

## BEACON BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING MINUTES

**DATE:** Friday, July 15, 2022  
**TIME:** 9:00 AM  
**PLACE:** TELECONFERENCE

<b>Item</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>Call to Order, Roll Call, and Introductions – Chair, Gregg Hart.</b>
<b>Minutes/ 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>Carmen Ramirez (County of Ventura)</b></li> <li>• <b>Eric Friedman (City of Santa Barbara)</b></li> <li>• <b>Vianey Lopez (City of Oxnard)</b></li> <li>• <b>Steven Gama (City of Port Hueneme)</b></li> <li>• <b>Matt LaVere (County of Ventura)</b></li> <li>• <b>Kyle Richards (City of Goleta)</b></li> <li>• <b>Joe Schroeder (City of Ventura)</b></li> </ul> <p><b>Directors Not Present:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <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>1. <b>Receive and file:</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. <b>An update that the State and County remain under a proclaimed state of emergency related to COVID-19; and</b></li> <li>b. <b>The County of Santa Barbara Public Health Department recommendation issued February 16, 2022 (Attachment 1), and the Ventura County Health Officer recommendation issued November 15, 2021 (Attachment 2), regarding social distancing.</b></li> </ol> </li> <li>2. <b>Based on the above findings proceed with this meeting and direct staff to continue to notice and hold hearings as remote hearings consistent with Government Code § 54953(e)(3).</b></li> </ol>
<b>Minutes/ Actions:</b>		<p>Legal Counsel, Susan McKenzie indicated that we remain under local and State emergency and that Santa Barbara County and Ventura County Health Officials continue to recommend social distancing. The Board has discretion to continue meeting virtually.</p> <p><b>Board Members Comments:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• None.</li> </ul> <p><b>Public Comments:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• None.</li> </ul> <p><b>The Board approved unanimously the Recommended Action.  Moved by LaVere / Second by Friedman.</b></p>
<b>Item</b>	<b>1C</b>	<b>Approval of Agenda and Filing of Certificate of Agenda Posting</b>
<b>Minutes/ Actions:</b>		<p><b>Action: Approve and file.</b></p> <p><b>The agenda was approved unanimously by the Board.  Moved by Richards / Second by Williams.</b></p>

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<b>Item</b>	<b>1D</b>	<b>Consideration and Approval of Minutes of the BEACON Meeting held on May 20, 2022. Action: Approve and file.</b>
<b>Minutes/ Actions:</b>		<b>The Board approved unanimously the Recommended Action. Moved by Richards / Second by Williams.</b>

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

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<b>Item</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>Presentations - Regional Sediment Management and Sea Level Rise Adaptation within the BEACON Coast.</b>
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<b>Minutes/ Actions:</b>	<p>Executive Director Beyeler introduced Dr. Kiki Patch professor at California State University Channel Islands (CSUCI). Dr. Patch is no stranger to BEACON. She is the co-chair of the BEACON Science Advisory Committee (SAC). She is also the lead with CSUCI for the MOU between CSUCI and BEACON for regional sediment management and regional climate adaptation as part of the OPC Regional Coastal Resilience Sediment Pilot Program Grant that BEACON secured. Dr. Patch has also been involved in the annual Sand Summit in Ventura County hosted by BEACON. At the recent Sand Summit in June 2022, Dr. Patch made a presentation that very nicely ties everything together in terms of regional sediment generation and sediment movement within the BEACON littoral cell. Dr. Patch will be repeating the presentation to the Board today.</p> <p>Dr. Patch thanked Mr. Beyeler and indicated that following the Sand Summit the Ventura County Reported prepared an excellent article which provided excellent exposure to BEACON, and the sediment transport issues.</p> <p>Dr. Patch's presentation is loaded onto the BEACON Website. The following is a summary of the key elements of the presentation.</p> <p><b>Sand Movement Along BEACON Coast</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The littoral cell or sand shed extends from the Santa Maria River down to the Mugu Canyon.</li><li>• Research indicates that at the north end of the BEACON littoral cell 30% of sediment does actually get around Point Conception.</li><li>• Longshore current is the movement of the littoral cell downcoast.</li><li>• The littoral cell is fed from all upland watersheds through the creeks and rivers.</li><li>• The littoral cell is interpreted by harbors which are then dredged and captured sediment rejoins the littoral cell on it journey downcoast.</li><li>• All the sand on all the beaches on BEACON's coast are fed from the littoral cell.</li><li>• The end of the line for the BEACON littoral cell is the Mugu Canyon, where the majority of sediment is deposited offshore.</li></ul> <p><b>How Measure Sand</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The measurement of sand volumes in the littoral cell is complicated.</li><li>• The best proxy is through the quantities of sediment that is dredged from the harbors.</li><li>• Santa Barbara Harbor has a consistent volume of dredged sand entering the cell, whereas both Ventura Harbor and Channel Island Harbor have down trending of volumes of dredging.</li></ul> <p><b>Sand Sources</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The biggest input of sediment comes from the Santa Clara River.</li><li>• Overall, 99.5% of sediment entering the littoral cell comes from the creeks and rivers. The remaining 0.5% is from bluff erosion.</li><li>• Obstructions to the natural sediment flow from creek and rivers are dams and debris basins.</li><li>• When the sand sources equal to sand sinks, we have equilibrium.</li><li>• Director Friedman asked where the 70% of sand goes at Mugu Canyon.</li><li>• When sand sources greater than sand sinks, we have accretion.</li><li>• When sand sources less than sand sinks, we have erosion.</li></ul> <p><b>Sand is Critical</b></p>
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- Sand is essential to maintaining the coastal systems.
- Without sand, essential habitat disappears, beaches disappear, and recreation opportunities are greatly diminished

