cindy Tuck for Linda Adams, Secretary for Environmental Protection, serving as Council Chair
Brian Baird for Mike Chrisman, Secretary for Resources
Cindy Aronberg for John Chiang, State Controller, Chair of the State Lands Commission
Ben Turner for Pedro Nava, State Assemblymember

Absent:

Susan Golding, Public Member
Geraldine Knatz, Public Member
Darrell Steinberg, State Senator

6. Chair Tuck welcomed everyone to the meeting.

7. Public comment was heard on non-agenda items:

- Julie Thomas – Scripps Institution of Oceanography – presented updates on an integrated ocean observing system (IOOS) project in the Ports of Long Beach and Los Angeles
- Jerry Asplawd – individual – spoke in support of Julie Thomas's presentation and discussed the need to continue collecting information that will aid shipping

- Henry Pontarelli – Lisa Wise Consulting – spoke in support of projects and programs that aid commercial fishing communities
- Peter Halmay – San Diego Watermen’s Association – summarized a recently completed project funded by the OPC

8. Sam Schuchat presented the report of the Council Secretary.

- Cyndi Dawson – Reef Check California Program – gave an update on the online Nearshore Ecosystem Database (NED) that was funded by the OPC

It was moved (Aronberg) and seconded (Tuck) to approve the revised dates and locations for the 2009 OPC meetings.

Approved as Amended Ayes: Tuck, Baird, Aronberg Nays: 0

9. It was moved (Baird) and seconded (Aronberg) to authorize a grant of up to \$1,000,000 to the United States Geological Survey (USGS), the Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission (PSMFC), and Humboldt State University (HSU) to complete four in-stream flow analyses in three coastal rivers in California to facilitate the Department of Fish and Game’s development of stream flow recommendations for use by the State Water Resources Control Board.

Approved Ayes: Tuck, Baird, Aronberg Nays: 0

- Robert Holmes – California Department of Fish and Game – provided details on the instream flow program

Public Comment:

- Zeke Grader – Pacific Coast Federation of Fishermen’s Association – spoke in support
- Mark Abramson – Santa Monica Baykeeper – spoke in support
- Jonathan Bishop – State Water Resource Control Board – spoke in support

10. It was moved (Aronberg) and seconded (Baird) to provide up to \$12,000,000 for marine protected area (MPA) baseline data collection efforts in the three remaining coastal regions of the Marine Life Protection Act Initiative and approval to release funds to the Regents of the University of California, California Sea Grant Program as necessary to solicit and fund individual projects to carry out the baseline data collection.

Approved Ayes: Tuck, Baird, Aronberg Nays: 0

- Cheri Recchia – MPA Monitoring Enterprise – gave an overview of the regional planning process for both baseline and ongoing monitoring.

Public Comment:

- Mike Weber – Resources Law Group – spoke in support
- Zeke Grader – Pacific Coast Federation of Fishermen’s Association – spoke in support

11. It was moved (Baird) and seconded (Aronberg) to authorize the disbursement of up to \$440,000 to Southern California Coastal Water Research Project to assess the effects of natural and anthropogenic nutrient loading to the Southern California Bight including associated algal blooms.

Approved Ayes: Tuck, Baird, Aronberg Nays: 0

Public Comment:

- Dominic Gregorio – State Water Resources Control Board – spoke in support

12. A. It was moved (Aronberg) and seconded (Baird) to authorize a grant of up to \$765,000 to the Ocean Science Trust to provide high quality information to the OPC and other organizations related to critical ocean issues.

Approved Ayes: Tuck, Baird, Aronberg Nays: 0

- B. It was moved (Baird) and seconded (Tuck) to authorize a grant of up to \$210,000 to the California Ocean Science Trust to conduct an oil platform decommissioning study.

Approved Ayes: Tuck, Baird Nays: Aronberg

Public Comment:

- Zeke Grader – Pacific States Fishermen’s Association – spoke in opposition to 12(B)
- George Steinback – CARE – spoke in support of 12(A) and (B)
- Richard Charter – Defenders of Wildlife – spoke in opposition to 12(B)
- April Wakemen – Sportfishing Conservancy – spoke in support of 12(B)
- Tom Raftican – Sportfishing Conservancy – spoke in support of 12(B)
- Michael Weber – Resources Law Group – spoke in support of 12(A) and (B)
- Bob Osborn – United Anglers of Southern California – spoke in support of 12(B)
- Mark Abramson – Santa Monica Baykeeper – spoke in opposition to 12(B)
- Leila Monroe – Natural Resources Defense Council – spoke in opposition to 12(B) and suggested other uses for the funds
- Beth Lafferty – Sportfishing Conservancy – spoke in support of 12(B)
- Santi Roberts – Oceana – suggested revising the request to require the review of economic impacts and liability
- Warner Chabot – Ocean Conservancy – spoke in support of 12(A) and (B)

13. It was moved (Baird) and seconded (Tuck) to approve the adoption of the 2009 Ocean Protection Council/Sea Grant Research Priorities and to disburse up to \$1,000,000 to the California Sea Grant Program and University of Southern California (USC) Sea Grant Program to fund ocean research consistent with these priorities.

Approved Ayes: Tuck, Baird, Aronberg Nays: 0

14. It was moved (Aronberg) and seconded (Tuck) to approve the adoption of a resolution to protect endangered and threatened sea turtles by opposing a proposed exempted fishing permit (EFP) under consideration by NOAA Fisheries Service for a longline swordfish fishery off California’s coast. The resolution was amended to replace NOAA Fisheries Service with National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) and to add a resolved clause to urge NFMS to adopt policies to restrict swordfish and other imports where fishing practices significantly endanger sea turtles or otherwise fail to meet U.S. standards for pelagic longline fishing.

Approved as Amended Ayes: Tuck, Baird, Aronberg Nays: 0

- Sonke Mastrup – California Department of Fish and Game – spoke in support of 14

Public Comment

- Michael Milne – Sea Turtle Restoration Project – spoke in support
 - Zeke Grader – Pacific Coast Federation of Fishermen’s Association – expressed the need to perform research to develop more selective fishing gear
 - Mark Helvey – National Marine Fisheries Service – spoke in opposition
 - Diana Dupuy – Ocean Pacific Seafood – spoke in opposition
 - Pete Dupuy – Ocean Pacific Seafood – spoke in opposition
 - Peter Halmay – Southern California Cable/Fisheries Liaison Committee – spoke in opposition
 - Peter Flournoy – American Fishermen’s Research Association – spoke in opposition
 - Mike McCorkle – individual – spoke in opposition
 - Santi Roberts – Oceana – spoke in support
 - Tom Raftican – Sportfishing Conservancy – spoke in support
 - Teri Shore – Sea Turtle Restoration Project – spoke in support
 - Warner Chabot – Ocean Conservancy –spoke in support but suggested a restriction on swordfish imports where fishing practices endanger sea turtles
15. Amber Mace, Executive Director of the California Ocean Science Trust, gave the report of the Science Advisor to the OPC.
 16. Drew Bohan presented the report of the Executive Policy Officer which included updates on the new OPC grant and contract audit form, an OPC workshop on issues related to whale strikes in the Santa Barbara shipping lanes, the Morro Bay Sewage Plant, and the OPC Strategic Plan.
 17. Chair Tuck adjourned the meeting at 1:05 p.m.