

BEACON BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING MINUTES

DATE: Monday, January 20, 2023

TIME: 9:00 AM

PLACE: TELECONFERENCE

Item	1A Call to Order, Roll Call, and Introductions – Chair, Laura Capps.
Minutes/ Actions:	Directors Present: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Laura Capps (County of Santa Barbara)• Das Williams (County of Santa Barbara)• Eric Friedman (City of Santa Barbara)• Vianey Lopez (City of Oxnard)• Matt LaVere (County of Ventura)• Kyle Richards (City of Goleta)• Gabe Teran, (City of Oxnard)• Steven Gama, (City of Port Hueneme)• Doug Halter (City of Ventura)• Al Clark (City of Carpinteria) Directors Not Present: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• All present

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Item	1B	Report on Circumstances of the COVID-19 State of Emergency Recommended Actions: <ul style="list-style-type: none">i. Receive and file:<ul style="list-style-type: none">a. An update that the State and County remain under a proclaimed state of emergency related to COVID-19; andb. The County of Santa Barbara Public Health Department recommendation issued September 1, 2022, and the Ventura County Health Officer recommendation issued November 15, 2021, regarding social distancing.ii. Based on the above findings proceed with this meeting.iii. Receive a report on teleconference options and direct staff to notice and hold meetings consistent with the traditional Brown Act teleconference rules allowing for either remote or in-person meetings so long as all requirements are met.
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Minutes/ Actions:	<p>Legal Counsel, Susan McKenzie, explained that since the start of the pandemic and through the passage of AB361, the Board has been able to meet remotely without complying with traditional Brown Act teleconference rules. As has been widely reported, California is likely to end the COVID State of Emergency as of February 28, 2023. If this occurs, the requirements under AB 361 as it relates to COVID can no longer be met. Thus, under Brown Act, the Board can meet in person, as prior to COVID, or comply with the traditional teleconference rules, or a mixture of both. Legal Counsel explained Brown Act meeting requirements under the traditional teleconference rules, AB361, and AB2449.</p> <p>Board Members Comments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Director Williams asked that if he participated remotely under the Brown Act and his daughter was with him, would he have to identify his daughter?• Legal Counsel McKenzie responded that if Director William’s daughter is under 18 years, then no identification would be required.• Director Richards asked if the Board returned to in-person meetings at the City of Carpinteria Council Chambers, would the room have the technical facilities to accommodate teleconferencing?• Legal Counsel McKenzie responded that if the Board went back to in-person, no remote accommodations are required. If the Brown Act traditional teleconferencing rules are being followed, no remote access (such as zoom) is required; however, each location must be able to hear all speakers• Executive Director Beyeler indicated that BEACON has historically shown itself to be a very successful hybrid agency. AB 2449 is very complex. Conversely, under the traditional teleconference Brown Act rule, any Board Member can participate remotely if the meeting agenda is posted at the remote location and all Board actions are taken with a full rollcall (which BEACON does anyway). Executive Director Beyeler continued that the City of Carpinteria Council Chambers has the technical capabilities for a hybrid meeting. BEACON has historically been forced to chase quorums and public participation at City Hall has been challenging. By adopting the hybrid (or tele-conferencing) scenario, we accommodate maximum Board and public participation.• Director Gama indicated that he was currently at Port Hueneme offices but that there was no public access. Would he have to participate next time at Port Hueneme City Hall in order to accommodate public participation?• Legal Counsel McKenzie responded to the affirmative and clarified that the scenario being described under the Brown Act should not be referred to as “hybrid” but rather “traditional teleconference rules with multiple locations”.• Director Williams indicated that if one uses their own home as a teleconference venue it must be noticed correctly.• Director Friedman indicated he was supportive of the teleconferencing approach.• Director Friedman asked whether under the teleconference approach, do we need a quorum at any specific location?• Legal Counsel McKenzie responded a quorum within the jurisdiction is needed. In other words, at least six Directors must appear in from within SB County jurisdiction and Ventura County jurisdiction.• Director Capps indicated that it looked like there was consensus on the traditional teleconferencing approach.
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Legal Counsel McKenzie responded that because the Board does not meet again till March 2023, we need direction from the Board on whether to do traditional teleconferencing for the next Board Meeting or for the future in general. <p>Public Comments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None. <p>The Board approved the recommended action and unanimously directed the use of traditional teleconference rules for Board Meetings. Moved by Friedman / Second by La Vere.</p>
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Item	1C	Approval of Agenda and Filing of Certificate of Agenda Posting Action: Approve and file.
Minutes/ Actions:		<p>Board Members Comments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None. <p>Public Comments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None. <p>The agenda was approved unanimously by the Board. Moved by Richards / Second by Gama.</p>

