

N.C. Oil and Gas Commission

Minutes of the Tuesday, 18 February 2025 Meeting*

The meeting of the Oil and Gas Commission took place at 9:00 A.M. on 18 February 2025 in the Ground Floor Hearing Room of the Archdale Bldg. at 512 N. Salisbury St. in Raleigh, hosted by the North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ). Attendance of the meeting was also available via Webex video-conferencing service.

Chair John T. Lucey opened the meeting with a moment of silence and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chair Lucey read the Elections and Ethics Enforcement Act to the Commission and asked for concerns of potential conflict. None were given.

Staff conducted a roll-call attendance. **Commissioner John Droz, Jr.** (remote), **Commissioner J. Cody Edwards** (remote), **Commissioner Karen A. Howard** (remote), Chair Lucey (remote), **Commissioner Dr. William Vizuite** (remote), and **Commissioner John D. White II** (remote). **Commissioners Stanford D. Baird, Vice-Chair James C. Lister, and Rebecca Wyhof Salmon** were absent. Six of nine members of the Commission were present, and a quorum was declared.

Chair Lucey asked for revisions or additions to the Agenda from the Commission. No revisions or additions were brought forward.

Chair Lucey moved the meeting to approving the 4th quarter Commission meeting minutes from November. Commissioner Droz made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Commissioner White. After a roll-call vote, the motion passed unanimously.

Chair Lucey moved the discussion to an update regarding the progress on the 05C (geophysical exploration) rules adoption. **NCGS Senior Geologist Jim Chapman** responded that the 05C rules adoption has been progressing on schedule. A Hearing Officer's Report will be written and advanced to the Oil and Gas Commission's Rules Review Committee. **DOJ Assistant Attorney General Sarah Zambon** clarified that there was not anything for the Commission to do concerning the 05C rules during this meeting.

Chair Lucey moved the discussion to the Commissioners' terms. Jim Chapman informed the Commission that five of the Commissioners were serving on expired terms. All of the aforementioned Commissioners are Governor appointees, and a request was made to relay the Commissioners' wishes regarding reappointment or relief back to DEQ leadership. This information was reported.

Chair Lucey moved the discussion to the Oil and Gas Commission's 2024 Annual Report to the NC General Assembly Environmental Review Commission and the Joint Legislative Commission on Energy Policy. Jim Chapman reported that the Report was successfully submitted and could be found on the Oil and Gas Commission's webpage.

Chair Lucey moved the discussion to a report of renewed interest in developing one or both of the existing exploratory wells in Lee County. The Commission was informed of the interest but that the

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interest is in preliminary stages.

Chair Lucey moved the discussion to inquiries made to the North Carolina Geological Survey concerning oil or gas exploration interest. Jim Chapman reported that there had not been any inquiries since the last Commission meeting, beyond the discussed two existing exploratory wells.

Chair Lucey moved the discussion to public comments. Dan Fisher, representing North Carolina Energy Security, introduced himself as working with Mr. Dan Butler concerning his gas potential wells in Lee County.

Chair Lucey asked for concluding remarks from the Commission. Chair Lister asked to be reminded of the status of the Commission's Civil Penalties Remissions Committee. Counselor Zambon relayed that a Civil Penalties Remission Committee has yet to be established for this Commission. Commissioner Droz suggested adding an explanation of the Civil Penalties Remission Committee for the next Commission meeting.

Chair Lucey asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner White made a motion to adjourn, Commissioner Edwards seconded the motion. A roll call vote to adjourn the meeting was unanimously approved.

Chair Lucey adjourned the meeting.

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