

BEACON BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING MINUTES

DATE: Friday, November 20, 2020

TIME: 9:00 AM

PLACE: TELECONFERENCE

Item	1	Call to Order, Roll Call, and Introductions – Chair, Gregg Hart.
Minutes/ Actions:		<p>Directors Present:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gregg Hart (County of Santa Barbara) • Das Williams (County of Santa Barbara) • John Zaragoza (County of Ventura) • Steve Bennett (County of Ventura) • Christy Weir (City of Ventura) • Eric Friedman (City of Santa Barbara) • Fred Shaw (City of Carpinteria) • Kyle Richards (City of Goleta) • Carmen Ramirez (City of Oxnard) • Steve Gama, (City of Port Hueneme)
Item	1B	Approval of Agenda and Filing of Certificate of Agenda Posting Action: Approve and file.
Minutes/ Actions:		The Agenda was unanimously approved by the Board. Moved by Shaw / Second by Zaragoza.
Item	1C	Consideration and Approval of Minutes of the BEACON Meetings held on September 18, 2020. Action: Approve and file.
Minutes/ Actions:		<p>Director Richards noted one change. The minutes reported on my comment as follows: "Director Richards indicated that the City of Goleta does not have a SLR Adaptation Plan currently." Director Richards clarified that the City of Goleta does have a Coastal Hazards Vulnerability Assessment and Fiscal Impact Report, which was approved by the City Council in December 2015.</p> <p>The Board unanimously approved the minutes as posted with the change requested by Director Richards.</p> <p>Moved by Ramirez/Second Weir.</p>
Item	2	Public Comment and Other Matters not on the Agenda Receive public comments.
Minutes/ Actions:		None.

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Item	3A	<p>Ventura County Presentation on Sea-Level Rise Adaptation Plan</p> <p>Recommended Actions:</p> <p>i. Receive a presentation from the Ventura County on the County’s Sea-Level Rise Adaptation Plan.</p>
Minutes/ Actions:		<p>The Executive Director indicated that today’s presentation is the second in a series of SLR Adaptation Plans be presented to the Board by member agencies. In September 2020, the City of Santa Barbara presented, today we will hear from the County of Ventura. The BEACON objective is to digest all of the SLR Adaptation Plans and develop a Regional Plan.</p> <p>Aaron Engstrom, Senior Planner from the Ventura County Planning Department provided a presentation of the County’s SLR Adaptation Plan. The presentation has been posted to the BEACON Website.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Director Weir asked whether the UPRR facility at Emma Woods was evaluated for erosion control problems? Aaron Engstrom indicated that the UPRR facility had been looked at in this area and it is complex. This area has been identified as a hotspot. Caltrans has been working with State Parks to improve the existing Caltrans revetement. • Director Weir asked whether the Santa Clara River levee on northside of river was looked at as well as the southside levee as indicated in the presentation. Aaron Engstrom indicated that the County Flood Control District will be accessing the northside levees. • Director Zaragoza asked if the report can or has already been shared with the City of Oxnard. Aaron Engstrom responded that it had and that both agencies have been working in parallel. • Director Ramirez indicated that she felt Ormond Beach was important. There are many homeowners at the beach – what is the cost to protect. Was an evaluation made of economic impacts? Aaron Engstrom responded that an economic assessment was made. • Director Zaragoza asked that the presentation be posted to the BEACON Website. BEACON Executive Director indicated that the presentation will be uploaded to the BEACON Website. • Director Williams asked if the General Plan indicates some areas as non-conforming. Aaron Engstrom responded that the projected base flood elevations will render existing developments non-conforming. • Director Gama indicated that sediment is key. Between Santa Clara River and 5th Street there are huge sand dunes and in Carpinteria there is a lot of sediment on the upland side of 101 (in debris basins) that is not making it to the coast. Aaron Engstrom indicated that the County has supporting policies to ensure new development does not obstruct sediment getting to the beach. • Alternate Director Laura Hernandez asked if sand could be moved from the dunes to Port Hueneme Beach as a by-pass? Aaron Engstrom indicated that a dune sand movement project would have to be designed so as not to encroach on the dredging operation for Port Hueneme Beach. • Alternate Director Hernandez indicated that this informs the Port Hueneme General Plan Update. <p>The Board received and filed.</p>

