

# BEACON BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING MINUTES

**DATE:** Friday, November 19, 2021

**TIME:** 9:00 AM

**PLACE:** TELECONFERENCE

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| <b>Item</b>                  | <b>1</b>  | <b>Call to Order, Roll Call, and Introductions – Chair, Gregg Hart.</b>  |
| <b>Minutes/<br/>Actions:</b> |           | <p><b>Directors Present:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Gregg Hart (County of Santa Barbara)</b></li> <li>• <b>Das Williams (County of Santa Barbara)</b></li> <li>• <b>Matt LaVere (County of Ventura)</b></li> <li>• <b>Carmen Ramirez (County of Ventura)</b></li> <li>• <b>Eric Friedman (City of Santa Barbara)</b></li> <li>• <b>Kyle Richards (City of Goleta)</b></li> <li>• <b>Vianey Lopez (City of Oxnard)</b></li> <li>• <b>Al Clark (City of Carpinteria)</b></li> </ul>   |
| <b>Item</b>                  | <b>1B</b> | <p><b>Report on Circumstances of the COVID-19 State of Emergency</b></p> <p><b>Recommended Actions:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. Receive and file:             <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. An update that the State and County remain under a proclaimed state of emergency related to COVID-19; and</li> <li>b. The County of Santa Barbara Public Health Department recommendation issued September 28, 2021, regarding social distancing (Attachment)</li> </ol> </li> <li>ii. Provide direction to staff about the location of the next meeting.</li> </ol>   |
| <b>Minutes/<br/>Actions:</b> |           | <p>Legal Counsel Susan McKenzie explained that the Brown Act allows tel-conferencing but requires notice of public access. Recent developments have resulted in the region remaining under a local state of emergency which recommends social spacing. If the Board wishes to have the meetings remain remote, then at each Board Meeting an item is required confirming if the meeting is remote or in person.</p> <p>Board Members Comments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Director Ramirez indicated that both Santa Barbara and Ventura Counties are recommending social distancing. Director Ramirez added that she prefers remote meetings, they are better for public access and better for the environment.</li> <li>• Director Richards indicated he was in favor of remote meetings.</li> </ul> <p>Public Comments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fred Shaw indicated that it was much easier for the public to attend remotely than in person and therefore easier to get the BEACON message out.</li> </ul> <p><b>The agenda was unanimously approved by the Board.<br/>Moved by Ramirez / Second by Friedman.</b></p> |

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| <b>Item</b>                  | <b>1C</b>  | <b>Approval of Agenda and Filing of Certificate of Agenda Posting</b><br><b>Action: Approve and file.</b> |
| <b>Minutes/<br/>Actions:</b> | <b>The agenda was unanimously approved by the Board.</b><br><b>Moved by LaVere / Second by Friedman.</b> |   |

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| <b>Item</b>                  | <b>1D</b>  | <b>Consideration and Approval of Minutes of the BEACON Meeting held on September 17, 2021.</b><br><b>Action: Approve and file.</b> |
| <b>Minutes/<br/>Actions:</b> | <b>The Board approved unanimously the Recommended Action.</b><br><b>Moved by Williams / Second by Clark.</b> |  |

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

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| <b>Item</b>                  | <b>3</b> | <p><b>Presentations –</b></p> <p><b>A. Report on the First Year Activities of the BEACON Science Advisory Committee (SAC)</b></p> <p><b>B. Report on the Beach Sustainability Assessment/Coast Access Grant Project</b></p>  |
| <b>Minutes/<br/>Actions:</b> |          | <p>Executive Director Marc Beyeler introduced the two co-chairs of the SAC, Dr. Kiki Patch and Dr. Doug George. The SAC was established in 2019. It has been a major effort that has proved invaluable. Today two presentations will be made, one on the first-year activities by the SAC and the second reporting on related projects.</p> <p>The first-year activities SAC presentation was made by Dr. Kiki Patch. The presentation will be posted to the BEACON Website. Below is a summary of the presentation:</p> <p>November 2020:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SAC first assembled.</li> <li>• SAC Bylaws adopted.</li> <li>• SAC members approved by BEACON Board.</li> <li>• Agreement with California Sea Grant approved.</li> </ul> <p>Initial Work:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Two meetings in January 2021</li> <li>• Review of science goals in the Draft BEACON Strategic Plan.</li> <li>• Development of additions and elaborations to Draft BEACON Strategic Plan.</li> <li>• Development of SAC Agenda.</li> </ul> <p>Address Gaps between science and policy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Communicated with BEACON Agency Staff Managers.</li> <li>• Hosted a June 2021 Workshop with Agency Staff to discuss development of integrated science, program, policy, funding and permitting.</li> <li>• Preparation of a summary report of Workshop.</li> </ul> <p>Development of ambitious SAC actions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop initial research agenda.</li> <li>• Develop 2-year implementation schedule.</li> </ul> <p>Coming actions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• December 2021, adopt research agenda.</li> <li>• Set annual SAC meeting for year 2.</li> <li>• Preliminary planning for managers-science summit.</li> <li>• Assess early implementation tasks and activities -             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Conduct GAP analysis of required monitoring needs.</li> <li>○ Develop long-term required monitoring plan.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> |

