

BEACON BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING MINUTES

DATE: Friday, November 16, 2018

TIME: 9:00 AM

PLACE: City of Carpinteria, Council Hearing Room
5775 Carpinteria Avenue, Carpinteria, CA. 93013

Item	1	Call to Order, Roll Call and Introductions – Chair, Janet Wolf.
Minutes/ Actions:		Directors Present: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Steve Bennett (County of Ventura) • John Zaragoza (County of Ventura) • Janet Wolf (County of Santa Barbara) • Das Williams (County of Santa Barbara) • Gregg Hart (City of Santa Barbara) • Christy Weir (City of Ventura) • Fred Shaw (City of Carpinteria) • Kyle Richards (City of Goleta) • Carmen Ramirez (City of Oxnard) • Jon Sharkey (City of Port Hueneme)
Item	2	Approval of Agenda and Filing of Certificate of Agenda Posting Action: Approve and file
Minutes/ Actions:		Approved.
Item	3	Consideration and Approval of Minutes of the BEACON Meetings held on September 21, 2018. Action: Approve and file.
Minutes/ Actions:		Director Wolf requested that the minutes be amended to delete her comments relating to agenda item no. 8. The minutes were then approved as amended.
Item	4	Public Comment and Other Matters not on the Agenda Receive public comments.
Minutes/ Actions:		None.
Item	5	Reports <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Reports from legislative offices. b. Board Member Reports and Updates
Minutes/ Actions:		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. None b. Director Richards reported that the Goleta City Council passed a resolution supporting The Nature Conservancy’s Vision for California’s Coastal Future. Director Ramirez reported that the Oxnard City Council had done the same. The Executive Director reported on his attendance at the Regional Climate Resilience Funding Workshop held in Carpinteria. Director Ramirez reported that the City of Oxnard will be investigating a stagnant water condition in Channel Islands Harbor and its possible connection to the shutdown of the Mandalay Power Station.
Item	6	Calendar Year 2019 Meeting Schedule Consider and adopt meeting schedule for Calendar Year 2019
Minutes/ Actions:		Approved.

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Item	7	<p>Recognition of Director Janet Wolf and Director Jon Sharkey a. Approve and adopt resolutions of recognition for retiring Directors Janet Wolf and Jon Sharkey.</p>
Minutes/ Actions:		<p>The Executive Director thanked Director Wolf and Director Sharkey for their long-time service on the BEACON Board of Directors and for their dedicated leadership and efforts to make BEACON an effective agency in the protection and enhancement of our local beaches. All of the Directors expressed their sincere appreciation for the hard work and effort that Directors Wolf and Sharkey did to improve our coastline.</p> <p>Director Ramirez asked that BEACON do a press release to acknowledge Director Wolf's and Director Sharkey's long-time contributions to BEACON.</p> <p>BOARD ACTIONS: The Board approved Item a and the issuance of a press release.</p>
Item	8	<p>Auditor Controller Recommended Actions a. Receive and file the Fiscal Year 2018-2019 Budget-to-Actual report for the year-to-date period ending October 31, 2018 (Exhibit 1).</p>
Minutes/ Actions:		<p>Mr. Omar Arreola of Ventura County Auditor Controllers Office presented Item a.</p> <p>BOARD ACTIONS: The Board approved unanimously the Auditor Controller Recommended Action – Item a.</p>
Item	9	<p>Report on Funding Pursuits a. Receive report from Staff on the current status of BEACON funding opportunities and pursuits.</p>
Minutes/ Actions:		<p>Marc Beyeler provided a status summary of the different grant opportunities that BEACON has/is pursuing. Since the September Report to the Board, BEACON was denied an OPC grant to update its Coastal Regional Sediment Management Plan to include climate change and sea level rise effects. However, Mr. Beyeler said the update may be able to be funded by a new grant opportunity from Caltrans. Staff is currently evaluating the grant guidelines prior to deciding on whether to submit an application. Speaking more broadly, Mr. Beyeler suggested that BEACON may want to pursue a different strategy by teaming with our fellow regional coastal JPA's in seeking state-wide grants. This way we would be presenting a united front in pursuit of these hotly-contested funds.</p> <p>Director Bennett said that he liked the idea of teaming with other coastal JPA's in pursuit of grant funding.</p> <p>BOARD ACTIONS: The Board received and filed the funding pursuit report.</p>

