

BEACON BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING MINUTES

DATE: Friday, January 21, 2022

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) • Eric Friedman (City of Santa Barbara) • Kyle Richards (City of Goleta) • Vianey Lopez (City of Oxnard) • Al Clark (City of Carpinteria) • Steven Gama (City of Port Hueneme)certain
Item	1B	<p>Report on Circumstances of the COVID-19 State of Emergency</p> <p>Recommended Actions:</p> <p>i. Receive and file:</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">a. An update that the State and County remain under a proclaimed state of emergency related to COVID-19; and</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">b. The County of Santa Barbara Public Health Department recommendation issued September 28, 2021, regarding social distancing (Attachment)</p> <p>ii. Provide direction to staff about the location of the next meeting.</p>
Minutes/ Actions:		<p>Legal Counsel, Susan McKenzie explained that the Brown Act allows teleconferencing, but certain requirements are needed. The CDC currently has Santa Barbara and Ventura Counties categorized as high risk and the two counties still have a local emergency in place.</p> <p>Board Members Comments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Director Ramirez recommended continuing with virtual meetings until the surge dies down. <p>Public Comments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None. <p>The Board approved unanimously the Recommended Action.</p> <p>Moved by Ramirez / Second by Friedman.</p>
Item	1C	Approval of Agenda and Filing of Certificate of Agenda Posting
Minutes/ Actions:		<p>Action: Approve and file.</p> <p>The agenda was unanimously approved by the Board.</p> <p>Moved by Friedman / Second by Richards</p>
Item	1D	Consideration and Approval of Minutes of the BEACON Meeting held on November 19, 2021.
Minutes/ Actions:		<p>Action: Approve and file.</p> <p>The Board approved unanimously the Recommended Action.</p> <p>Moved by Friedman / Second by Richards</p>

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Item	2	Public Comment and Other Matters not on the Agenda Receive public comments.
Minutes/ Actions:	There were no public comments on matters not on the agenda.	

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Item	3	<p>Presentations – Chumash Heritage National Marine Sanctuary</p> <p>A. Receive a report on the Proposed Designation of the Chumash Heritage National Marine Sanctuary by Paul Michel, Regional Policy Coordinator, NOAA Sanctuaries West Coast Region, Monterey, CA; and</p> <p>B. Approve and authorize the Executive Director to prepare, and the Chair to sign on behalf of the Board of Directors, a letter in support of the proposed designation of the Chumash Heritage National Marine Sanctuary to be sent to NOAA.</p>
Minutes/ Actions:		<p>Executive Director, Marc Beyeler explained that the BEACON Coast already has the Channel Islands Marine Sanctuary in place and there are other marine sanctuaries further north along the California Coast up to San Francisco. The Chumash Heritage National Marine Sanctuary would close a gap along the coast from Monterey to Gaviota. Today we welcome Paul Michel from NOAA to present the Chumash Heritage National Marine Sanctuary.</p> <p>Paul Michel made a presentation which will be posted on the BEACON Website.</p> <p>Board Members Comments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chair Hart thanked the Paul Michel for an excellent presentation. • Director Gama indicated that he was very excited about the new marine sanctuary. He noted that four of the BEACON member agencies have names derived from Chumash words. He also expressed his desire that the Chumash Heritage Marine Sanctuary extend all the way down the Port Hueneme. He asked if there was a Southern Chumash Council as well as a Northern Chumash Council? • Pau Michel responded that NOAA is looking at boundaries and indicated that comments may be submitted by going to “Regulations.Gov” and searching for Chumash Heritage National Marine Sanctuary. • Director Ramirez thanked Paul Michel and expressed her appreciation, respect and acknowledgement of our local heritage. She would like Ventura County and BEACON to take a position of support. • Director Richards expressed his excitement and support for the marine sanctuary and also would like to see the sanctuary extend further south beyond Gaviota. He endorses the BEACON support letter. • Director Friedman was very supportive of this opportunity to protect our coastal heritage. He also supported extending the sanctuary further south and he asked how would the sanctuary actually be approved? • Paul Michel responded that NOAA has the authority to approve. • Director Clark indicated that he supports the sanctuary and joins his colleagues in supporting an extension of the boundary further south to encompass the BEACON Coastline. • Director Hart suggested that the support letter from BEACON be tweaked to include the request to consider an extension of the boundary to Port Hueneme. <p>Public Comments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None. <p>BOARD ACTION: Receive and File report. Approve Support Letter with edits to request extension of southern boundary of the Chumash Heritage Marine Sanctuary further south to Port Hueneme. Moved by Gama / Second by Ramirez.</p>