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| <p><b>Minutes/<br/>Actions:</b></p> | <p>Board Members Comments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Chair Hart thanked the SAC and indicated the BEACON had secured the “Dream Team”.</li><li>• Director Friedman thanked Dr. Patch and indicated he was excited to see this evolution and was particularly pleased about the GAP analysis on monitoring efforts. Instead of individual agencies doing monitoring, it was better for BEACON to oversee all monitoring. Director Friedman asked if there had been any discussions with the Coastal Commission.</li><li>• Ex Director Beyeler responded that Staff had communicated with the Coastal Staff. Regarding the monitoring, this would include physical (transects), ecological and economic. The goal is to standardize the monitoring efforts in terms of protocols and frequency. Ex Director Beyeler added that there were also grant opportunities to fund monitoring as well as to compiling of existing monitoring data.</li><li>• Dr. Patch added that the BEACON’s approach is the pilot study for the State.</li><li>• Director Ramirez thanked Dr. Patch and Dr. George. She indicated that BEACON is doing great work. It is important to work regionally to avoid silos. She was also pleased to see that Dr. Ravel was part of the SAC. Dr. Ravel was instrumental in working with the City of Oxnard in their denial of a power plant project.</li></ul> <p>The second presentation was made by Dr. Patch and Dr. Lester and involves a Beach Sustainability Assessment (BSA) as well as the Coastal Access Project. This is an example of how science can help policy. The project includes community interface regarding beach access equity and SLR issues. The presentation will be posted on the BEACON Website.</p> <p>Board Member Comments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Chair Hart indicated that is critical to communicate with the public for us to understand beach access equity.</li><li>• Ventura County – Aaron Engram indicated that Ventura County completed its own survey on beach erosion due to SLR. He asked is SLR will be added to the BSA surveys?</li><li>• Dr. Patch indicated that SLR questions will be added to the surveys. Over the coming summer, 1300 surveys will be completed from Oxnard up to Jalama Beach.</li></ul> <p><b>BOARD ACTION: The Board received the report.</b></p> |
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| <b>Item</b>                  | <b>4</b> | <p><b>Santa Barbara County Debris Basin OPC Grant</b></p> <p><b>Recommended Actions:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>i. Receive a report from Staff on the status of the Santa Barbara County Debris Basin Ocean Protection Council (OPC) Grant Project.</b></li> <li><b>ii. Approve and authorize the Chair to execute an Agreement with HDR Engineering Incorporated for the development of a Debris Basin Modification Best Practices Manual as part of the Santa Barbara County Debris Basin OPC Grant project for a total amount of \$30,000 with a term from December 1, 2021, to March 1, 2023. (Exhibit I).</b></li> </ol>  |
| <b>Minutes/<br/>Actions:</b> |          | <p>Program Manager, Gerald Comati provided a presentation on the Santa Barbara County Debris Basin Project.</p> <p>Key elements of the presentation include:</p> <p>The Santa Barbara County Debris Basin Project began in 2017, when BEACON in collaboration with the Santa Barbara County Flood Control District, secured funding from the Oceans Protection Counsel (OPC) for the removal of two existing debris basins (at Rattlesnake and San Ysidro Creeks) in SB County. By doing these projects sediment transport to the Coast would be less obstructed.</p> <p>In 2018, after the Montecito Debris Flow, the County elected not to remove existing debris basins but instead allow them to be modified to allow the flow of sediment downstream. This grant scope change plus a replacement of the Rattlesnake Basin with the Cold Springs Basin, was approved by the OPC in 2019.</p> <p>In 2019 the SB County Flood Control District secured consultant services to develop the designs of the two debris basin modification projects. The design is currently at the 35% stage and design review is ongoing with the National Marine Fisheries Services (NMFS).</p> <p>The target delivery date for construction of the two debris basin modifications was for 2022. However, due the inability to reach design consensus between the Flood Control District and NMFS, this schedule may be delayed. BEACON staff is observing the progress and if necessary, a grant amendment request will be submitted to OPC in Spring 2022 in order to request an additional year.</p> <p>One of the tasks required in the OPS grant is the development of a Best Practices Manual for the preparation of debris basin modifications designs. For this work, Staff is recommending a contract with HDR Inc. HDR is the firm the SB County Flood Control District is using for design of the debris basin modifications, so they are the most qualified and familiar.</p> <p>Board Members Comments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Director Friedman indicated he was very happy with this project. The Gobenor Debris Basin. the first basin modification project to allow sediment to flow downstream, was a huge success.</li> <li>• Ventura County - Brian Brennan indicated that Ventura County also has many debris basins that could be candidates for modification. The Ventura County Flood Control District is evaluating.</li> </ul> <p><b>BOARD ACTION: The Board unanimously approved the Recommended Actions.<br/>Moved by Friedman / Second by LaVere.</b></p> |

