

MINUTE ITEM

4/23/70

30. STATUS OF MAJOR LITIGATION - W.O.s 503.510, 4721, 503.527, 503.562, 1339, 503.554, 503.546, 4926, 503.456, 503.587, 1839.24, 6987, 1839.28, 503.539, 503.577, AND 503.629.

The attached Calendar Item 27 was submitted to the Commission for information only, no Commission action being required.

Attachment:

Calendar Item 27 (4 pages)

INFORMATIVE CALENDAR ITEM

4/70

27.

STATUS OF MAJOR LITIGATION - W.O.s 503.510, 4721, 503.527, 503.562, 1339, 503.554, 503.546, 4926, 503.456, 503.587, 1839.24, 6987, 1839.28, 503.539, 503.577, AND 503.629.

The following information is current as of April 1, 1970:

W-503.510

1. Case No. 892295  
Miller vs. City of Santa Monica, et al.  
Los Angeles County Superior Court

(An action by private upland owners involving title to tidelands that have artificially accreted. Both the State Lands Commission and the Division of Beaches and Parks have interests to protect.)

No change; i.e., The City and the State have not filed any Demurrer or Answer as yet. However, the City and the State have entered into a Stipulation with the Plaintiffs in lieu of a preliminary injunction. The Stipulation restrains the Plaintiffs from building in the disputed area, and restrains the City and the State from removing any improvements thereon.

2. Case No. 5 Original in the United States Supreme Court  
United States vs. State of California

W-4721

(Relating to the location of the offshore boundaries between lands under the paramount jurisdiction of the United States and lands owned by the State, for such purposes as minerals. A Supplemental Decree was entered in this case, settling the principal controversies between the State and the United States, but reserving jurisdiction in the United States Supreme Court to settle any remaining controversies.)

No change; i.e., The State Lands Division is in correspondence with the Federal Government concerning the status of certain offshore rocks in the vicinity of Carpinteria as low-tide elevations. If these rocks are low-tide elevations, they will constitute base points for determining the seaward limits of State ownership and could substantially enlarge the extent of State ownership in this particular area.

3. Case No. 57239  
White vs. State of California  
Sonoma County Superior Court

W-503.527

W-503.562

(Quiet title action against the State to determine a property boundary along the Petaluma River, Sonoma County.)

Appeal is still in progress. Kullberg v. State of California, Sonoma County Superior Court Case No. 59332, which is related to the White case, has been taken off the active calendar, awaiting final disposition of the White case on appeal.

INFORMATIVE CALENDAR ITEM 27. (CONTD.)

4. Case No. 48620

W-1339  
W-503.554

Alameda Conservation Association, et al. vs.  
State of California, et al.  
United States District Court, Northern District

(Action for declaratory relief and an injunction against the State of California, certain of its officers and officials, and Leslie Salt Co., seeking to invalidate the boundary settlement and exchange of lands between the State of California and Leslie Salt Co.)

No change; i.e., Scheduled for oral argument before the Ninth Circuit Court on April 14, 1970, in San Francisco.

5. Case No. LA 29534

W-503.546

Atlantic Oil Company, et al. vs. County of Los Angeles,  
et al. and Humble Oil & Refining Company, et al. vs.  
City of Los Angeles  
Supreme Court of the State of California

(An action by various oil companies to recover ad valorem taxes. It is anticipated that this case may constitute a significant precedent which could affect State revenues from the Long Beach tidelands in excess of \$1.00 million.)

No change; i.e., Discussions are under way with legal representatives of the contractors involved in the Long Beach tidelands, to determine tactics in conducting litigation intended to reduce or to eliminate the ad valorem tax burden upon State revenues from these tidelands.

6. Case No. 4 Civil 9344 in the State Supreme Court  
County of Orange, et al. vs. Heim, State of California -  
Real Party in Interest

W-4926

(Petition for Writ of Mandate involving the legality of the Upper Newport Bay Exchange approved by the State Lands Commission.)

Pretrial proceedings, such as inspection of documents, are under way, and Interrogatories are expected shortly. The Parties are seeking to have the case ready for trial in June of 1970.

7. Case No. 283455

W-503.456

Dillon vs. Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe Railway Company  
San Diego County Superior Court

(To determine whether or not Tideland Survey No. 17 is valid, based upon Patent from the Governor of about 1871.)

No change; i.e., Plaintiffs have filed a Notice of Appeal and Request for Preparation of Clerk's and Reporter's Transcripts.

INFORMATIVE CALENDAR ITEM 27. (CONTD.)

8. Case No. 47729 W-503.587  
State vs. Clyde  
Solano County Superior Court
- (Quiet title, filed at the request of the Commission, on Swamp and Overflow Survey No. 131, Ryer Island, Solano County.)
- Judgment, quieting title of the Defendants as prayed for, was entered March 17, 1970.
9. Case No. 32824 W-1839.24  
People vs. William Kent Estate Company  
Marin County Superior Court
- (Retrial of an action to abate a public nuisance (a fence erected and maintained perpendicular to the shoreline) on the Pacific Ocean side of the Bolinas Lagoon Sandspit. The case involved a judicial interpretation of the statutory phrase "Ordinary High Water Mark.")
- No change; i.e., Retrial is scheduled to resume on May 11, 1970.
10. Civil Case No. 144257 W-6987  
State of California vs. County of San Mateo, et al. W-1839.28  
San Mateo County Superior Court
- (A declaratory relief action to determine what interests were conveyed in trust to the County of San Mateo by Chapter 1857, Statutes of 1965.)
- No change; i.e., The Superior Court granted the Motion of the Sierra Club and the Save San Francisco Bay Association to intervene as party, subject to their limiting the issues to those raised in the State's original Complaint. Further developments await completion of factual study.
11. Civil Case No. 125379 (companion case to No. 144257, above) W-503.539  
County of San Mateo vs. Ideal Cement Company, et al.  
San Mateo County Superior Court
- (In order to obtain uniformity of decision, the State has filed an Answer to the Complaint. This action is a condemnation matter, brought by the County of San Mateo, concerning lands located within the aforementioned statute (Ch. 1857/65). The State contends that said lands were granted in trust to the County or, in the alternative, that the County received an easement over said lands in trust which permits the County to use the subject property for the purposes contemplated by the condemnation action.)
- No change; i.e., The matter is awaiting pretrial developments.

INFORMATIVE CALENDAR ITEM 27. (CONTD.)

12. California State Supreme Court Case LA-29700,  
City of Long Beach vs. Mansell, et al.  
(The State of California, acting by and through the State Lands  
Commission, is one of the real parties in interest.)

W-503.577

(This is an action to approve Settlement Agreements between the City, the State, and affected private parties, for the resolution of complex title problems in the Alamitos Bay area of the City of Long Beach. The purpose of the lawsuit is to test the constitutionality of the statute under which the Agreements were negotiated.)

No change; i.e., To be argued before the Supreme Court on April 7, 1970, in Los Angeles. Application for Leave to Intervene has been filed by certain Long Beach property owners, and opposition to their intervention is being prepared.

13. Case No. 129019  
County of San Mateo vs. T. B. Potter, et al., and the  
State of California, the City of Half Moon Bay, and the  
City of Pacifica  
San Mateo County Superior Court

W-503.629

(The Court ruled that since the public, without having solicited or received permission from the owner, had made continuous and uninterrupted use of the subject area for over 40 years for public recreational purposes, a recreational easement has been dedicated to the public.)

The Judge ruled for the State of California.