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Item	4	<p>Projects – Kelp Anchor Demonstration Project</p> <p>Recommended Action: Receive a presentation on the status of the Kelp Anchor Demonstration Project</p>
Minutes/ Actions:		<p>Program Manager, Gerald Comati indicated that BEACON has been involved with the Kelp Anchor Project for the last 8 years. Today, Bob Kiel and Scott Kimura (from Tenera Environmental) will provide an update on the direction the project is moving.</p> <p>Scott Kimura and Bob Kiel made a presentation which will be posted on the BEACON Website. Scott explained that prior to 1992 Goleta Bay has over 200 AC of sand dwelling kelp that were secured to the seabed through worm tubes. The kelp was lost through an El Nino event in 1992. In 2015 BEACON secured permits for Bob Kiel to install granite anchor columns as holds downs for kelp spores in the hope of proving proof of concept to re-establishing the kelp bed in Goleta Bay. A total of 110 columns were installed and kelp growth was promoted. Since the initial granite columns, the design has evolved into octo-columns, whereby the columns include a habitat space for octopi. With such habitat, octopi can safely feed off the kelp destructive (for the kelp) kelp crabs. This in turn allow a healthier and more sustainable kelp bed. Tenera is a small environmental firm based in SLO. The firm focuses on coast work and was hired following the 2015 Refugio Oil Spill to assess potential mitigation. Tenera suggested to the Trustee that a project to collect data for the Kelp Project would be a good candidate project for use of the Refugio Oil Spill mitigation funds. The Trustees agreed and assigned funding to such a project. Consequently, Tenera is proposing to implement a new project that would be based on strict scientific protocols assessing the various iterations of the granite and octo-columns installed to date by Bob Kiel. With this new data, the ability for the kelp project to secure additional funding for a more comprehensive project would be greatly increased.</p> <p>Board Members Comments and Responses:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chair Hart thanked Scott Kimura and indicated that the Board is very interested in the Kelp Project. • Director Williams indicated this was a wonderful project and believed the project needed to continue. A lot more benefit will be seen ultimately with a larger scale project. • Director Ramirez expressed her support for this great project with a significant public education element. She recommended the movie “My Octopus Teacher”. • Director Gama indicted that he recalls when the kelp beds were huge prior to 1992. Historic photos show the huge kelp beds. He suggested a documentary should be made. • Director Richards indicated he was very excited about the development. Goleta Beach is not in the City of Goleta but is immediately adjacent. He asked if other species could be introduced in addition to octopi? • Bob Kiel indicated that otters were not an issue currently although they had re-populated south of Point Conception. Trying to restore the balance of the grazer/predator relationship is the trick. Once the kelp forest comes back, all marine life also returns. • Director Richards asked if the kelp would benefit beach erosion and if that is being monitored? • Scott Kimura indicated that beach erosion monitoring would not be part of the new project. • Bob Kiel indicated that he believed that there is a hydro-dynamic dampening effect from the kelp bed which could mitigate coastal erosion. <p>Public Comments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None. <p>BOARD ACTION: Receive and File report.</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 Council adopted the Local Coastal Plan update. • Director Richards reported that on March 5th, the City of Goleta would be celebrating its 20th birthday. • Director Gama reported that there have been effective community and city trash clean-ups at PH Beach and Ormond Lagoon after the recent storms.

Item	5B	BEACON Organization and Program - Review and Adopt Board Meeting Schedule for 2022. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. Receive a report from the Chair on the December Executive Committee Meeting; and ii. As recommended by the Executive Committee, direct Executive Staff to prepare a Staff Report for the BEACON Board of Directors outlining a proposal for completing the Organizational and Program Performance Evaluation.
Minutes/ Actions:		<p>Ex Director, Marc Beyeler explained that the Executive Committee was established by the Board in February 2021, and it was charged with a list of responsibilities, including an annual evaluation of BEACON'S goals, structure, and performance, directed toward continually improving the planning, coordination, and implementation process. Staff is recommending that the annual report be changed to a biennial evaluation and that a consultant be hired to develop and complete an evaluation work plan or template and to complete the initial evaluation. Marc indicated that he would come back with a staff report in May of July 2022 for approval of a consultant services contract.</p> <p>BOARD ACTION: The Board unanimously approved the Recommended Actions. Moved by LaVere / Second by Gama.</p>

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Item	5C	<p>BEACON Communications Planning.</p> <p>Recommended Action:</p> <p>Receive and file a Staff Report on activities regarding Communications Planning.</p>
Minutes/ Actions:		<p>Stacey Miller and Jennifer Perkovich of Stacey Miller Communications made a presentation on communications planning efforts and the development of the Annual Report. The presentation will be uploaded to the BEACON website.</p> <p>Board Members Comments and Responses:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chair Hart thanked Stacey and Jennifer. • Director Ramirez stressed how important it is for the public to know what’s going on and BEACON has an excellent track record of accomplishing this. • Director Friedman thanked Stacey and Jennifer and asked if he could have a copy of the Annual Report. • Marc Beyeler indicated the Annual Report will be sent out once final changes/corrections are completed. • Chair Hart indicated that he and Marc Beyeler are setting up BEACON presentations to all the member agencies in the next five months. • Director Gama emphasized that the #1 educational message to the public should be that “Every mountain wants to become a beach”. <p>Public Comments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None. <p>BOARD ACTION: Receive and File report.</p>

