

MINUTE ITEM

3/30/72  
RHM

18. ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION MEMORIALIZING THE SECRETARY OF THE NAVY IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE TO ASSIST THE STATE IN REMOVING THE VESSEL "LA JENELLE" FROM THE BEACH - W 2880.31.

After consideration of Calendar Item 17 attached, and upon motion duly made and carried, the following resolution was adopted:

THE COMMISSION ADOPTS THE RESOLUTION ATTACHED AS EXHIBIT "A" MEMORIALIZING THE SECRETARY OF THE NAVY IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE TO ASSIST THE STATE IN REMOVING THE VESSEL FROM TIDE AND SUBMERGED LANDS.

Attachment:

Calendar Item 17 (2 pages)

CALENDAR ITEM

3/72

W 2880.31

RHM

17.

ADOPT A RESOLUTION MEMORIALIZING THE SECRETARY OF THE NAVY  
IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE TO ASSIST THE STATE  
IN REMOVING THE VESSEL "LA JENELLE" FROM THE BEACH

At the February meeting the State Lands Commission authorized the issuance of a four-month lease to Clarita Valley Salvage, Inc., provided that Clarita obtained all required insurance, obtained satisfactory access arrangements with the County of Ventura and with the U.S. Navy, and met any other prerequisites, by March 3, 1972.

If Clarita failed to meet these conditions, the Executive Officer was authorized to terminate any remaining rights that Clarita might have under their earlier lease, PRC 4539.9, and to post signs, repair fences, and negotiate for guard services.

The office of the Attorney General was authorized to take all actions necessary to secure possession and the right to remove the vessel.

The Executive Officer and the office of the Attorney General were authorized to seek appropriate means to remove the vessel, including contacting Federal agencies, for assistance.

Because the conditions required of Clarita were not met by the March 3 deadline, no lease was issued to Clarita. Concurrent with taking the authorized appropriate legal action by the office of the Attorney General, a resolution has been prepared memorializing the Secretary of the Navy in the U.S. Department of Defense to assist the State in removing the vessel from the tide and submerged lands.

EXHIBITS:           A. Resolution.                           B. Site map.

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THE COMMISSION ADOPT THE RESOLUTION ATTACHED AS EXHIBIT "A" MEMORIALIZING THE SECRETARY OF THE NAVY IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE TO ASSIST THE STATE IN REMOVING THE VESSEL FROM TIDE AND SUBMERGED LANDS.

Attachment: Exhibit "A"

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RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, on April 13, 1970, the 467-foot, 7000-ton passenger ship La Jenelle broke loose from its mooring two miles seaward from Port Hueneme and washed ashore adjacent to the entrance of Port Hueneme Harbor on State-owned tide and submerged lands; and

WHEREAS, the ship was purchased in a bankruptcy proceeding, by a private corporation who intended to remove the ship for salvage; and

WHEREAS, following several unsuccessful removal attempts, the vessel was sold to another private corporation; and

WHEREAS, although a small portion of the vessel has been removed, the corporation has been unable to continue its operations; and

WHEREAS, the corporation has removed all its equipment and deserted the site; and

WHEREAS, although attempts are being made by security personnel to restrict access to the vessel, some users of the public beach still manage to board the vessel; and

WHEREAS, parts of the hull and deck have been cut away, and jagged rusty edges outline gaping holes through which the curious can fall twenty to fifty feet into the ship's hold or into the ocean; and

WHEREAS, the vessel, because it has been partially cut away, is structurally weakened so that continued exposure to the sea will soon cause pieces to break away, which will create an additional hazard, especially to vessels using the entrance to Port Hueneme; and

WHEREAS, because of the failure of private corporations, it becomes incumbent upon the government to remove the vessel from the beach; and

WHEREAS, the Navy has experience in salvaging and removing beached vessels, and operations and equipment relating thereto; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the California State Lands Commission respectfully memorializes the Secretary of the Navy in the Department of Defense to assist the State in removing the vessel from the beach.