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Item	4A	<p>Mondo's Cove Beach Access.</p> <p>Recommended Actions:</p> <p>i. Receive a presentation on status of the Mondo's Cove Beach Access Stairway Project.</p>
Minutes/ Actions:		<p>Marc Beyeler reported that a brief presentation would be made by Jim McCoskey of Jensen Design on the status of the Mondo's Cove Stairway Project. Marc indicated that the Board had approved a contract with Jensen Design in January 2020 to perform preliminary design services funded through Coastal Commission sediment mitigation fees. The project had recently had a public meeting which elicited excellent community input. Marc also mentioned that there are other ongoing infrastructure improvement projects underway in this same area, by Caltrans and the County.</p> <p>Jim McCoskey of Jensen Design provided a presentation on the proposed design of the stairway and its location on the cove.</p> <p>A copy of presentation will be posted on the BEACON website.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Director Shaw indicated that he liked the design option that was offset. He also asked if Caltrans was implementing any traffic calming improvement along Route 1 given the high traffic speed in this location? Mr. McCoskey indicated that Caltrans was looking at preliminary designs for traffic calming elements. Mr. Brian Brennan indicated that the State has allocated \$1.2M to bike and ped improvements in this area. • Director Bennett indicated that Caltrans had been very responsive and are considering a central island for a ped refuge area. • Director Richards indicated that he liked the stair design but indicated that angled stairs can be difficult to use. Mr. McCoskey indicated that the stair angle was being considered. • Director Weir asked if public input influenced the angle of the stairs? Mr. McCoskey responded that the public wanted a 45-degree angle. • Director Bennett indicated that while we do want the best possible design, it is critical that whatever is built lasts for a very long time and can withstand the punishing environment within which it will lives. <p>The Board received and filed.</p>

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Item	5A	BEACON Organization and Program - Board Members Reports.
Minutes/ Actions:		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Director Friedman indicated that the City of SB’s Sea-Level Rise Adaptation Plan Subcommittee is reviewing the revised SLR Adaptation Plan. Mr. Friedman also indicated that in his role as a participant of the League of California Cities, he will be attending the Coastal Commission’s Local Government Workshop on December 17, 2020. • Director Shaw reported that the City of Carpinteria’s Train Station Project has become very contentious because of the additional parking it creates. Mr. Shaw also indicated that this would be his last BEACON meeting as an elected official. He expressed his great pleasure in serving on the Board and vowed to continue to participate as an interested citizen. • Director Hart expressed what a great representative Director Shaw has been as well as Director Weir, who will also be departing the Board. • Director Weir indicated that she also would stay involved with BEACON. Director Weir also indicated that the construction phase cost estimate for Surfers Point had been established and the figure is exceeding high. The biggest cost is to bring in cobble, which is very frustrating. There has to be a better way. • Director Richards indicated that he had misspoken at the last meeting with regards to the status of Goleta SLR adaptation plan. Director Richards also reported that the City of Goleta had approved the Creek and Watershed Management Plan. The Executive Director indicated that staff had received Director Richards’ email on the meeting minutes edit, and it would be corrected and posted as such on the website. • Director Gama reported that he was pleased with the commencement of the new USACOE dredge cycle and appreciated all the assistance BEACON provided in getting that completed. • Director Bennett expressed his gratitude to both Directors Shaw and Weir for their implementation of good government. • Director Ramirez reported that the City of Oxnard approved a short-term rental agreement. Director Ramirez also echoed other Board member sentiments regarding the excellent service of Directors Shaw and Weir and also wished to congratulate Directors Bennett, Zaragoza and Richards for their new positions and reelection, respectively. • Director Zaragoza commended Director Ramirez for her election as a new County Supervisor and also congratulated Directors Weir and Shaw for their service.

Item	5B1	BEACON Organization – BEACON Science Strategy Recommended Actions: i. Confirm appointment of Co-Chairs and Members of the Science Advisory Committee.
Minutes/ Actions:		<p>Executive Director explained that to support BEACON Staff in the implementation of the Science Advisory Committee, staff is recommending that the Board confirm the appointments made by the Chair, consistent with BEACON Bylaws and as spelled out in the Staff Report.</p> <p>BOARD ACTIONS: The Board approved unanimously the Recommended Actions. Moved by Shaw /Second by Ramirez.</p>