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| <b>Item</b>                  | <b>5A</b> | <b>BEACON Organization and Program - Board Members Reports.</b>   |
| <b>Minutes/<br/>Actions:</b> |           | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Director Friedman indicated that he was re-appointed to CA League of Cities Environmental Quality Policy Committee and to the Coastal Cities Group and will serve as Chair of the Coastal Cities Group.</li> </ul> |

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| <b>Item</b>                  | <b>5B</b> | <b>BEACON Organization and Program - Review and Adopt Board Meeting Schedule for 2022.</b>  |
| <b>Minutes/<br/>Actions:</b> |           | <p>Ex Director Beyeler presented the upcoming year (2022) Board Meeting schedule. The meetings will continue remotely for now. There will also be two Executive Committee meetings.</p> <p><b>BOARD ACTION: The Board unanimously approved the Recommended Actions.<br/>Moved by Clark / Second by Ramirez.</b></p> |

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| <b>Item</b>                  | <b>5C</b> | <p><b>BEACON Organization and Program - Budget Actions and Financial Reports</b></p> <p><b>Recommended Actions:</b></p> <p>i. Adopt Budget Resolution No. 2021-4 ratifying the Adopted Budget for Fiscal Year (FY) 2021-22 and delegating authority to the Auditor-Controller and Executive Director to take described actions on the FY 2021-22 Adopted Budget (Exhibit I).</p>   |
| <b>Minutes/<br/>Actions:</b> |           | <p>Ex Director Beyeler reported that the ACO and County Counsel staff spent a lot of time developing a new budget format and structure for BEACON. In addition, BEACON had previously not adopted Budget Resolutions. This item recommends approval of a Budget Resolution for FY 2021-2022.</p> <p>Donna Gompert, ACO Accountant for BEACON, indicated that the new budget and the resolution will prove very beneficial.</p> <p><b>BOARD ACTION: The Board unanimously approved the Budget Actions and Financial Reports Recommended Actions.<br/>Moved by Ramirez / Second by Friedman.</b></p> |

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| <b>Item</b>                  | <b>5D</b> | <p><b>Review and Approve BEACON Contracts and Agreements</b></p> <p><b>Recommended Action:</b></p> <p>i. Approve and authorize the Chair to execute Amendment No. 1 to the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with California State University Channel Islands (CSUCI) for technical and scientific services supporting regional sediment management to update the services, to increase the amount by \$75,000 for revised total amount of \$100,000, and to extend the duration by an additional year for a revised period ending June 30, 2023. (Exhibit 1).</p> |
| <b>Minutes/<br/>Actions:</b> |           | <p>Ex Director Beyeler indicated that BEACON cannot be successful without partnerships with other agencies. The recommended amendment to the MOU with California State University Channel Islands (CSUCI) to provide technical and scientific services will support the existing OPC grant for regional sediment management. The amendment will provide an additional \$75,000 to CSUCI and will covered by the OPC grant.</p> <p><b>BOARD ACTION: The Board unanimously approved the Recommended Actions. Moved by Lopez / Second by Friedman.</b></p>            |
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| <b>Item</b>                  | <b>6</b> | <b>Executive Director's Report and Communications</b>   |
| <b>Minutes/<br/>Actions:</b> |          | <p>Executive Director Beyeler reported on the following items:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Staff will be sending out a notice for the upcoming December 10, 2021, Executive Committee Meeting.</li> <li>• 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.</li> <li>• BEACON was awarded \$50,000 from the Coastal Conservancy to manage a study on how we can improve collaboration and information.</li> <li>• In January 2022, Staff will present a report on BEACON's outreach and communications.</li> <li>• Also in January, BEACON will provide updates on one or more of its ongoing projects.</li> </ul> |

**Adjourn to next regular meeting January 21, 2022, at 9:00 AM by Teleconference or Video Conference.**

**Meeting Minutes by Gerald Comati, Program Manager, BEACON.**