

BEACON BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES

DATE: Friday, September 21, 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, Jon Sharkey
Minutes/ Actions:		Directors Present: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Steve Bennett (County of Ventura) • John Zaragoza (County of Ventura) • Das Williams (Santa Barbara County) • Janet Wolf (Santa Barbara County) • Kyle Richards (City of Goleta) • Gregg Hart (City of Santa Barbara) • Christy Weir (City of Ventura) • Fred Shaw (city of Carpinteria) • 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 July 20, 2018. Action: Approve and file.
Minutes/ Actions:		Approved.
Item	4	Public Comment and Other Matters not on the Agenda
Minutes/ Actions:		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Amanda Fagan, Community Planning Liaison Officer for Naval Base Ventura County. Amanda introduced herself as a representative of Naval Base Ventura County. Amanda indicated that the Base’s coastal beach has suffered considerable erosion in recent years. Since 1940 it is estimated that the beach has lost 400-feet in width. The Base is looking to collaborate with BEACON with regards to coastal protection options. • Julia Pujo, Wood Consulting Firm. Julia indicated that a Draft of the City of Carpinteria’s SLR Adaptation and Coastal Vulnerability report is complete with a public draft scheduled for release in December 2018. • Erica Leachman, Wood Consulting Firm. Erica indicated that Wood is also assisting the County of Santa Barbara on an assessment of Goleta Beach and would be happy to come back to BEACON at a future date to present more on this subject.
Item	5	Reports a. Reports from legislative offices. b. Board Members Reports and Updates.
Minutes/ Actions:		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Director Williams indicated that a property on Sandy Land was trying to secure a development approval. Director Williams was concerned about the prudence of such development so close to the coast given SLR and coastal inundation projections. • Director Ramirez indicated that she attended a Climate Change Conference and that there is much work to be done.

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Item	6	Auditor Controllers Recommended Actions a. Receive and file the Fiscal Year 2018-2019 Budget-to-Actual report for the year-to-date period ending August 31, 2018 (Exhibit I).
Minutes/ Actions:	Mr. Omar Arreola of the Ventura County Auditor Controllers Office presented the Recommended Action Items. BOARD ACTIONS: The Board approved all recommended items unanimously.	

Item	7	Report on Funding Pursuits. a. Receive a report from Staff on the current status of BEACON funding pursuits.
Minutes/ Actions:	Marc Beyeler provided a status summary of the different grant opportunities that BEACON has/is pursuing. Since the July Report to the Board, BEACON was denied a Hazard Mitigation Grant from FEMA to fund the upfront work for a new South Central Coast Beach Enhancement Program but another Hazard Mitigation Grant application for \$2.5 M for Surfers Point is pending a decision in January 2019. If successful this would add to the \$350K already received for Surfers Pint from the OPC. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Director Weir expressed her thanks to the BEACON Staff for their efforts on Surfers Point Project. • Director Sharkey indicated that there may be grant opportunities with the Regional Energy Association. BOARD ACTIONS: The Board received and filed the funding pursuit report.	

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Item	8	<p>Beach Nourishment Opportunity.</p> <p>a. Receive report from Staff beach nourishment opportunity using export sand from the Rincon Trail project in the City of Carpinteria and provide direction.</p>
Minutes/ Actions:		<p>Gerald Comati of BEACON Staff indicated that the City of Carpinteria in conjunction with the Santa Barbara County Association of Governments (SBCAG) is in the development phases of the Rincon Trail Project. The Rincon Trail project will link the recently completed Bike Path along Hwy 101 in northern Ventura County with the coastal trail in Santa Barbara County. As part of the Rincon Trail Project, excavation is required which will generate over 50,000 CY of beach quality export. The Rincon Trail Project Team identified this export as a potential opportunity for beach nourishment.</p> <p>Currently the Rincon Trail Project is assuming that the material will be hauled off and the project is not considering coastal deposition. The environmental review of the Rincon Project is nearing completion and an expansion of the project scope to consider coastal deposition of export material would cause too much of a schedule impact to the project. Consequently, BEACON has offered to attempt to independently secure environmental and permitting approval for a material deposition at either Ash Avenue Beach in Carpinteria (priority location) or Oil Piers in Ventura County using the Rincon Trail export material. If successful, the Rincon Trail project specifications will direct the construction contractor to deposit suitable export material to one of the two beaches identified above. It is believed that doing this will actually save considerable construction funding for the Rincon Trail Project since the material will not have to be hauled 100 miles roundtrip to an allowable inland site.</p> <p>BEACON does not have budget to fund the effort required to secure environmental and permits for a beach deposition. Staff estimates that this effort will require approx. \$250K. Staff is recommending that BEACON pursue grant funding for this effort.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Director Williams indicated that we should do everything we can to avoid long inland haul of perfectly good beach material. The carbon impact of such inland hauling is excessive and allows no benefit to the coast and mitigation of SLR impacts. • Director Bennett indicated that BEACON is in the ideal position to take on the role of securing environmental/permitting for the Rincon Trail material. In addition, BEACON should develop a strategy to influence resource agencies at State and National level to relax the beach nourishment material specification requirements. ACTION. • Director Bennett indicated that BEACON should be doing everything it can to ensure that all appropriate/approved sediment get to the BEACON coast in an effort to mitigate SLR. • Director Hart requested a cost estimate of the potential savings to the Rincon Trail Project if we are able to secure approvals for placement onto the beach. ACTION. • Director Wolf indicated that the Debris Flow event of January was probably an anomaly and that BEACON should move forward with caution with regards to beach nourishment opportunities. • Director Sharkey indicated that some of the public objections voiced following the beach depositions made after the Debris Flow Event were not based on science and that BEACON should pursue an appropriate public education effort. ACTION. <p>BOARD ACTIONS: The Board moved for BEACON to pursue grant funding for the Environmental and Permitting for the placement of suitable export material from the Rincon Trail Project.</p>

