

# BEACON BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING MINUTES

**DATE:** Friday, September 16, 2022

**TIME:** 9:00 AM

**PLACE:** TELECONFERENCE

<b>em</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>Call to Order, Roll Call, and Introductions – Chair, Gregg Hart.</b>
<b>Minutes/ Actions:</b>		<p><b>Directors Present:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Gregg Hart (County of Santa Barbara)</b></li> <li>• <b>Das Williams (County of Santa Barbara)</b></li> <li>• <b>Eric Friedman (City of Santa Barbara)</b></li> <li>• <b>Vianey Lopez (City of Oxnard)</b></li> <li>• <b>Steven Gama (City of Port Hueneme)</b></li> <li>• <b>Matt LaVere (County of Ventura)</b></li> <li>• <b>Kyle Richards (City of Goleta)</b></li> </ul> <p><b>Directors Not Present:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Al Clark (City of Carpinteria)</b></li> <li>• <b>Joe Schroeder (City of Ventura)</b></li> </ul>

<b>Item</b>		<p><b>Report on Circumstances of the COVID-19 State of Emergency</b></p> <p><b>Recommended Actions:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Receive and file:</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. <b>An update that the State and County remain under a proclaimed state of emergency related to COVID-19; and</b></li> <li>b. <b>The County of Santa Barbara Public Health Department recommendation issued February 16, 2022 (Attachment 1), and the Ventura County Health Officer recommendation issued November 15, 2021 (Attachment 2), regarding social distancing.</b></li> </ol> </li> <li>2. <b>Based on the above findings proceed with this meeting and direct staff to continue to notice and hold hearings as remote hearings consistent with Government Code § 54953(e)(3).</b></li> </ol>
<b>Minutes/ Actions:</b>		<p><b>Board Members Comments:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chair Hart explained that this was the COVID item and asked if there were any questions.</li> </ul> <p><b>Public Comments:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• None.</li> </ul> <p><b>The Board approved unanimously the Recommended Action. Moved by LaVere / Second by Friedman.</b></p>

<b>Item</b>	<b>1C</b>	<b>Approval of Agenda and Filing of Certificate of Agenda Posting</b> <b>Action: Approve and file.</b>
<b>Minutes/ Actions:</b>		<p><b>Board Members Comments:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• None.</li> </ul> <p><b>Public Comments:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• None.</li> </ul> <p><b>The agenda was approved unanimously by the Board. Moved by Gama / Second by Friedman.</b></p>

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<b>Item</b>	<b>1D</b>	<b>Consideration and Approval of Minutes of the BEACON Meeting held on July 15, 2022. Action: Approve and file.</b>
<b>Minutes/ Actions:</b>		<p><b>Board Members Comments:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• None.</li> </ul> <p><b>Public Comments:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• None.</li> </ul> <p>The Board approved unanimously to approve and file the BEACON Board Minutes from July 15, 202. Moved by LaVere / Second by Richards.</p>

<b>Item</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>Public Comment and Other Matters not on the Agenda Receive public comments.</b>
<b>Minutes/ Actions:</b>		<p><b>Board Members Comments:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• None.</li> </ul> <p><b>Public Comments:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• None.</li> </ul>

<b>Item</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>Presentations - Regional Sediment Management and Sea Level Rise Adaptation within the BEACON Coast.</b>
<b>Minutes/ Actions:</b>		Postponed till November 2022 Board Meeting.

<b>Item</b>	<b>5A</b>	<b>BEACON Organization and Program - Board Members Reports.</b>
<b>Minutes/ Actions:</b>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Director Richards reported that on September 6, 2022, the City of Goleta passed a waste reduction ordinance banning plastic bags and Styrofoam.</li> <li>• Director Friedman indicated that he attended the Coastal Commission Local Government Working Group on August 12 at the Coastal Commission Meeting in Calabasas. There was excellent discussion at the meeting. The number one topic was the 1977 construction date threshold for compliance with development requirements. The August 12 meeting was recorded if Board Members missed it.</li> <li>• Director Gama reported he attended the Coastal Commission Meeting and agreed there was excellent discussion. Director Gama also reported that September 17 was beach cleanup day and that this is the 6<sup>th</sup> year of the weekly beach clean ups which has made a tremendous difference. There has been a huge turnout from a big cross-section of the community.</li> <li>• Director Gama indicated he was excited about the start of the new dredge project at Channel Island Harbor. Unfortunately, the project budget will likely leave un-dredged about 600,000 CY. On September 21 the USACOE is hosting a project review meeting at the harbor.</li> </ul>