Item	1D	Consideration and Approval of Minutes of the BEACON Meeting held on November 7, 2022. Action: Approve and file.
Minutes/ Actions:		<p>Board Members Comments:</p> <p>None.</p> <p>Public Comments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None. <p>The Board approved unanimously to approve and file the BEACON Board Minutes from November 7, 2022. Moved by LaVere / Second by Friedman.</p>

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Item	1E	<p>Election of Officers Recommended Action: Elect a Chair and Vice-Chair to serve a two-year term for calendar years 2023 and 2024.</p>
Minutes/ Actions:		<p>Executive Director Beyeler reminded the Board that the election of officers was for a two-year term and that the Chair and Vice Chair should come from different County jurisdictions. Chair Capps succeeded Chair Hart, who's two-year term as Chair ends in December 2023. Carmen Ramirez was the Vice Chair and would have been the Chair starting in 2023.</p> <p>Board Members Comments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Director Friedman nominated Director Lopez as the new Chair and Director Richards as the new Vice Chair. • Director Richards thanked the Board for the nomination and accepted it. • Director Lopez thanked the Board and accepted the nomination. <p>Public Comments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None. <p>The Board approved unanimously Director Lopez as the new Chair and Director Richards as the new Vice Chair. Moved by Williams / Second by Friedman.</p>

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Item	1F	<p>Appointment of BEACON Executive Committee (2023-2024) Recommended Action: Confirm the following Chair’s appointments to the BEACON Executive Committee for calendar years 2023 and 2024: the Past Chair, the Current Chair, the Current Vice Chair, one member from the Ventura County area member agencies, and one member from the Santa Barbara County area member agencies.</p>
Minutes/ Actions:		<p>Executive Director Beyeler reminded the Board that the Executive Committee was established two years ago to provide focused leadership for BEACON. The Executive Committee has historically been made up of at least the past Chair, the current Chair, one Director from a Ventura County jurisdiction, and one member from a Santa Barbara County jurisdiction. Based on this formula, Director Capps would be invited to sit on the committee as the past Chair, Director Lopez as the current Chair.</p> <p>Board Members Comments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Director Friedman indicated that he would be interested in continuing to sit on the committee as the Santa Barbara County jurisdiction representative. • Director Gama volunteered to sit on the committee as the Ventura County representative. • Director Richards requested to stay on the committee. <p>Public Comments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None. <p>The Board approved unanimously Director Lopez, Capps, Friedman, Richards, and Gama as the new Executive Committee members. Moved by Richards / Second by Halter.</p>
Item	2	<p>Public Comment and Other Matters not on the Agenda Receive public comments.</p>
Minutes/ Actions:		<p>Board Members Comments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None. <p>Public Comments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dan Gira of Wood Consulting and working for Santa Barbara County Parks. Mr. Gira stated that the Park Department would like to work with BEACON to secure funding for sand retention projects/program. Mr. Gira also indicated that the SB County Flood Control District will be taking debris basin sediment to Goleta Beach under emergency permits, following the recent storms.
Item	3	<p>Presentations Presentation on Sea Level Rise Adaptation by a representative of the California Department of Parks and Recreation.</p>
Minutes/ Actions:		<p>Executive Director Beyeler indicated that due to the recent storms and resulting emergency conditions, the California Department of Parks and Recreation are not able to attend the meeting. The presentation will be rescheduled for a future Board meeting.</p>

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Item	4	<p>Kelp Anchor Demonstration Project</p> <p>Recommended Actions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Receive and file a Staff Report on the status of the Kelp Anchor Demonstration Project. ii. Adopt a Resolution authorizing the Executive Director to approve a new five-year Lease from the California State Lands Commission for the Kelp Anchor Demonstration Project in order to allow a scientific review and assessment of the kelp anchor area document the success of the project objectives.
Minutes/ Actions:		<p>Program Manager, Gerald Comati explained that the Kelp Anchor project dates back to 2014, when BEACON first secured permitting as the lead agency in delivering this innovative project to demonstrate a method to re-establish kelp in Goleta Bay. The system, developed by Mr. Bob Kiel of the Seattle Aquarium, creates a hard structure “hold-down” within the sand seabed for kelp spores to attach and re-establish kelp. By 2016 the project was installed and showed great success in establishing new kelp growth. In 2017 BEACON secured an extension to the State Lands Commission Lease for an additional five years. Design improvements to the system were initiated starting in 2018.</p> <p>The 2017 State Lands Lease extension expired at the end of 2022 and BEACON staff have been in communication with the State Lands indicating BEACON will seek a new lease for an additional five-years. The new lease will allow the project team, through use of funding from the Refugio Oil Spill Damage Assessment and Restoration Plan (DARP), to perform a scientific review and assessment of the project area and provide documentation of the marine environment both within and outside the project area. Mr. Comati added that a Resolution was required by SLC for the new lease. The attached is a Resolution for adoption by the Board authorizing the Executive Director to approve the new State Lands Commission lease.</p> <p>Board Members Comments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Director Richards indicated he was very excited about the design development (the Octo Condo’s) and supports the continued evolution of the project. He requested an update on progress at a suitable future Board Meeting. • Director Capps also indicated her support for the project. She asked is UCSB was involved? • Executive Director Beyeler responded that UCSB will be involved in the scientific review and assessment. <p>Public Comments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None. <p>The Board approved unanimously the recommended actions. Moved by Friedman / Second by Williams.</p>

