

BEACON BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING MINUTES

DATE: Friday, May 21, 2021
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) • Matt LaVere (County of Ventura) • Carmen Ramirez (County of Ventura) • Kyle Richards (City of Goleta) • Eric Friedman (City of Santa Barbara) • Al Clark (City of Carpinteria) • Joe Schroeder (City of Ventura) • Vianey Lopez (City of Oxnard) • Steven Gama, (City of Port Hueneme)
Item	1B	Approval of Agenda and Filing of Certificate of Agenda Posting Action: Approve and file.
Minutes/ Actions:		<p>The Executive Director Marc Beyeler requested that due to time constraints of the presenter of Item 3, the presentation by the City of Carpinteria on The City’s Climate and Sea Level Rise Vulnerability and Adaptation, this item be heard first on the agenda.</p> <p>The agenda was unanimously approved by the Board with the sequence change requested by the Executive Director. Moved by Ramirez / Second by LaVere.</p>
Item	1C	Consideration and Approval of Minutes of the BEACON Meeting held on March 19, 2021. Action: Approve and file.
Minutes/ Actions:		The Board approved unanimously the Recommended Action. Moved by Richards / Second by Friedman.

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Item	2	Public Comment and Other Matters not on the Agenda Receive public comments.
Minutes/ Actions:		<p>Mr. Bob Kiel provided a summary of recent activities on the Kelp Anchor Demonstration Project. Bob explained that he dived the site in the previous week, and he observed the amazing progression of the kelp growth. He believes that a dense kelp forest influences the ocean currents and can help reduce beach erosion. Bob indicated that his team were involved in renewing the project permits to cover the expanded project scope and hoped to secure the new permits by the end of 2021. The project now has potential funding from the Refugio Oil Spill mitigation fund and the project team includes Tenera Consulting, a firm with extensive experience in kelp projects.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Director Clark asked what is the geographic extent of the project? Bob Kiel responded that he has graphics that show the exact footprint of the project, but it is effectively in the middle of Goleta Bay. • Director Clark indicated that the City of Carpinteria has the Seal Watch Program, and it has noticed a lot of kelp + kelp hold-downs washed up on the beach. Bob Kiel indicated that observing hold-downs on the beach is not unusual especially since the hold-downs are sand based as opposed to rock. • Director Gama indicated that historically we had extensive dense kelp beds but then El-Nino came along and wiped most of them out. Do you see a chance of natural recovery? Bob Kiel responded that he is not aware if the El-Nino wipe out occurrence had occurred prior to the 1980's and subsequently recovered. Certainly, there is an imbalance of sand grazers which effectives the survival of kelp. • Director Ramirez asked how you would explain to the public why the Kelp Anchor Project was so important? Bob Kiel explained that a thriving marine life is strongly connected to robust kelp forests. But before we can re-establish the kelp forests, we need to understand how to establish kelp spores and once the kelp is growing, ensure the survival of the juvenile kelp. This project is developing solution to these issues. • Director Richards asked what is the outcome that you are seeking and is there a relationship between an established kelp forest and beach erosion protection? Bob Kiel indicated that the outcome is a robust and effective system in the seabed to allow the establishment of kelp. The relationship between the presence of a kelp forest and beach protection is not implicitly being studied as part of the project but there is some historic evidence to suggest that this may be the case. If another El-Nino comes through and wipes out existing kelp again, we would sill retain the infrastructure in the seabed to allow re-establishment of the kelp.

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Item	3	Presentations – Receive a presentation by the City of Carpinteria on The City’s Climate and Sea Level Rise Vulnerability and Adaptation Planning.
Minutes/ Actions:		<p>Executive Director Marc Beyeler introduced this item. He stated that this was the 4th presentation by a member agency regarding SLR adaptation planning.</p> <p>The City of Carpinteria’s Environmental Manager, Erin Maker presented the City’s “Shoreline SLR Adaptation Plan and Dune and Shoreline Restoration Management Plan.”</p> <p>The presentation will be added to the BEACON website.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chair Gregg Hart thanked Erin for the presentation. • Director Ramirez requested clarification of the “private beaches” references in the presentation. Erin Maker explained that Carpinteria does in fact have some private beaches or at least a portion of beaches. In the 1970’s there was a legal judgement called the Robert’s Judgement, which defined beach ownership in the context of the construction of a proposed new coastal road, known as Ocean Avenue. The ruling stated that property on the ocean side of the new road would be owned by the City and everything upland of Ocean Avenue would be maintained in private hands. • Director Gama was interested in the 1929 photo shown in the presentation. It shows that all development between the coast and the foothills is responsible for the reduced beach widths. Has the City determined the loss of beach width since 1929? Erin Maker responded that the loss in beach width has not been calculated but that most of this area was in the salt marsh. • Director Friedman asked if the city is looking into a “fines” assessment? Erin Maker responded that the city was not.