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Item	5B2	<p>BEACON Strategic Planning Goals and Objectives.</p> <p>Recommended Actions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. Receive, review, and provide input, as needed, on the Draft Strategic Planning Goals and Objectives 2020-2025 (Exhibit 1); and ii. Direct staff to return with Final Strategic Planning Goals and Objectives; and iii. The actions described herein are not a “project” under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15378.
Minutes/ Actions:	<p>Executive Director, Marc Beyeler indicated that as previously discussed, following the Board’s approval of BEACON’s Coastal Regional Sediment Management Plan in 2009, Staff had prepared a draft Strategic Plan which was not actually adopted. Before the Board today is a new document, the Strategic Planning Goals and Objectives, for consideration by the Board. This plan has seven goals, and we want to focus on using science, proof of concept and implementation of pilot projects. Staff is pleased to be graded on the delivery of this plan. The plan identifies short term delivery items during the first two years and longer-term delivery for years three to five. The plan is recommended to be updated annually. The plan will be posted on the BEACON Website. Mr. Beyeler continued, that staff is asking that the Board consider this draft and be prepared to discuss it at the January 2021 Board meeting. At the March 2021 Board meeting, the Board could consider adopting the plan.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Director Hart indicated that he felt this document was a good first draft and he would review it. • Director Richards indicated that he thought it was a great document and asked if it made sense for the Science Committee to review it? Marc Beyeler responded that the Science Committee has already provided input. • Director Richards suggested the Strategic Planning document should be dated from 2021 through 2026. • Director Weir indicated that she felt the plan was helpful as an action plan for member agencies decision makers. <p>BOARD ACTIONS: The Board approved unanimously the Recommended Actions. Moved by Gama / Second by Friedman.</p>	

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Item	5B3	<p>BEACON Legislative Program Priorities Recommended Actions:</p> <p>i. Receive a Staff Report on BEACON Legislative Program Priorities (Exhibit 1) and provide input, as needed; and</p> <p>ii. Direct staff to return with legislative action items for 2021.</p>
Minutes/ Actions:		<p>Executive Director Marc Beyeler indicated that at the request of the Board, staff has prepared a draft legislative program priority. Historically, BEACON has been unsuccessful in securing adequate planning and implementation funding to update its Coastal Regional Sediment Management Plan (CRSMP), to update its Opportunistic Sediment Enhancement Program, to implement new innovative demonstration coastal resource enhancement and restoration projects, or to secure funding for regional sea-level rise adaptation. Therefore, direct pursuit of legislative initiatives to allow the direction of funding to BEACON for regional projects and policy implementation is appropriate. Marc added that with Director Bennett moving to the State Legislature, BEACON has a valuable ally in Sacramento.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Director Bennett indicated that historically BEACON has had legislative initiatives and it is appropriate to re-establish this and indeed establish a legislative agenda for all regional agencies. However, it is unlikely BEACON will be able to secure funding in 2021 given the condition of the State budget. However, 2022 will hopefully be different. <p>BOARD ACTIONS: The Board approved unanimously the Recommended Actions. Moved by Shaw /Second by Ramirez.</p>

Item	5B4	<p>BEACON Board Meeting Schedule for 2021 Recommended Actions:</p> <p>i. Review and Adopt a Board Meeting Schedule for 2021.</p>
Minutes/ Actions:		<p>Executive Director, Marc Beyeler presented the Board Meeting schedule for 2021 for adoption by the Board.</p> <p>BOARD ACTIONS: The Board approved unanimously the Recommended Actions. Moved by Ramirez /Second by Freidman.</p>

Item	5C1	<p>Auditor-Controller Budget Actions and Financial Reports Recommended Actions:</p> <p>i. Receive and file the Fiscal Year 2020-2021 Unadjusted Budget-to-Actual report for the year-to-date period ending October 31, 2020 (Exhibit I).</p> <p>ii. Authorize the Auditor-Controller's Office to make the budgetary adjustment as follows (requires 6/10th vote):</p> <p>iii.</p> <p>iv. INCREASE Other Professional and Specialized Services \$ 5,000</p> <p>v. DECREASE Contingency \$ 5,000</p>
Minutes/ Actions:		<p>Mr. Carlos Maldonado of the Ventura County Auditor Controller's Office presented the Budget to Actual report and requested budget adjustments.</p> <p>BOARD ACTIONS: The Board approved unanimously the Recommended Actions. Moved by Weir /Second by Richards.</p>

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Item	6	Executive Director's Report and Communications
Minutes/ Actions:		Executive Director Marc Beyeler provided the following executive report: <ul style="list-style-type: none">a. BEACON has received all dues from member agencies that allow the funding of the Executive Director and the Staff Team which is a testament to the perceptions of BEACON's value.b. Staff have been static in securing new grants. Two grants were recently applied for, one unsuccessfully and one is still in review. Staff is looking for funding for the next phase of Mondo's Cove project.c. BEACON sits on the Government Affairs Committee of the American Shores and Beach Preservation Association (ASBPA). Marc expressed his confidence that BEACON's role in ASBPA can help push the agenda towards implementation of Regional Sediment Management.d. BEACON is also a member of two climate collaboratives which provides opportunities to learn from other agencies.e. The next Board meeting is January 15, 2021 which will once again be held remotely. At this meeting, amongst other things, we will elect the two-year term for the new Chair and Vice Chair.

Adjourn to next regular meeting January 15, 2021 at 9:00 AM by Teleconference or Video Conference.

Meeting Minutes by Gerald Comati, Program Manager, BEACON.