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Item	5A	BEACON Organization and Program - Board Members Reports.
Minutes/ Actions:		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Director Friedman reported that as the Chair of the League of California Coastal Cities Leadership Group he is very excited to be working with the new Coastal Commission Executive Director who is replacing Jack Ainsworth. In addition, Director Friedman reported that he continued to work with the Government Working Group on ways to improve Local Coastal Plan updates. A workshop on this subject, focusing on a “neighborhood approach”, is scheduled for January 27, 2023, in Santa Barbara. • Director Teran expressed his excitement to be at his first BEACON meeting. He indicated that he may have a conflict for the March Board meeting but will work with the Executive Director. • Director Gama expressed his great thanks to Directors Lopez and La Vere offices in their help to resolve the air quality credits issues with ongoing Channel Island dredge project. • Director Capps expressed her excitement to join the BEACON organization. Director Capps indicated that she has been observing the post-storm beach nourishment operations at Goleta Beach closely. • Director Richards expressed his thanks for the vote of confidence in nominating him as Vice Chair. Director Richards acknowledged the County for its exceptional response to the storms and its extremely high level of care for our community. Director Richards continued, that there is concern in Goleta about the post-storm dumping at Goleta Beach and the community messaging in terms of beach nourishment versus sediment deposits. BEACON may be able get involved. • Director Williams reported he is engaged in the post-storm debris basin deposition operations at both Goleta Beach and Ash Avenue. The sediment is being sorted with organics being removed along with larger rocks. The sediment is being taken to the nearest beach in order to minimize the carbon footprint. Director Williams also asked if the SB Yacht Club needs sediment. He indicated he would be happy to connect on the outreach front to explain what happens if we don’t clean out the debris basins and the negatives of truck sediments to inland locations far away.

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Item	5B	<p>BEACON Contracts and Agreements</p> <p>Recommended Action:</p> <p>Approve and authorize the Chair to execute an Amendment No. 1 to the contract with Moss, Levy, & Hartzheim to provide financial audit services without a change in an amount not to exceed \$9,750 and which extends the period of performance three months for a revised term of July 1, 2022, through March 31, 2023 (Attachment 1).</p>
Minutes/ Actions:		<p>Executive Director Beyeler explained that BEACON does fiscal audits every two years. BEACON contracted with Moss, Levy, & Hartzheim in 2022, a private accounting firm, to perform the audit. Because BEACON is more complex now and more time is needed to complete the work. Consequently, a contract amendment is being recommended for approval to extend the term of the contract to March 31, 2023.</p> <p>Board Members Comments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None. <p>Public Comments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None. <p>The Board approved unanimously the recommended actions. Moved by Gama / Second by Williams.</p>

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Item	6	Executive Director's Report and Communications
Minutes/ Actions:		<p>The Executive Director reported on the following activities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Post Storm Sediment Deposits to Beaches. Mr. Beyeler has requested that SB County Flood Control + Env Health provide a presentation at the March Board Meeting to address the questions raised re/ the post-storm sediment deposits at Goleta Beach and Ash Avenue. Staff is working with USCB to figure out if there are new standards that we can apply when bringing sediment to beaches. We want to compare emergency permit conditions with standard permit conditions. Regarding out-reach, first we want to present to the Board in March. BEACON represents an excellent venue for presentations and discussions. • Budget. Staff will bring the FY23-24 dues proposal for a vote to the Board in March, as to be in better alignment with the member jurisdiction's own annual budget processes. The staff will also bring the FY 23-24 proposed budget to the Board for review in March and for a final vote in May. • Headwaters to Oceans Conference. BEACON is pursuing co-hosting the Headwaters to Oceans Conference this fall, which will take place in Ventura. BEACON will focus on science and implementation. <p>Board Members Comments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Director Lopez thanked Staff and the Board for a lot of great work and thanked the Executive Committee for its leadership. • Director Gama asked what days will the Executive Committee be meetings? • Executive Director Beyeler responded that the exact dates for the Executive Committee meetings are not decided yet. <p>Public Comments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Dan Gira indicated that to date 50,000 CY of sediment has been taken to Goleta Beach, which is the biggest deposit since 2011. Mr. Gira added that education in the key. People often do not realize that beach sand comes from the creeks. Mr. Gira concluded with an acknowledgement of the SB County Flood Control for its amazing efficiency in delivering the sediment.

Adjourn to next regular meeting March 17, 2023, at 9:00 AM at the Carpinteria City Hall and via Teleconference.

Meeting Minutes by Gerald Comati, Program Manager, BEACON.