Item	5A	BEACON Organization and Program - Board Members Reports.
Minutes/ Actions:		None.

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Item	5B2	<p>BEACON Organization and Program - Review and Approve BEACON Bylaws. Review and approve the amended BEACON Bylaws (requires a 2/3 majority vote of the Board of Directors). Note: As required under the BEACON Bylaws Article IX, these proposed amended Bylaws were also distributed 15 days prior to the scheduled Board meeting and posted online for public viewing.</p>						
Minutes/ Actions:		<p>The Executive Director reported that at the March 2021 Board meeting the Board adopted changes to the Bylaws and also requested another bylaw change as recommended by Director Richards. The recommended Bylaw change would address ocean health.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chair Hart thanked Director Richards for the suggestion. • Director Richards thanked the Board for consideration of this recommended additional change to the Bylaws. Director Richards indicated that he believed this was an important addition to allow BEACON to address not just coastal erosion and protection issues but also ecological and biological elements. <p>BOARD ACTION: The Board unanimously approved the amended bylaws as recommended. Moved by Richards / Second by Schroeder.</p>						
Item	5C	<p>BEACON Organization and Program - Auditor-Controller Budget Actions and Financial Reports Recommended Actions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. Receive and file the Fiscal Year 2020-2021 Budget-to-Actual report for the year-to-date period ending April 30, 2021(Exhibit I). ii. Adopt an increase to voting member assessments (membership dues) by 1.4% for fiscal year 2021-2022 to provide an additional \$4,199 in revenue. (Exhibit II) (Requires unanimous approval (10/10 vote). iii. Upon approval of member assessments, review and approve the Proposed Final Fiscal Year 2021-2022 Budget (Exhibit III). iv. Authorize the Auditor-Controller’s Office to adjust contingency for the fiscal year 2021-2022 budget where the fiscal year 2020-2021 actual year-end closing fund balance differs from the budget estimate. v. Authorize the Auditor-Controller’s Office to make the budgetary adjustment as follows (requires 6/10 vote) <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="padding-left: 20px;">INCREASE</td> <td style="padding-left: 20px;">Other Professional & Specialized Services</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$2,500</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding-left: 20px;">DECREASE</td> <td style="padding-left: 20px;">Contingency</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$2,500</td> </tr> </table>	INCREASE	Other Professional & Specialized Services	\$2,500	DECREASE	Contingency	\$2,500
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DECREASE	Contingency	\$2,500						
Minutes/ Actions:		<p>Ms. Jill Ward of the Ventura County Auditor Controller’s Office presented each of the Financial Reports and recommended actions.</p> <p>There was no discussion from the Board.</p> <p>BOARD ACTION: The Board unanimously approved the Auditor-Controller Budget Actions and Financial Reports Recommended Actions. Moved by Gama / Second by Schroeder.</p>						

