

# BEACON BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING MINUTES FOR

**DATE:** Friday, September 19, 2025

**TIME:** 9:00 AM

**PLACE:** IN-PERSON IN CARPINTERIA & TELECONFERENCE

<b>Item</b>	<b>1A</b>	<b>Call to Order, Roll Call, and Introductions –Chair, Eric Friedman</b>
<b>Minutes/ Actions:</b>	<b>Members Present:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Vianey Lopez (County of Ventura)</li> <li>• Matt LaVere (County of Ventura)</li> <li>• Laura Capps (County of Santa Barbara) - Remote</li> <li>• Eric Friedman (City of Santa Barbara)</li> <li>• Doug Halter (City of Ventura)</li> <li>• Julie Mayer (City of Carpinteria)</li> <li>• Gabe Teran, (City of Oxnard)</li> <li>• Steven Gama (City of Port Hueneme)</li> </ul> <b>Members Not Present:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Roy Lee (County of Santa Barbara)</li> <li>• James Kyriaco (City of Goleta)</li> </ul>	
<b>Item</b>	<b>1B - C</b>	<b>Approval of Administrative Items</b> <b>B. Approval of Agenda and Filing of Certificate of Agenda Posting.</b> <b>C. Consideration and Approval of Minutes of the BEACON Meeting held on July 18, 2025.</b>
<b>Minutes/ Actions:</b>	<b>Board Members Comments:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• None.</li> </ul> <b>Public Comments:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• None.</li> </ul> <b>Motion to approve Items IB and IC as set forth in the agenda. Moved by Gama / Second by Lopez. Unanimously approved.</b>	

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

<b>Item</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>Presentations -</b> <b>Recommended Action:</b> Receive a presentation on the Regional Coastal Adaptation Monitoring Program (RCAMP) from Beacon staff and from a representative with Environmental Science Associates (ESA).
<b>Minutes/ Actions:</b>	Executive Director Marc Beyeler indicated that all Board Members have a Board Book. We are really excited to present today the Regional Coastal Adaptation Monitoring Program or RCAMP. The Board has heard about the RCAMP over the last two years during which time	

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we have brought to the board periodic updates. Today we will present the Draft Plan, which we have circulated to the public for comment, and we hosted a Webinar on the project last week with over 55 people attending. So, we have a lot of interest from the community. It is important to BEACON and our member jurisdictions, to make monitoring as highly efficient as we can, and duplicate it, and have elements to be monitored that would have an impact on our Coastal Adaptation Plans. We need the best information to inform our decisions. Today, Nick Garrety, Project Manager for Environmental Services Associates (ESA) will make the presentation. We also have representatives from the City of Santa Barbara, who secured the grant funding the project from the California Coastal Commission. The RCAMP will directly feed into a Local Coastal Plan Amendment for the City of Santra Barbara with regards to monitoring needed to affect adaptation.

Nick Garrety of ESA made the presentation to the BEACON Board. The RCAMP presentation will be posted to the BEACON Website.

### **Board Members Comments:**

- **Member Teran:** Thank you for the comprehensive presentation. Clearly, there is some very intentional work involved with the RCAMP. I have an email from the City of Oxnard Planning and Sustainability Manager who saw the update and provided some updates to me relevant to the City of Oxnard. I am especially interested in the social facet of the study and the involvement of the Chumash Tribes, and I will be giving special attention to the social element of the RCAMP Plan as it moves into the next phases, and I would appreciate any updates on these subjects from the Executive Director as the project continues to develop.
- **Member Halter:** Thank you to the project team for the presentation. The RCAMP is all about monitoring and providing that data in a usable way and it appears that a data access tool will be developed. I see how this folds into the planning for potential coastal hazards and it looks like the use of the monitoring data will rest on the coastal managers for the various BEACON communities.
- **Response from Nick Garrity of ESA:** Yes.
- **Member Halter:** Thank you.
- **Member Capps:** I was hoping you could talk more about the prioritization process. I understand the goal of social vulnerability. What about population density – one of the areas I represent is Isla Vista which is one of the most high-density areas in Sant Barbara County and suffers from extension bluff erosion and is at risk. Could this area be prioritized?
- **Response from Executive Director Bayeler:** As you heard in the presentation, protecting life and property is the highest priority of the RCAMP, and the protection of bluff erosion is very high.
- **Response from Nick Garrity of ESA:** I appreciate the comment. The RCAMP is focused on the collection of regional data and then applying the data to understand vulnerability and focusing on high-risk communities. Your comment should be reflected more clearly in the report.

