

Mr. Mattoon reported that the attitude taken by the United States at the time the Arkansas State case was filed appeared to indicate a desire to preserve the status quo, and that the United States did not have objections to the leasing policies of the State. There was general discussion of Public Law 212.

Mr. Vern Thomas, District Attorney for Santa Barbara County, appeared and asked that the local communities concerned be given an opportunity to advise of their desires and wishes on oil leasing problems and policies. He indicated that although the Commission, under existing law, clearly has exclusive jurisdiction over tidelands, there should be some planning at State level to protect the interests of the local communities, especially in those certain sectors which have placed their stake in values other than industrialization of coastal waters.

Mr. C. A. Bauer, City Attorney of the City of Huntington Beach, appeared and requested that the interests of that community be protected, stating that he felt the local people should have some voice to make their wishes known, and should be kept in mind relative to changes or legislation affecting tidelands. He suggested that before leasing was advertised or bids opened, a hearing be held and local interests given an opportunity to be heard.

Mr. A. H. Walker, Coordinator for the Senate Interim Committee, indicated that that Committee will be interested in any determination made by the Commission. It is his thought that the entire problem should be evaluated carefully, and a thorough job done, before the matter is presented to the Legislature. He also referred to the possibility of eliminating eyesores, resulting from drilling operations, by the use of landscaping, so that while the local communities' interests would be protected the State could benefit from revenue.

UPON MOTION DULY MADE AND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED, THE QUESTION OF A STATEMENT AS TO THE POSITION OF THE COMMISSION WITH REFERENCE TO PROPOSED LEGISLATION ON OIL LEASES ON STATE LANDS, AND AS TO CHANGES IN POLICY CONCERNING THOSE LEASES, WAS TAKEN UNDER SUBMISSION.

The meeting was adjourned at 11.55 a.m.

Rufus W. Putnam

RUFUS W. PUTNAM
Executive Officer