## **Reductions to Sand Supply**

- Dams/debris basins and armoring deplete sand supply to the littoral cell.
- Armoring affects the sediment budget and entire cell, and armoring continues in the BEACON coast.
- It is estimated that Matilaja Dam has obstructed 35% of the sediment from the Ventura River from getting to the coast.

## **What To Do**

- Implement Regional Sand Management measures.
- BEACON is the leader with the SAC working on issues.
- BEACON is the perfect laboratory for the study of teamwork required to be successful.
- Sand deficits affect ecology, policy, and economics.
- Coastal monitoring is critical. Currently coastal monitoring is being done in silos. An effort to standardize monitoring is required.
- It is estimated that by 2100, 31 to 67% of all Southern California beaches will become eroded.

## **Conclusions**

- BEACON brings it all together in terms of science, policy, decision making tools, and analysis.
- BEACON brings together all jurisdictions and can implement good communications and transparency between them.

## **Board Members Comments:**

- Director Williams asked how much of sand loss is due to sand mining in rivers.
- Dr. Path indicated she was unsure about extent of ongoing sand mining in Ventura River. Certainly, if it is ongoing and debris basin clean out is also exported upland, then impact can be considerable.
- Director Williams added that Sant Barbara County always tries to ensure debris basin clean out goes to the coast.
- Brian Brennan added that mining in Santa Clara River does not occur anymore but that it continues in the Santa Maria River. It is possible that BEACON could initiate a permit for approval of sand mining with an associated fee that would go to BEACON.
- Director Ramirez indicated that there is a proposal to truck sand from Moorpark to Board Beach in LA County but that a permit was not issued.
- Brian Brenan indicated that this proposal is suspended. The sand source is now from Santa Clarita.
- Director Richard indicated that this was the best presentation on the littoral cell he has ever seen, hands down. It is very valuable to see from a systems perspective. Mr. Richards requested a copy of the presentation so he can post on the City of Goleta website.
- Executive Director Beyeler indicated that BEACON staff would make the presentation available.

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- Director Friedman asked where the 70% of sand from the littoral cell goes at Mugu Canyon?
- Dr. Patch indicated that most of the sand goes to an offshore sand bar.
  
- Director Gama indicated that he is very pleased with what has been done by BEACON in the last two years. He continued that each piece of the BEACON coast is unique but also part of the bigger cell. At Port Hueneme we try to understand Mother Nature and it is important that all decisionmakers understand the problems with sediment. It is critical that communications are clear. In this context, how can we assist each jurisdiction on the BEACON Coast to understand their sediment issues?
- Dr. Patch responded that cross region communications are important. At the Sand Summit for example, everyone is in the same room. We are able to focus attention at events like this and through the technical assessments by the SAC. In addition, the local jurisdiction LCP's need to be cohesive.
  
- Chair Hart asked how the sediment north of Point Conception impacts the BEACON Littoral Cell.
- Dr. Patch indicated that sediment north of Pt Conception has little impact on the BEACON Littoral Cell since very little gets past Pt Conception. At the other end, some sand from the BEACON littoral cell does leak past the Mugu Canyon. However, due to extensive housing construction there has been added erosion along the coast, which in turn has contributed to the sand deficit at Broad Beach.
- Chair Hart asked why is there a decline in dredging at Ventura Harbor?
- Dr. Patch indicated that the decline was due to reduced funding.
- Brian Brenna reported that BEACON helped ensure the bypass of dredging from SB Harbor occur further downcoast in order to get out of the harbor shadow.
- Dr. Patch indicated that this was an important point, it is essential that the dredging/bypass is 100% effective.
  
- Director Gama asked if we could trap sand at Point Mugu and send it to Malibu?
- Dr. Patch indicated that this concept has been studied but no one has figured out how to make it happen. It is a multi-jurisdictional political issue.
- Director Gama indicated that it would make sense to build a sand trap at Point Mugu so we can dredge and bypass.
  
- Executive Director Beyeler indicated that it was staff's goal to periodically report to the Board on regional sediment issues. The presentation by Dr. Patch will be posted on the BEACON website.

**Public Comments:**

- None.

