

MINUTE ITEM

6/25/70

35. APPROVAL OF CONTRACT TO FURNISH TO THE STATE AN ESTIMATE DETAILING THE BEST METHODS AND ANY FEASIBLE ALTERNATIVES FOR REMOVAL OF THE BEACHED AND OVERTURNED VESSEL "LA JENELLE" LYING ON STATE-OWNED TIDE AND SUBMERGED LAND NEAR THE ENTRANCE TO PORT HUENEME HARBOR IN VENTURA COUNTY - W-2880.31.

After consideration of Supplemental Calendar Item 32 attached, and upon motion duly made and carried, the following resolution was adopted:

THE COMMISSION AUTHORIZES AND RATIFIES THE EXECUTION OF A CONTRACT WITH SMITH-RICE COMPANY OF LONG BEACH TO FURNISH TO THE STATE AN ESTIMATE DETAILING THE BEST METHODS AND ANY FEASIBLE ALTERNATIVES FOR REMOVAL OF THE BEACHED AND OVERTURNED VESSEL "LA JENELLE" LYING ON STATE-OWNED TIDE AND SUBMERGED LAND NEAR THE ENTRANCE TO PORT HUENEME HARBOR IN VENTURA COUNTY, FOR AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$5000.

Attachment:

Calendar Item 32 (1 page)

Minute item 35, meeting of 6/25/70 AMENDED  
by minute item 29, meeting of 7/30/70 *Stall*

APPROVAL OF CONTRACT TO FURNISH THE STATE AN ESTIMATE DETAILING THE BEST METHODS AND ANY FEASIBLE ALTERNATIVES FOR REMOVAL OF THE BEACHED AND OVERTURNED VESSEL "LA JENELLE" LYING ON STATE-OWNED TIDE AND SUBMERGED LAND NEAR THE ENTRANCE TO PORT HUENEME HARBOR IN VENTURA COUNTY - W-2880.31.

On April 13, 1970, the 467-foot passenger ship "La Jenelle" broke loose from its mooring 2 miles offshore from Port Hueneme and washed ashore adjacent to the entrance of Port Hueneme harbor. The vessel has become firmly embedded in the sand and will probably remain there until it breaks up or is salvaged.

In its present location it constitutes a threat to the natural environment of the area as well as to the public beaches in the vicinity because there are approximately 15,000 gallons of oil aboard in fuel tanks which will eventually yield to the waves which continually wash over the ship. It also is a definite safety hazard because of the likelihood of personal injuries to curious persons boarding the vessel. As the ship breaks up, there will be additional hazards to public safety and navigation resulting from debris. Liability for any damage to the environment, private citizens, or property rests with the owner.

Ownership is being asserted by several parties and, in the opinion of the office of the Attorney General, is very difficult to establish and will take months and possibly years to resolve. In the meantime, the vessel is resting on tide and submerged land under the jurisdiction of the State Lands Commission, and until ownership can be determined, the responsibility for any damage or injury could rest with the Commission.

In order to protect the welfare of the public, action must be undertaken immediately to determine the most feasible and economical methods for removal of the vessel. Firms specializing in this type of work were contacted to determine the costs involved in providing this information. The lowest estimated cost from a reputable firm was obtained from Smith-Rice Company in Long Beach. The costs of their providing the desired information will not exceed \$5,000.

The Director of Finance has authorized a budget transfer of \$5,000 from unallotted balances in the Division budget to fund the contract.

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THE COMMISSION AUTHORIZE AND RATIFY THE EXECUTION OF A CONTRACT WITH SMITH-RICE COMPANY OF LONG BEACH TO FURNISH THE STATE AN ESTIMATE DETAILING THE BEST METHODS AND ANY FEASIBLE ALTERNATIVES FOR REMOVAL OF THE BEACHED AND OVERTURNED VESSEL "LA JENELLE" LYING ON STATE-OWNED TIDE AND SUBMERGED LAND NEAR THE ENTRANCE TO PORT HUENEME HARBOR IN VENTURA COUNTY, FOR AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$5,000.