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- **Member Capps:** Thank you. To summary, I think high risk should encapsulate physical danger and well as social vulnerabilities. As it happens, Isla Vista tick both of these categories.
- **Member Lopez:** It seems that RACMP is supplementing data developed or being developed by national entities like USGS and NOAA. I wonder what impacts reductions in Federal funding will have on this effort.
- **Response by Executive Director Bayeler:** We do not know how exactly the Federal funding impacts will affect RCAMP. But that said, we are already supplementing funding with some BEACON funds as well as directly securing the services of some scientists that have become available due to reduction or elimination of Federal funds. However, we continue to seek full Federal Funding, for example, for our critical dredging projects within BEACON.
- **Member Gama:** Thank you for the detailed report. I wanted to point out that in Ventura County we have an organization called the Owens Valley Economic Development Center and their mission is to align Native American Tribes with projects. The second point is that you had a photo of Ventura Point. The photo appears to have been taken after completion of Surfers Point Project and it looks amazing. With the scissors about to fall on Matilaja Dam, and the 4.5M CY of sediment that will be released, was this considered in your study?
- **Response from Nick Garrity of ESA:** Yes, it was considered as a potential project that would change sediment dynamics and would change sediment monitoring. The Dam removal project itself would have its own monitoring requirements, but the RCAMP would provide data to capture the regional impacts of the project.
- **Member Gama:** Thank you. I also wanted to add that at Port Hueneme Beach and once the bypass is completed at Channel Island Harbor and the beach is very wide, one can go out to the beach every day and literally see/monitor the changes in beach width as time moves on. It happens that quickly. When I take a step back and look at the whole region, some beaches have disappeared altogether (La Conchita) over time. Will the RCAMP look at this?
- **Response from Executive Director Bayeler:** We have a lot of data that we have not fully processed yet. USGS, both for BEACON and independent of BEACON, has been developing beach profile and beach erosion analyses in the BEACON region for some time. USGS and BEACON will be reporting on the outcome of these analyses. BEACON first started monitoring 36 transects in 1987 and then in 2006, we joined with USGS to increase to 45 transects. Since that time, we have been monitoring these transects. We had an interim report in 2013, so we have over a decade of data still to process and analysis. USGS is beginning to do this, and we are identifying erosion hot spots. In the BEACON world, we had an artificial reef project at Oil Piers, and we have a proposal to resurrect this project.
- **Member Gama:** Thank you. I spent my youth surfing at Oil Piers and with the removal of the reef, the beach disappeared.
- **Brian Brenna:** I wanted to add regarding the Matilaja Dame removal questions. BEACON was one of the first organizations to identify this project. Supervisor LaVere

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	<p>is involved in the project. The project is slated for implementation in 2030-2032 and there is upwards of 10M CY of sediment which will be delivered in slugs.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Chair Friedman:</b> Thank you. I will add a few comments. The RCAMP gets to the value of BEACON. Without us all getting together to identify data monitoring and data needs, each agency would have to do it on its own, and all would be implemented differently. It shows the rest of the State the importance of regional agencies like BEACON. The other issue is of sediment and grain size is very important and BEACON has been advocating for changes in thresholds. Another comment is the risk of erosion to the transportation corridors along the coast and if that could be addressed in the RCAMP report. Finally, I wanted to add that there is an artificial reef project on going on in Ocean Side.</li> </ul> <p><b>Public Comments:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Giles Redifore, Sustainability Director Port of Hueneme:</b> There was discussion today on additional assessment related to risk for 10–20-year storm event. The source of these storm events is often from Atlas 14 NOAA Tool. There is now uniform consensus that Atlan 14 is wildly out of date with re/ to climate change. That said Port Hueneme Port is doing its own assessment of SLR risk over the last two years. This includes the storm event of 2023 that caused so much damage at the harbor. We are the second agency to do this assessment. The result is a much more extreme event.</li> <li>• <b>Member Gama:</b> Do I understand that we have completing studies going on?</li> <li>• <b>Giles Redifore, Sustainability Director Port of Hueneme:</b> Our assessment was just at the Port of Hueneme.</li> </ul>
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Item	5A	BEACON Organization and Program Board Members Reports
<b>Minutes/ Actions:</b>		<p><b>Board Members Comments:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Member Meyer:</b> In July the City of Carpinteria awarded the Carpinteria Dunes project to Integral Consulting.</li> <li>• <b>Member Gama:</b> The City of Port Hueneme is getting ready to kick off a mid-cycle or dredge project and we thank BEACON for its help with this. Also, we have Surf Rider spearheading a dune restoration plan which is moving along.</li> <li>• <b>Member Teran:</b> I wanted to remind everyone that Saturday is Coastal Clean Up Day and encourage everyone to participate. Also, I wanted to add that as a consequence of the storm surge we had in 2023, in Oxnard there are still underserved communities that are still living in temporary housing. On the Federal level we did not qualify for assistance.</li> <li>• <b>Chair Friedman:</b> For the City of Santa Barbara, coastal cleanup day is coming up, as previous reported. Please go to the city website for details.</li> </ul> <p><b>Public Comments:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• None.</li> </ul>