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Item	5A   BEACON Organization and Program - Board Members Reports.
<b>Minutes/ Actions:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Director Richards reported that the City of Goleta has appointed a new City Manager, Mr. Robert Nesbit. He is familiar with the Central Coast. Director Richards added that the City will be sad to say goodbye to Michelle Greene, who has served in this role so extremely well.</li><li>• Director Friedman indicated that there is Coastal Commission Local Government Working Group update on August 12 at the Coastal Commission Meeting in Calabasas, and he encouraged all Board members to listen in. The draft agenda will be distributed to Board members by BEACON staff.</li><li>• Director Gama indicated he spent time with the new Ventura Harbor Director Michael Tripp, and they are gearing up to dredge in October 2022.</li></ul>

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<b>Item</b>	<b>5B</b>	<p><b>BEACON Contract and Agreement</b> <b>Recommended Actions:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><b>i. Approve and authorize the Chair to execute a Cooperative Agreement with the City of Santa Barbara to jointly undertake a range of project activities to support the development and initial implementation of a Santa Barbara SLR Regional Monitoring Pilot Project, with BEACON providing project management, research and technical support with a period of performance from the approval date of both parties to June 30, 2025 in an amount not to exceed \$475,000. (Attachment 1).</b></li><li><b>ii. Approve and authorize the Ventura Auditor-Controller to pay \$350 in Education and Seminar registration fees from the approved Budget Account Code 2273 accrued during the past Fiscal Year 2021-2022.</b></li><li><b>iii. Approve, ratify, and authorize the Chair to execute and Agreement with MBA Consultants to provide executive director services in an amount not to exceed \$146,602.58 with a period of performance from July 1, 2022, through June 30, 2023 (Attachment 2).</b></li></ul>
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<b>Minutes/ Actions:</b>	<p>Executive Director Beyeler indicated that he needed to make a Brown Act Notice. Legal Counsel Susan McKenzie read in item 5Biii – which is required when the Executive Director agreement is being considered for approval.</p> <p>Executive Director Beyeler indicated that there were three items for consideration by the Board.</p> <p>The first item was a cooperative agreement with the City of SB representing a partnership. The City approached BEACON to partner on implementing regular monitoring efforts. The City will provide community outreach and technical expertise. This partnership is consistent with the BEACON Strategic Plan and the SAC agenda.</p> <p>The second item allow BEACON to reimburse expenses incurred by the Executive Director for the cost of a BEACON related seminar registration.</p> <p>The third item is the new annual agreement with the Executive Director for Fiscal Year 2022-23.</p> <p><b>Board Members Comments:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Director Ramirez asked how much time would be taken up by BEACON staff on implementing the BEACON scope of the City of SB – BEACON cooperative Agreement?</li> <li>• Executive Director Beyeler responded that this was an ongoing question. With the completion of the Surfers Point OPC grant project, BEACON staff have been freed up to work on the City SB project. In addition, the bulk of the BEACON responsible work will be performed by a consultant to BEACON. In addition, staff have identified a new administrative position for BEACON that is budgeted in FY 22-23. This new admin position will alleviate both the Executive Director and Program Manager (Mr. Comati) to be able to focus more on specific projects.</li> <li>• Director Ramirez indicated that a lot of groups are looking to BEACON as a model, so it is important that BEACON has sufficient staff. BEACON is a unique organization.</li> <li>• Chair Hart asked if City of SB Staff, Melissa Hendrick had any comments.</li> <li>• Melissa Hendrick indicated that she had nothing to add just that she was excited to launch. The goal is to use existing monitoring data and to add as required.</li> <li>• Director Friedman thanked Executive Director Beyeler and Melissa Hendrick and the City was excited to get started.</li> <li>• Chair Hart suggested that we reach out to Broad Beach to provide supplemental funding.</li> </ul> <p><b>Public Comments:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• None.</li> </ul> <p><b>The Board approved unanimously the Recommended Action. Motion by Gama / Second by Friedman.</b></p>
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Item	6	Executive Director's Report and Communications
<b>Minutes/ Actions:</b>		<p>Executive Director Beyeler reported on the following items:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Executive Director indicated that the Board heard about the Ventura Sand Summit today and staff is considering a Santa Barbara Sand Summit in addition to the ongoing Ventura one. Staff will discuss with the staff of the Santa Barbara jurisdictions.</li> <li>• The Board heard today about the new City of SB grant and the partnership with BEACON on implementing it. This type of BEACON involvement does actually return money to the BEACON budget since a portion of staff work related to the project is reimbursed by the grant and not BEACON overhead.</li> <li>• At the September Board Meeting staff intends to provide project updates and a report on resilience funding opportunities.</li> <li>• In September of this year the American Shore and Beach is going to be held in California in Long Beach. This is a great opportunity for BEACON staff and Directors to attend and participate.</li> </ul> <p><b>Board Members Comments:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Director Gama indicated he has reached out to Malibu previously, but nothing happened. What can he do?</li> <li>• Executive Director Beyeler indicated that there is a new City Manager now, so perhaps the timing will be better.</li> </ul>

**Adjourn to next regular meeting September 16, 2022, at 9:00 AM by Teleconference or Video Conference. Meeting Minutes by Gerald Comati, Program Manager, BEACON.**