

BEACON BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING MINUTES

DATE: Friday, March 21, 2025

TIME: 9:00 AM

PLACE: IN-PERSON IN CARPINTERIA & TELECONFERENCE

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| Item | 1A | Call to Order, Roll Call, and Introductions –Chair, Eric Friedman |
| Minutes/ Actions: | Members Present: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vianey Lopez (County of Ventura) – Remote • Matt LaVere (County of Ventura) • Roy Lee (County of Santa Barbara) • Bob Nelso (County of Santa Barbara) - Remote • Eric Friedman (City of Santa Barbara) • James Kyriaco (City of Goleta) • Julie Mayer (City of Carpinteria) • Doug Halter (City of Ventura) • Gabe Teran, (City of Oxnard) - Remote • Steven Gama (City of Port Hueneme) Members Not Present: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Laura Capps (County of Santa Barbara) | |
| Item | 1B - C | Approval of Administrative Items B. Approval of Agenda and Filing of Certificate of Agenda Posting. C. Consideration and Approval of Minutes of the BEACON Meeting held on February 28, 2025. |
| Minutes/ Actions: | Board Members Comments: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None. Public Comments: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None. Motion to approve Items IB and IC as set forth in the agenda. Moved by Gama / Second by LaVere. Unanimously approved. | |
| Item | 2 | Public Comment and Other Matters not on the agenda Receive public comments. |
| Minutes/ Actions: | Board Members Comments: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None. Public Comments: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None. | |
| Item | 3 | Presentations - Merito Foundation Executive Director Rocio Lozano-Knowlton will provide the Board with a presentation on the Foundation’s youth ocean science and environmental education program activities in the coastal watersheds of Ventura and Santa Barbara County. |
| Minutes/ Actions: | Rocio Lozano-Knowlton made a PowerPoint presentation on the Merito Foundation’s youth ocean science and environmental education program. | |

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| | <p>Executive Director Baeyler indicated that the presentation will be posted to the BEACON Website.</p> <p>Board Members Comments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Member Mayer indicated how impressed she is with the great work that the Merito Foundation is doing in Ventura County to improve the involvement of kids in the environment. • Member Gama indicated he has been working on Orman Beach litter clean up and great progress has been made, and many kids get involved. Clean up programs used to be once a year, now they are continuous. <p>Executive Director Baeyler thanked Rocia Lozano-Knowton and echoed the Boards commitment and Staff's commitment to better coordination with programs like that of the Merito Foundation. Mr. Beyeler added that we want to partner better, it is an important part of BEACON's work.</p> <p>Public Comments:</p> <p>None.</p> |
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| Item | 5A | BEACON Organization and Program Board Members Reports |
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| Minutes/ Actions: | | <p>Board Members Comments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chair Friedman reported that the Coastal Commission will be meeting on April 9, 2025, in Santa Barbara at the Hilton Santa Barbara Beachfront Hotel, for those interested in attending. Chair Friedman also reminded the Board that the Casamira HOA legal decision was overturned by the State Appellate Court and will now be heard by the State Supreme Court. • Member Mayer reported that Erin Maker, Environmental Program Manager from the City of Carpinteria, was awarded District 1 Woman of Year. The City of Carpinteria is very proud of Ms. Maker. <p>Public Comments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None. |

| Item | 5B | BEACON Contracts and Agreements <i>Recommended Actions:</i> |
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| | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Adopt an increase to voting member assessments (membership dues) by 15% for Fiscal Year 2025-2026 to provide an additional \$51,907 in revenue. (Exhibit IV) (Requires unanimous approval (10/10 vote)); and ii. Upon approval of member assessments, review and provide direction for the Recommended Fiscal Year 2025-2026 Budget (Exhibit V) with Final Budget Approval to be presented at May 2025 BEACON Board Meeting. |

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| Minutes/ Actions: | <p>Executive Director Marc Beyeler explained that there were two items for consideration by the Board under budget items. The first was to adopt a 15% increase in member dues, as previously discussed at the February 2025 Board Meeting. The second is to provide direction to Staff regarding adoption of the FY2526 budget at the May Board Meeting.</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>Motion to approve Items 5B i and ii as recommended on the agenda. Moved by LaVere / Second by Kyriaco. Unanimously approved.</p> |
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| Item | 5C | <p>BEACON Contracts and Agreements <i>Recommended Actions:</i></p> <p>iii. Approve and authorize the Chair to execute an Agreement with Matunuck Research Group LLC for the services of Nathaniel Merrill to assist BEACON staff in developing data and methods for the Southern California cell Phone Data Project to analyze local beach use with a period of performance from March 21, 2025, to September 30, 2025, for a total amount not to exceed \$25,000 (Attachment 1) with funding provided by The Bay Foundation.</p> |
| Minutes/ Actions: | | <p>Executive Director Marc Beyeler indicated BEACON is currently involved in projects to address improvements in beach access planning, regional monitoring, ecological assessment and expanded regional sediment management to support climate adaptation. Using funds provided by the Bay Foundation, BEACON is coordinating a multi-agency research project on beach access and BEACON's partners include the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority (MRCA), California State University Channel Islands (CSUCI), and the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). Most recently, EPA has withdrawn from the project. Fortunately, Mr. Merrill, formerly representing US EPA, is now available to work on the project as an independent contractor (Matunuck Research Group LLC). The proposed agreement with Mr. Merrill would allow BEACON to complete the grant project as intended and will support Mr. Merrill's continued involvement in the project for the next six months.</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>Motion to approve Items 5C i as recommended on the agenda. Moved by Halter / Second by LaVere. Unanimously approved.</p> |

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| Item | 6 | Executive Director's Report and Communications The Executive Director will report on recent activities and achievements of BEACON, upcoming events of interest to the Board of Directors and the public, and general status of BEACON major projects, including the status of recent BEACON presentations on activities and accomplishments to our member agencies. There will be no Board discussion except to ask questions or refer matters to Staff; no action will be taken unless listed on a subsequent agenda. |
| Minutes/ Actions: | <p>Executive Director Beyeler indicated that in late April BEACON Staff will be hosting the fifth Sand Summit. BEACON has paid attention to the sediment needs of south Ventura County and for each of the last five years, has hosted the Ventura Sand Summit meeting. This event includes representatives from all the harbors within the BEACON jurisdiction, the USACE, the Navy and many of our SAC members. Mr. Beyeler added that in late April, Brian Brennan will be going to DC to represent BEACON for "Coasts Week" put on by the American Shore and Beach Preservation Association (ASBPA).</p> <p>Public Comments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• None. <p>Board Members Comments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• None. | |

The next Board Meeting will be held on May 16, 2025, 9:00 AM, at the City of Carpinteria City Council Chambers.

Meeting Minutes by Gerald Comati, Program Manager, BEACON.