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Item	5D	<p>BEACON Organization and Programs – Review and Approve BEACON Contracts and Agreements.</p> <p>Recommended Actions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Approve and authorize the Chair to execute and Agreement with Ventura County Auditor-Controller’s office to provide accounting services in an amount not to exceed \$15,000 with a period of performance from July 1, 2021, through June 30, 2022; ii. Approve and authorize the Chair to execute and Agreement with Santa Barbara County to provide legal services in an amount not to exceed \$12,000 with a period of performance from July 1, 2021, through June 30, 2022; iii. Approve and authorize the Chair to execute and Agreement with COM3 Consulting Inc. to provide program manager services in an amount not to exceed \$53,500 with a period of performance from July 1, 2021, through June 30, 2022; iv. Approve and authorize the Chair to execute and Agreement with Pamela Baumgardner to provide webmaster and social media services in an amount not to exceed \$2,000 with a period of performance from July 1, 2021, through June 30, 2022; v. Approve and authorize the Executive Director to execute an Agreement, substantially similar to that attached, with UCSD-California Sea Grant to provide support services to the BEACON Science Advisory Committee (SAC) with a period of performance from July 1, 2021, to June 30, 2022 in an amount not to exceed \$20,000.00 upon review and approval of legal counsel; and vi. Approve and authorize the Executive Director to execute an Agreement, substantially similar to that attached, with California State University, Channel Islands (CSUCI) to provide research and technical support regarding regional sediment management and regional climate adaptation with a period of performance from May 21, 2021, to June 30, 2022 in an amount not to exceed \$25,000.00 upon review and approval of legal counsel.
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Minutes/ Actions:	<p>Executive Director Marc Beyeler explained that BEACON has no employees, all functions are carried out by either member agencies' staff or contract consultants. The agency provided services are from Ventura County Auditor-Controller's Office for accounting services and from the County of Santa Barbara for legal services. The consultant positions include BEACON's Program Manager, and Webmaster. The Board will separately be discussing the performance and contract with the Executive Director and action on this contract will be presented to the Board in July 2021. In addition, additional agreements include support for the BEACON Science Advisory Committee (SAC) and research and technical support to assist BEACON in its program planning. The proposed contracts and agreements provide BEACON with individuals and agency resources uniquely qualified to provide necessary support services and their knowledge and understanding of BEACON is extensive. For these reasons, their continued use during FY 21-22 is recommended.</p> <p>Legal Counsel, Susan McKenzie, reported that she did not review the Legal Services Agreement for FY21-22 on behalf of BEACON. Ventura County's Office of County Counsel had previously reviewed the Agreement in 2018. For FY21-22, only the dates of the Legal Services Agreement were changed.</p> <p>BOARD ACTION: The Board approved unanimously the Recommended Actions. Moved by Ramirez /Second by Friedman.</p>
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Item	5E	<p>BEACON Organization and Program - Approve OPC Grant Agreement, Resolutions, and Sub-award.</p> <p>Recommended Actions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Approve and authorize the Executive Director to execute an Agreement, substantially similar to that attached, with the California Ocean Protection Council (CA OPC) to provide grant funds supporting BEACON’s Regional Coastal Resilience Sediment Pilot Program with a period of performance from July 1, 2021, to June 30, 2023, in an amount not to exceed \$440,800.00 upon review and approval of legal counsel. ii. Adopt Resolution 2021-1, as required by the Ocean Protection Council, to receive funds under Proposition 68 by allowing the Executive Director to conduct all negotiations, execute, and submit all documents. iii. Upon adoption of Resolution 2021-1, adopt Resolution 2021-2 setting forth adequate safeguards limiting the Executive Director’s authority under Resolution 2021-1 to secure funds under Proposition 68 from the Ocean Protection Council for the period of 21, 2021 through December 21, 2023, and by requiring the review and approval of legal counsel prior to execution of the grant agreement or other documents. iv. Upon approval of the above OPC Grant Recommended Actions i-iii, approve and authorize the Executive Director to execute an Agreement, substantially similar to that attached, with University of California, San Diego, to provide project support to BEACON for community engagement and technical workshops with a period of performance from July 1, 2021, to June 30, 2023, in an amount not to exceed \$40,398 upon review and approval of legal counsel. v. Upon approval of the above OPC Grant Recommended Actions i-iii, approve and authorize the Executive Director to execute an Agreement, substantially similar to that attached, with University of California Santa Barbara to provide ecological assessment analysis with a period of performance from July 1, 2021, to June 30, 2023, in an amount not to exceed \$75,000 upon review and approval of legal counsel. vi. Upon approval of the above OPC Grant Recommended Actions i-iii, approve and authorize the Executive Director to execute an Agreement, substantially similar to that attached, with United States Geological Survey (USGS) to provide sediment transport and fate analysis and modeling with a period of performance from July 1, 2021, to June 30, 2023, in an amount not to exceed \$100,000 upon review and approval of legal counsel.
Minutes/ Actions:	<p>The Executive Director Marc Beyeler reported that BEACON is striving to identify resources to evaluate the approval of sediment for restoration and nourishment and determine how regional sediment effects adaptation, coastal protection, and ecology. Staff has submitted an application to OPC along with science partners, UCSD Seagrant, USCB and USGS. The objective is to link science to a future BEACON South Central Coast Beach Enhancement Program (SCCBEP). The OPC grant includes funding for BEACON oversight and management.</p> <p>BOARD ACTION: The Board approved unanimously the Recommended Actions. Moved by Ramirez /Second by LaVere.</p>	

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Item	5F	BEACON Organization and Program – Closes Session. Recommended Actions: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. Public Employee Performance Evaluation. (Gov. Code § 54957(b)(1).) Executive Director. ii. Conference With Labor Negotiators (Gov. Code § 54957.6(a).) Employee: Executive Director. Agency-designated representative: BEACON Board Chair Gregg Hart.
Minutes/ Actions:	No reportable action taken.	

Item	6	Executive Director's Report and Communications
Minutes/ Actions:	Executive Director Marc Beyeler indicated that at the July Board Meeting the Executive Director Contract will be considered for FY21-22 along with consideration of potential Ex-Officio member involvement. Option for Ex-Officio members include State Lands, State Parks, The Harbor District, Caltrans, and the Navy.	

Adjourn to next regular meeting July 16, 2021, at 9:00 AM by Teleconference or Video Conference.

Meeting Minutes by Gerald Comati, Program Manager, BEACON.