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<b>Item</b>	<b>5B</b>	<p><b>BEACON Contracts and Agreements</b></p> <p><b><i>Recommended Actions:</i></b></p> <p><b><i>RCAMP Project:</i></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>i. Approve and authorize the Executive Director to execute Amendment No. 1 to the Cooperative Agreement for Regional Coastal Adaptation Monitoring Program with the City of Santa Barbara with a revised Scope of Work, Budget, and Term extending the agreement through December 31, 2027, and adding \$50,000 to the budget for a total amount not to exceed \$525,000 (Attachment I)).</li><li>ii. Approve and authorize the Chair to execute an Agreement with United States Geological Survey (USGS) to assist BEACON in providing science and technical services to develop the Regional Coastal Adaptation Monitoring Program (RCAMP) and Monitoring Plan (MP) with a period of performance from September 19, 2025 to September 30, 2026 for a total amount not to exceed \$105,000 with funding provided by the California Coastal Commission. (Attachment II).</li><li>iii. Approve and authorize the Chair to execute Amendment No. 2 with Environmental Science Associates (ESA) to add three tasks to assist BEACON in providing science and technical services to develop the RCAMP and MP to extend the period of performance by nine months with a revised end date of September 30, 2027, and to increase funding by \$95,000 with a revised total not to exceed \$332,705 with funding provided by the California Coastal Commission. (Attachment III).</li></ul> <p><b><i>Coastal Access Data Research Project</i></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>iv. Approve and authorize the Chair to execute Amendment No. 1 to the Agreement with Nate Merrill/Matunuck Research, to provide scientific and technical services supporting coastal and beach access planning with funds provided by The Bay Foundation, to extend the period of performance three months with a revised ending date of December 31, 2025, and to increase funding by \$25,000 for a revised total amount not to exceed \$50,000 (Attachment IV).</li></ul> <p>Operational Agreement</p> <p><b><i>Operational Agreement</i></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>v. Approve, ratify, and authorize the Chair to execute Amendment No. 1 to the Agreement with Marc Beyeler/Beyeler &amp; Associates to provide Executive Director services to BEACON to clarify the reimbursement of expenses without a change to the period of performance from July 1, 2025, to June 30, 2026, and without a change in the amount not to exceed \$165,227.40. (Attachment V).</li></ul>
<b>Minutes/ Actions:</b>	<p>Executive Director Beyeler reported that every meeting staff presents various agreements and amendments to agreements and contracts to the Board. A couple of the agreements before you today are related to RCAMP. The first is an amendment to our agreement with the City of Santa Barbara to secure additional funds for BEACON to implement the RCAMP. The second is a new agreement with USGS to utilize the additional funding and participate in activities associated with the pilot projects that were discussed today in the presentation.</p>	

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	<p>Then there is an amendment to the existing agreement with ESA in order to implement the pilot projects phase of the RCAMP.</p> <p>In addition, one aspect of analyzing social vulnerability is beach use. Why are we saving beaches? Are we saving them for all the natural resources or for all people and where are they coming from? We have pioneered a cell phone study to analyze beach use We have secured the services of one of the nation's preeminent data scientists, previously with the federal government but who was let go with the Federal downsizing, to perform this work. We now need to amend the agreement with Dr. Merrill to extend the contract.</p> <p>We also have a housekeeping amendment to clarify the reimbursement of expenses associated with the operations of BEACON are reimbursed. The amendment is to my agreement, but the same clarification will be applied to all our operations agreements.</p> <p><b>Board Members Comments:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Member Halter:</b> How do these actions impact our budget?</li> <li>• <b>Response from Executive Director Bayeler:</b> The additional funding from grant funding has no impact on our operational budget.</li> </ul> <p><b>Public Comments:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• None.</li> </ul> <p><b>Motion to approve Items 5B as recommended on the agenda - Moved by Halter / Second by Gama. Unanimously approved.</b></p>
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<b>Item</b>	7	<p><b>Executive Director's Report and Communications</b></p> <p><b>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.</b></p>
<b>Minutes/ Actions:</b>		<p>Executive Director Beyeler indicated that we do not have a lot of time. Except I did include one of the flyers that we developed and used to advertise diffusing our science info to the community. We hosted a Webinar "Beaches from Space" led by Dr. Jonathan Warwick from USGS. It was a hugely successful webinar with 110 participants. We are happy to report this to the Board. Our outreach is having success.</p> <p>I would also like to report that in 2018 BEACON sought funding from OPC for planning of Phase 2 of Surfers Point and in 2024 the City of Ventura secured \$16.2 M in construction funding from OPC. This Phase 2 construction is now complete and recently ASBPA selected Surfers Point as Project of the Year. BEACON was instrumental in getting this project completed.</p>

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	<b>Public Comments:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• None.</li></ul>
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**The next Board Meeting will be held on November 21, 2025, at 9:00 AM, at the City of Carpinteria City Council Chambers.**

**Meeting Minutes by Gerald Comati, Program Manager, BEACON.**