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<b>Item</b>	<b>5B</b>	<p><b>BEACON Contract and Agreement</b></p> <p><b>Recommended Actions:</b></p> <p>i. Receive and file the Fiscal Year 2021-2022 Budget-to-Actual report for the year-to date period ending June 30, 2022 (Exhibit I).</p> <p>ii. Authorize the Auditor-Controller’s Office to make budgetary adjustments as follows: (requires 6/10th);</p> <table style="margin-left: 40px;"> <tr> <td>INCREASE</td> <td>5665-2159</td> <td>\$1,000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>DECREASE</td> <td>5665-2183</td> <td>\$1,000</td> </tr> </table> <p>iii. Authorize the Auditor-Controller’s Office to make budgetary adjustments as follows: (requires 6/10th);</p> <table style="margin-left: 40px;"> <tr> <td>INCREASE</td> <td>5668-9252</td> <td>\$475,000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>INCREASE</td> <td>5668-2183</td> <td>\$400,000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>INCREASE</td> <td>5668-2199</td> <td>\$75,000</td> </tr> </table> <p>iv. Authorize the Auditor-Controller’s Office to make budgetary adjustments as follows: (requires 6/10th);</p> <table style="margin-left: 40px;"> <tr> <td>INCREASE</td> <td>665-2183</td> <td>\$25,000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>DECREASE</td> <td>5665-6101</td> <td>\$6,000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>DECREASE Fund Balance</td> <td>5665-5420</td> <td>\$19,000</td> </tr> </table>	INCREASE	5665-2159	\$1,000	DECREASE	5665-2183	\$1,000	INCREASE	5668-9252	\$475,000	INCREASE	5668-2183	\$400,000	INCREASE	5668-2199	\$75,000	INCREASE	665-2183	\$25,000	DECREASE	5665-6101	\$6,000	DECREASE Fund Balance	5665-5420	\$19,000
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<b>Minutes/ Actions:</b>		<p>Executive Director Beyeler explained that Item i. was the Budget to Actual report through June 2022 and Item ii. is for miscellaneous administrative budget adjustments. Item iii. provides the necessary budget adjustments to accommodate the new cooperative agreement with the City of Santa Barbara whereby BEACON is reimbursed for up to \$475,000 through a grant secured by the City for Regional Coastal Adaptation Monitoring Program. BEACON will hire a consultant to do most of the work, but the budget does include \$75,000 for BEACON staff oversight. Item iv. addresses the necessary budget adjustment to accommodate the grant to CSUCI to develop a plan (organizational and financial) to establish a coastal research institute focused on conservation and environmental justice in the name of Carmen Ramirez.</p> <p><b>Board Members Comments:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• None.</li> </ul> <p><b>Public Comments:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• None.</li> </ul> <p><b>The Board approved unanimously the Recommended Action. Motion by Gama / Second by LaVere.</b></p>																								

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<b>Item</b>	<b>5C</b>	<p><b>BEACON Contract and Agreement</b></p> <p><b>Recommended Actions:</b></p> <p><b>i. Approve and authorize the Chair to execute Amendment No. 1 to the Agreement with COM3 Consulting for program management services to accommodate reimbursement of expenses related to educational events, seminars and BEACON related workshops and related travel costs, registration fees, hotel accommodations, food, meals and mileage, consistent with BEACON's budget.</b></p>
<b>Minutes/ Actions:</b>	<p>Executive Director Beyeler explained that as the Board knows, BEACON has no employees and all tasks to run the organization are performed by contract staff. This item amends the existing contract with COM3 Consulting (Gerald Comati) for Program Management services to allow the independent reimbursement of costs associated with the attendance of educational events, conferences, or seminars relevant to the operations of BEACON.</p> <p><b>Board Members Comments:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• None.</li> </ul> <p><b>Public Comments:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• None.</li> </ul> <p><b>The Board approved unanimously the Recommended Action.</b></p> <p><b>Motion by Lopez / Second by Richards.</b></p>	

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<b>Item</b>	<b>5D</b>	<p><b>BEACON Contract and Agreement</b></p> <p><b>Recommended Actions:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><b>i. Approve and authorize staff to cooperate with the Ventura County Community Foundation (VCCF) as VCCF establishes a scholarship fund in the memory of Carmen Ramirez (involving private donations only) and direct Staff and the Auditor-Controller to forward any unsolicited donations or pledges of donation to the Carmen Ramirez scholarship fund so long as the donor agrees; and</b></li><li><b>ii. Approve and authorize the Executive Director to execute an agreement with CSUCI to provide CSUCI a grant of \$25,000 to develop a plan (organizational and financial) to establish a coastal research institute focused on conservation and environmental justice in the name of Carmen Ramirez, upon review and approval of legal counsel and Auditor-Controller.</b></li></ul>
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**Minutes/  
Actions:**

Executive Director Beyeler explained that following the tragic new of Carmen Ramirez, we initially wanted to cancel this board meeting. However, as we began to discuss how we can honor her life there was an outpouring from friends, family and colleagues. BEACON received unsolicited pledges towards the creation of a scholarship fund in the name of Carmen, to train the next generation of community and environmental focused individuals.