Item	5D	<p>BEACON Legislative Program and Budget Priorities</p> <p>Recommended Action:</p> <p>Receive and file Staff Report on activities regarding Legislative Program and Budget Priorities.</p>
Minutes/ Actions:		<p>Ex Director, Beyeler reported that staff would be presenting a draft budget in March with potentially one or more legislative recommendations. Last year the State released a call for shovel ready projects. However, because of the Infrastructure Bill and Covid Bill, the State will now have a minimum of \$350M available for coastal resilience funding, and potentially \$500M. BEACON Executive Staff are working with BEACON member agency staff to identify what coastal resilience projects BEACON should consider supporting for State funding from the coastal resilience funds. Staff will continue to update the Board on the progress of its Legislative policy and program support efforts.</p> <p>Board Members Comments and Responses:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Director Friedman reported that through his participation in the League of Cities, he is aware of two new State Bills that are being considered for coastal project funding. <p>Public Comments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None. <p>BOARD ACTION: Receive and File report.</p>

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Item	5E	<p>BEACON Budget Actions and Financial Reports</p> <p>Recommended Action:</p> <ul 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 December 31, 2021 (Exhibit I). ii. Authorize the Auditor-Controller's Office to make budgetary adjustments as follows: (requires 6/10th vote): <table style="margin-left: 40px; border: none;"> <tr> <td>DECREASE-5668-9252-RSMP</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$10,000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>DECREASE-5668-2183-RSMP</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$10,000</td> </tr> </table> 	DECREASE-5668-9252-RSMP	\$10,000	DECREASE-5668-2183-RSMP	\$10,000
DECREASE-5668-9252-RSMP	\$10,000					
DECREASE-5668-2183-RSMP	\$10,000					
Minutes/ Actions:	<p>Donna Gompert, ACO Accountant for BEACON, presented the Budget to Actuals Report through December 31, 2021. In addition, she reported a budgetary adjustment (reduction) of \$10,000 for the Regional Coastal Sediment Pilot Program OPC grant.</p> <p>Board Members Comments and Responses:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Director Richards noted that the Staff Report cited the reduction in the OPC grant from \$450,800 to \$440,000, when it should be from \$450,800 to \$440,800. • Ex Director, Marc Beyeler acknowledged the error in the Staff Report. <p>Public Comments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None. <p>BOARD ACTION: The Board unanimously approved the Recommended Actions. Moved by Gama / Second by Richards.</p>					

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Item	5F	<p>BEACON Contracts and Agreements</p> <p>Recommended Actions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Approve, ratify, and authorize the Chair to execute Amendment No. 2 to the Memorandum of Understanding with California State University Channel Islands (CSUCI) to: (a) remove Prop 68 tasks for regional sediment management; (b) to remove Prop 68 funding for a revised amount not to exceed \$25,000; and (c) to reduce the period of performance by one year for a revised ending date of June 30, 2022 (Exhibit 1); and ii. Approve, ratify, and authorize the Chair to execute a new separate and distinct Memorandum of Understanding for technical and scientific services supporting BEACON's Prop 68 grant requirements for regional sediment management in the amount of \$75,000 for the period ending December 31, 2023 (Exhibit 2).
Minutes/ Actions:	<p>Executive Director Marc Beyeler explained that this item is to re-arrange budget to separate grant funds from SAC overhead. Specifically, the non- Prop 68 funds are being removed from the existing agreement with CSUCI for SAC services and a new agreement with CSUCI is being executed for technical services related to the Prop 68 Grant funding.</p> <p>Board Members Comments and Responses:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None. <p>Public Comments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None. <p>BOARD ACTION: The Board unanimously approved the Recommended Actions. Moved by Friedman / Second by Gama.</p>	

Item	6	<p>Executive Director's Report and Communications</p>
Minutes/ Actions:	<p>Executive Director Beyeler reported on the following items:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Every other year BEACON elects new officers. Last year a new Vice Chair was elected. In addition, appointments to the Board are being made on a one- or two-year basis from member agencies. Staff is requesting that member agencies update their assignments and report them to BEACON staff. • Upcoming items: in March the Draft Budget will be presented and in May the Final Budget. • To date, the BEACON Board has received six SLR adaptation presentation from member agencies. Presentations from the remaining agencies, Port Hueneme and the County of Ventura are pending. In addition, Staff has requested a presentation from the Navy, which may occur at the March meeting. <p>Board Members Comments and Responses:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Director Gama expressed his thanks for inviting the Navy to present. He expressed interest in the impacts of the Mugu Canyon Subterranean Canyon on the Navy facility. 	

**Adjourn to next regular meeting March 18, 2022, at 9:00 AM by Teleconference or Video Conference.
Meeting Minutes by Gerald Comati, Program Manager, BEACON.**