

# N.C. Oil and Gas Commission

## Minutes of the December 4, 2018 Meeting<sup>1</sup>

The Meeting of the Oil and Gas Commission took place on December 4, 2018 in the Archdale Building, Ground Floor Hearing Room at 512 N. Salisbury Street in Raleigh. Commission Chairman James K. Womack, Jr. gavelled-in the meeting at 10:10 AM. Members of the Commission stood for a Moment of Silence followed by reciting the Pledge of Allegiance. The Chairman read the ethics reminder and asked Commission members to identify conflicts or potential conflicts. No conflicts were disclosed.

The Commission roll was then called: Present -- Stanford Baird, Victor Gaglio, John T. Lucey, Jr., Robert C. Reinhardt (by telephone), Rebecca W. Salmon, Michael C. Stone (by phone), James Womack and Dr. Jim Zhang.

The minutes of the October 16, 2018 Meeting were not available at the time of the meeting. They will be approved at the next Commission meeting.

Chairman Womack then discussed the Proposed 2019 Meeting Schedule. He proposed 11 meetings of the Commission for the year. He has requested meetings in January, March, June, July, September, October, and December be conducted in Lee County at the County Commissioners' Board Room, 106 Hillcrest Drive in Sanford. Commissioner Baird asked if there would there be a go-no-go notice so that meetings could be cancelled if not needed. Chairman Womack agreed.

There were already four (4) quarterly meetings for 2019 on Tuesday, February 12<sup>th</sup>; Tuesday, May 14<sup>th</sup>; Tuesday, August 13<sup>th</sup>; and Wednesday, November 6<sup>th</sup>. The quarterly meetings will be held in the Ground Floor Hearing Room in the Archdale Building at 512 N. Salisbury Street in Raleigh. Chairman Womack then proceeded to select dates by consensus for the proposed meetings – January 8<sup>th</sup>, March 12<sup>th</sup>, April travel on the 17 to 21 would be over Easter weekend and Passover. Suggested to look at the 24 to 26 as an alternate. Chairman Womack then posed and got concurrence for June 11<sup>th</sup>, July 16<sup>th</sup>, September 10<sup>th</sup>, October 8<sup>th</sup> and December 10<sup>th</sup>. These dates will be firmed up at a later meeting.

The Commission then moved to the Standard Operating Procedures and to look to incorporate additional information into scope of procedures to be in sync with current statutes. Finalizing the draft of this document would be by the Commission Counsel.

Chairman Womack then moved to Committee assignments with Commissioner Salmon being named Chair of the Civil Remissions Committee. Commissioner Jones' replacement will also be assigned to that committee.

Staff were asked about the per diem and reimbursement of travel costs. Jennifer Mundt will work with the staff to address this issue.

Commissioner Gaglio asked to go back to the Commission Study Groups. Chairman Womack said he would like to put a "straw-man" of the rules the Study Groups which would look at their scope of inquiry. He said he would and get with staff in the coming months to provide more information to Committee Chairs and Study Group Directors.

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<sup>1</sup> These minutes remain in draft form until approved by the Commission.

Audio recording of all Oil and Gas Commission meetings are posted on the OGC website.

The Commission moved to item 10 – Status Update on Public Records. The Chairman said he had fulfilled all requests with a thumb drive with thousands of documents.

Staff briefed the Commission on the e-mail accounts for Oil and Gas Commissioners. The Chairman asked that the historical archive of the Mining and Energy Commission should be restored. The Chairman also talked about the annual and quarterly reports the OGC should be sending to the Legislature. Ms Mundt indicated that the due dates for the annual reports are not specified in state statutes. Commissioner Baird suggested that Commission Counsel research this issue and report to the Commission at a later meeting.

Commission reached the Public Comment period and the Chairman requested that documents given to the commissioners not be placed on the website. Content not approved by the by Commission should be taken down. Jennifer Mundt suggested that submissions made by members of the public could be identified as such so as to not be construed as official documents of the Oil and Gas Commission.

#### Public Comments:

Martha Girolami – Passed out information to Commissioners on the reports of global warming. Methane emissions are going upward on a steeper slope. She asked for no new fracking.

Brooks Rainey Pearson – Asked the Commission not to take the trip up to Pennsylvania. She said there was no pressing need from industry. She also said that funding cuts in DEQ would make staffing meetings more difficult. She is still waiting to find out the originator of the petitions on local ordinances.

#### Commissioners Comments:

Commissioner Reinhardt had no comment.

Commissioner Stone had no comment.

Commissioner Zhang and no comment.

Commissioner Salmon agreed with Commissioner Baird that there should be a way to be able to frame documents which come before the Commission from the public are included on the website to build public trust.

Commissioners Lucy has no further comment.

Commissioner Gaglio appreciated comments.

Commissioner Baird said it was a good meeting.

Chairman Womack adjourned the meeting at 11:24 AM.