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Item	10	<p>Memorandum of Understanding with USGS</p> <p>a. Approve and authorize the Chair to sign an MOU with the USGS regarding regional sediment management science and technical support.</p> <p>b. Determine that this action is not a project under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) per CEQA Guideline section 15378 (b)(4) because this is a fiscal activity that does not involve any commitment to any specific project which may result in a potentially significant physical impact on the environment.</p>
Minutes/ Actions:		<p>Marc Beyeler reported that BEACON had enjoyed a long and successful partnership with USGS in carrying out coastal science projects but that the relationship remained loosely defined and hence vulnerable to disruption. He explained that USGS had done excellent work in our area citing a host of coastal monitoring efforts and the development of the Coastal Storm Modeling System (COSMOS). Most currently, they have initiated a program to monitor the fate of debris flow sediments in the Montecito area. The MOU would formalize the ongoing relationship between BEACON and USGS and obligate both organizations to work more closely together for a period of five years. Currently, the USGS legal staff is reviewing the MOU document.</p> <p>BOARD ACTIONS: The Board approved Items a and b.</p>

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Item	11	Regional Sediment Beach Deposition Requirements a. Receive a report from BEACON Staff on strategies to initiate a state-wide modification to the sediment sand ratio requirements for coastal deposition.
Minutes/ Actions:		<p>The Executive Director reported that this was a follow-up item from the previous meeting's discussion of debris flow sediments and efforts to direct more of those sediments to the beach. He said that an important impediment was a guideline governing the maximum amount of silt and clay-sized material that could be present in the sediment. He explained that there was a growing recognition within the coastal scientific community that this guideline was unnecessarily strict, thus denying the beaches of needed sediment nourishment.</p> <p>Claudia Avendano gave a brief presentation on different scientific factors relating to this issue.</p> <p>Mollie Troup of Santa Barbara Channel Keeper (SBCK) spoke to the need for BEACON to consider the impacts to beach ecology when placing opportunistic sediments on the beach. She said that too much fine sediment material can seal off the beach face from fluid exchange and cause excess turbidity in nearshore waters while too much coarse sediment can harm burrowing organisms. She also said bacterial and ammonia loading should be considered prior to sediment placement. Ms. Troup requested that SBCK be included in future beach nourishment planning.</p> <p>Director Bennett said he hoped that the adverse environmental impacts from beach nourishment projects be balanced against the long-term impacts of beach starvation. He said the key is to balance short-term impacts against long-term benefits and gave the example of the proposed dismantling of Matilija Dam. Ms. Troup said her group supported the proposed Matilija Dam project.</p> <p>Director Williams said we need to embrace the role of fine sediments in nourishing coastal environments. He further emphasized the need to establish sediment stockpile areas as a way to move more opportunistic sediments to the beach.</p> <p>Director Sharkey asked if BEACON could leverage its experience with the lapsed SCCBEP program to move more sediment to the beach. Director Bennett asked if the SCCBEP program needs to be updated and made more relevant. Marc Beyeler said yes, but in a more streamlined mode.</p> <p>Charles Kasperay of Solimar Beach Homeowners Association said his group was supportive of efforts to restore our beaches.</p> <p>BOARD ACTIONS: The Board received the report as recommended.</p>

Item	12	Executive Director's Report and Communications.
Minutes/ Actions:		The Executive Director reported that Susan McKenzie will take over BEACON legal counsel duties from Rachel Van Mullen. The Board thanked Ms. Van Mullen for her dedicated service.

Meeting Minutes by James Bailard, Technical Advisor, BEACON.

Adjourn to next regular meeting January 18, 2019 at 9:00 AM in Carpinteria City Hall