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Item	9	Hazard Mitigation Plan	<p>a. Receive a report from Staff on the potential for BEACON to prepare a Hazard Mitigation Plan and provide direction.</p>
Minutes/ Actions:			<p>Gerald Comati of BEACON Staff explained that FEMA administers three programs that provide funding for eligible mitigation planning and projects that reduce disaster losses and protect life and property from future disaster damages. The three programs are the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP), the Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA) Program, and the Pre-Disaster Mitigation (PDM) Program</p> <p>Through one or more of the programs described above, BEACON has the potential to seek FEMA funding in the following project categories that are consistent with BEACON's mission and are recognized by FEMA. Some of these projects are already being implemented by BEACON's member agencies.</p> <p>Erosion -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mapping and assessment of coastal erosion vulnerability. • Assist member agencies to develop policy re/ development in erosion vulnerable areas. • Stabilization of erosion hazard areas through plantings, sand dunes, marine habitat re-instatement, and coastal stabilization methods, <p>Sea Level Rise -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mapping and assessment of coastal vulnerability due to SLR. • Assist member agencies to develop policy re/ development in SLR vulnerable areas. • Preserve high-hazard areas as open space. • Protect/restore natural buffers with beach nourishment, sand dunes, implement sediment trapping vegetation. <p>Storm Surge -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mapping and assessment of coastal vulnerability due to storm surge. • Implement coastal project(s) to trap sand along beaches and mitigate beach erosion. • Install natural buffers with beach nourishment, sand dunes, implement sediment trapping vegetation. <p>BEACON as a JPA is eligible to apply for FEMA funding. However, in most cases, applications for FEMA funding require that a Hazard Mitigation Plan (HMP) has been completed by the applying entity and approved by FEMA. Both the County of Santa Barbara and the County of Ventura, with participation from almost all of the cities within the two Counties, have completed Hazard Mitigation Plans. The plans are comprehensive in discussing a very broad array of potential hazards which includes SLR and coastal erosion. Staff is recommending that BEACON prepare its own a regional Hazard Mitigation Plan focusing on coastal vulnerability in order to significantly improve the chances of a grant award. The plan could be consistent with BEACON member agency coastal plans, would be prepared by BEACON staff and would include reference to BEACON's Coastal Regional Sediment Management Plan (CRSMP) adopted by BEACON in 2009.</p> <p>BOARD ACTIONS: The Board approved by unanimous vote a motion for BEACON to complete its own Hazard Mitigation Plan. ACTION.</p>

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Item	10	<p>Nature Conservancy Resolution for California’s Coastal Future a. Consider approval of a Resolution to Adopt and Advance a Vision for California’s Coastal Future.</p>
Minutes/ Actions:		<p>Alisa Mann of the California Chapter of The Nature Conservancy (TNC) provided a summary presentation on coastal vulnerability in California and described the Resolution for California’s Coastal Future.</p> <p>Director Bennett indicated that he believed it would be best if each BEACON Member Agencies endorsed the Resolution. Director Weir requested clarification of Item #3 on Page 3 of the Resolution.</p> <p>BOARD ACTIONS: The Board moved and approved unanimously to modify Item 3 on Page 3 of the Resolution to read: “Use the date and results from State and Local coastal habitat assessments to help inform.....” With above modification, the Board moved and approved unanimously to approve The Nature Conservancy’s Vision for California’s Coastal Future.</p>
Item	11	<p>Debris Flow Beach Deposits – What Have We Learned a. Receive a presentation from Staff on Carpinteria Beach after deposition of sediment from the January 2018 Debris Flow Event.</p>
Minutes/ Actions:		<p>BEACON Technical Advisor made a PowerPoint presentation regarding the post Debris Flow Event deposition of 28K CY of sediment at Carpinteria Beach. Jim reported that as of April 2018 the beach width increased by as much as 50-feet as a result of the nourishment effect of the sediment deposition.</p> <p>Director Bennett indicated that the PowerPoint presentation was very compelling and recommended BEACON use when presenting arguments to the State for greater flexibility on sediment criteria for beach nourishment.</p> <p>BOARD ACTIONS: The Board received and filed the presentation.</p>
Item	12	<p>Executive Director’s Report and Communications a. Receive and file report from Executive Director</p>
Minutes/ Actions:		None.

Meeting Minutes by Gerald Comati, Program Manager, BEACON.

Adjourn to next regular meeting November 16, 18 19, 2018 at 9:00 AM in Carpinteria City Hall.