



IDAHO OIL AND GAS CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Kevin Dickey, Chairman
Marc Shigeta, Vice Chairman
Dr. Renee Breedlovestrout, Commissioner
Jim Classen, Commissioner
David Groeschl, Commissioner

Mick Thomas, Secretary to the Commission

Final Minutes - Amended
Idaho Oil and Gas Conservation Commission Regular Meeting
March 14, 2018

The regular meeting of the Idaho Oil and Gas Conservation Commission was held on Wednesday, March 14, 2018, in the Borah Building, 2nd Floor Courtroom (Room 214), 304 N. 8th St. (at Bannock), Boise, Idaho. The meeting began at 1:00 p.m. Chairman Kevin Dickey presided. The following members were present:

Vice Chairman Marc Shigeta
Commissioner Renee Breedlovestrout
Commissioner Jim Classen
Commissioner David Groeschl

For the record, all five Commission members were present.

• **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Chairman Dickey announced that the Commission will accept public comment on items listed on the agenda. He asked that anyone who wanted to speak fill out the sign-in sheet.

Secretary Mick Thomas introduced Mr. Dave Schwarz, Oil and Gas Field Inspector to the Commission. Mr. Schwarz is a recent addition to the staff in the Oil and Gas Division.

1. Division Administrator's Report

- A. Financial Update
- B. Current Oil and Gas Activity
DISCUSSION: Commissioner Jim Classen asked if the Fallon #1-10 and Barlow #1-14 wells have had the pipes run; Secretary Thomas responded that he believed so and also mentioned that those were confidential wells. Chairman Dickey asked if the Barlow #2-14 pending means not spudded. Secretary Thomas said yes and Program Manager James Thum clarified that the application has not been approved.
- C. Class II Underground Injection Control Program Update

For the record, Chairman Dickey requested an update on the audit.¹ Secretary Thomas noted that there is no definite date but the audit is expected to be completed in the next few weeks.

Chairman Dickey also asked about the April 11, 2018 meeting. Secretary Thomas announced that the meeting will be at Payette High School and will begin at 2:00 pm. Secretary Thomas remarked that the agenda will be finalized approximately a week before the meeting to provide people in the area time to plan and attend, particularly if they want to provide public comment. Secretary Thomas stated that he will be holding a Town Hall meeting later that same evening as a Q and A session for local citizens.

Commissioner Jim Classen requested an update on the pending hearing. Secretary Thomas confirmed that a hearing officer had been appointed and that he will be speaking with the hearing officer later this week. Commissioner Classen followed up with a question of the legislation that is currently being presented regarding a pool of hearing officers. Secretary Thomas indicated that the current bill was being held in the Senate. Commissioner Classen remarked that the Commission did not have any input and that oil and gas needed someone that had the technical expertise to hear oil and gas related hearings. Secretary Thomas commented that the Idaho Department of Lands and other agencies provided input to the Legislature with similar concerns. Commissioner David Groeschl reiterated that the Department did provide some comments and that his understanding was that the bill is currently being held. Commissioner Groeschl also informed the Commission that the Department will be providing additional comment and feedback on the current legislation as well as future revisions. Commissioner Classen inquired about having periodic updates on that topic and also remarked that the Commission should be exempted from the bill. Secretary Thomas affirmed that updates on that topic will be provided to the Commission.

- **CONSENT**

2. **Approval of Minutes** – February 14, 2018 - Regular Meeting (Boise)

CONSENT AGENDA COMMISSION ACTION: A motion was made by Vice Chairman Shigeta that the Commission approve the meeting minutes on the Consent Agenda. Commissioner Groeschl seconded the motion. The motion carried on a vote of 5-0.

- **REGULAR**

3. **Data Access Policy** – Presented by James Thum, Program Manager – Oil and Gas

RECOMMENDATION: The Department recommends the Commission approve the Data Access Policy.

DISCUSSION: Commissioner Renee Breedlovestrout requested a list of oil and gas documents that Commissioners may want to access that are not on the OGCC website. Commissioner Classen concurred with that request. Mr. Thum responded that he will provide that list to the Commission.

¹ Oil and gas lease royalty audit contracted by Idaho Department of Lands for the State Board of Land Commissioners.

Commissioner Classen expressed concern about submitting a written request for document access. Commissioner Classen also stated he did not think it was a best use of staff time to observe the Commissioners while looking over the documents. Chairman Dickey mentioned that he had looked at a well log last month without a written request. Secretary Thomas explained that having a prior request would allow the staff to have the materials ready for review before the Commissioner arrived. It would also ensure that no more than two Commissioners were present at the same time in accordance with the Open Meeting Law. After the vote and the motion carried, Mr. Thum followed up that staff would be pleased to accept written recommendations from the Commissioners prior to the next meeting.

COMMISSION ACTION: A motion was made by Commissioner Groeschl to not make a decision on the policy today in order to address the issues and concerns the Commissioners have brought up regarding the policy and also to allow time for the list of documents to be provided to the Commission. Vice Chairman Shigeta seconded the motion. The motion carried on a vote of 5-0.

Background information was provided by the presenter indicated below. No Commission action is required on the Information Agenda. Information item materials can be found on the OGCC website at <https://ogcc.idaho.gov/commission-meetings/> for the current calendar year.

- **INFORMATION**

4. Unitization and Spacing – Discussion Request from Commissioner Jim Classen

DISCUSSION: Commissioner Classen led a discussion on unit spacing. As part of this discussion, Commissioner Classen shared maps proposing possible drainage areas for wells. Commissioner Classen suggested that current drainage areas are too large and/or are inaccurate for the Willow field. With maps included as attachment seven, Commissioner Classen illustrated possible drainage areas for the Willow field. On the first map, he shared the proposed drainage area provided by Alta Mesa for the Kauffman 1-34 well. The second map overlaid a similar drainage area on all active wells in the Willow field. On the third map, the drainage circles were converted to 160-acre squares to follow traditional spacing methods.

- **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

None

Chairman Dickey opened the floor for public comment. There was no response and no public comment was taken.

There being no further business before the Commission, at 2:24 p.m. a motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner Classen. Commissioner Groeschl seconded the motion. The motion carried on a vote of 5-0. Meeting adjourned.