In the last three years, BEACON and faculty and staff of California State University Channel Islands (CSUCI) have developed several partnership projects involving coastal research and during this time BEACON had discussed the need for an institute/center focused on coastal issues, including importantly, coastal restoration, climate adaptation, and environmental justice. These were also the priority issues for Carmen, as a board member of BEACON, an elected official, and a community advocate.

BEACON and CSUCI staff, faculty, and leadership have discussed that the next step in developing such an institute involves completing a concept organizational and financial plan to guide establishment of the institute and its work. BEACON staff enthusiastically support a grant for this purpose and support the naming of the institute in Carmen's memory. Consequently, Beacon staff recommend the Board approve a grant of \$25,000 and authorize the Executive Director to enter into such an agreement upon review and approval of legal counsel and the Auditor-Controller. Further, staff is recommending the Board authorize staff to work with University officials to raise additional resources to implement the institute.

**Board Members Comments:**

- Chair Hart thanked Marc Beyeler. He continued that the loss of Carmen was very personal and the establishment of an institute in Carmen's name is perfect and is a concept that Carmen would have been extremely excited about.
- Director Gama indicated that when you lose a champion such as Carmen is it a wake-up call and we have to take this opportunity to honor Carmen and at the same time make big strides in all the areas Carmen was most passionate about.
- Director Richards expressed that Carmen was such a great leader and her loss leaves a bid hole. Anything we can do something to support her vision is very important.
- Director LaVere expressed his great sorrow. He continued that only a month ago, he was together with Carmen at the Coastal Commission Meeting discussing coastal issues. Carmen's focus was empowering young people, social justice, and the environment. The establishment of an institute in her name is a perfect way to honor Carmen. She was so kind and a great friend to everyone.
- Director Friedman thanked staff. He indicated that it was difficult to speak of such a loss for the community but that the institute will be a great legacy for the next generation. Director Friedman relayed that a favorite memory of Carmen was the long conversation they had while waiting at Santa Barbara Airport at 5:30 AM for a flight to Sacramento. She was a trail blazer and will be greatly missed.
- Director Williams indicated that Carmen helped so many people and fought for so many important causes. She campaigned against Walmart and the coastal gas plant. She was an amazing advocate for the working class and the environment. It is so sad to see this vibrant

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	<p>person taken away. The institute is an excellent idea and it is good to see the solidarity we are all in on this matter.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Director Lopez indicated she also supports the establishment of the institute in Carmen's name. It is the best way to honor Carmen Ramirez and is putting her words into actions. Director Lopez explained that she was a product of Carmen's mentorship and Carmen's memory will continue in this institute.</li> </ul> <p><b>Public Comments:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Jeff Lambert from the Ventura County Community Foundation indicated that Carmen's family want a scholarship to support public service. He indicated that the foundation is collecting donations to feed the scholarship but as of yet, we have not defined the criteria for the scholarship.</li> <li>• Fred Shaw, previous BEACON Director from City of Carpinteria, stated that he and Carmen came on the BEACON Board at the same time. She was a great voice for the community and for environmental justice. The institute will be a great way to continue her legacy.</li> <li>• Stacey Miller, of Stacy Miller Public Affairs, expressed that she believed Carmen was a once in a lifetime leader.</li> <li>• Dr. Kiki Patch of CSUCI expressed her happiness to be part of the establishment of the new institute. Carmen was a great mentor to so many.</li> <li>• Jena Perkovich, of Stacey Miller Public Affairs, indicated that Carmen felt like an old friend. She was so warm and kind always. I will always take what she thought and carry it forward.</li> </ul> <p><b>Board of Members Comments:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chair Hart thanked all for their kind works and thoughts about Carmen.</li> </ul> <p><b>The Board approved unanimously the Recommended Action.</b>  <b>Motion by LaVere / Second by Gama.</b></p>
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<b>Item</b>	6	<b>Executive Director's Report and Communications</b>
<b>Minutes/ Actions:</b>	Postponed till November 2022 Board Meeting.	

**Adjourn to next regular meeting November 18, 2022, at 9:00 AM by Teleconference or Video Conference. Meeting Minutes by Gerald Comati, Program Manager, BEACON.**