

BEACON BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING MINUTES

DATE: Friday, July 14, 2023
TIME: 9:00 AM
PLACE: TELECONFERENCE

Item	1A	Call to Order, Roll Call, and Introductions – Chair, Laura Capps.
Minutes/ Actions:		<p>Directors Present:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Das Williams (County of Santa Barbara) • Vianey Lopez (County of Ventura) • Kyle Richards (City of Goleta) • Mike Jordan (City of Santa Barbara) • Monica Solórzano (City of Carpinteria) • Doug Halter (City of Ventura) • Gabe Teran, (City of Oxnard) • Steven Gama, (City of Port Hueneme) <p>Directors Not Present:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Matt LaVere (County of Ventura) • Laura Capps (County of Santa Barbara) • Eric Friedman (City of Santa Barbara)
Item	1B - D	<p>Approval of Administrative Items</p> <p>B. Approval of Agenda and Filing of Certificate of Agenda Posting.</p> <p>C. Consideration and Approval of Minutes of the BEACON Meeting held on May 19, 2023.</p> <p>D. File Notice of Cancellation of BEACON Regular Meeting of July 21, 2023. (Exhibit 2).</p>
Minutes/ Actions:		<p>Board Members Comments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None. <p>Public Comments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None. <p>The Administrative Agenda was approved unanimously by the Board. Moved by Gama / Second by Halter.</p>
Item	2	Public Comment and Other Matters not on the Agenda Receive public comments.
Minutes/ Actions:		<p>Board Members Comments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None. <p>Public Comments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None.

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Item	4	Projects – Coastal Access/Beach User Cell Phone Location Data Research Pilot Project. Presentation by BEACON Executive Director Marc Beyeler, Dr. Kiki Patsch of California State University Channel Islands (CSUCI), and Dr. Nathaniel Merrill, United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA).
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Minutes/ Actions:	<p>Executive Director Beyeler stated that during the last two years, BEACON staff have been leading a multi-agency collaborative regional research project, analyzing the utility of employing cell phone location data to better understand coastal access use within the BEACON Coast and southern California. The project has required the recruitment of technical research staff, project partners, and funders, involving staff members of California State University Channel Islands (CSUCI), the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority (MRCA), the Office of Research and Development, United States Environmental Protection Agency (ORD-USEPA), the Bay Foundation (TBF) and Point Blue.</p> <p>Today will be a collaborate presentation from Me. Beyeler, Dr. Kiki Patsch of California State University Channel Islands (CSUCI), and Dr. Nathaniel Merrill, United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA). The presentation will be added to the BEACON website.</p> <p>Board Members Comments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Director Gama indicated that he recently read an interesting article in the Ventura Star about public access signs being taken down at Malibu’s Lechuza Beach. Apparently, the signs installed by the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority (MRCA), were not permitted by the City of Malibu. This is a concerning issue since communication regarding beach access is critical. We are working hard in Port Hueneme to ensure distribution of good access map resources. The presentation today was excellent with very useful economic data. Director Gama questioned what constituted a beach? The study focused on thirty-one beaches, but there are more than that in the BEACON cell.• Director Richards asked whether cell phone area codes influence the study? Nat Merrill responded that the study is purely based on geographic data not area codes.• Director Richards asked why cell # data was larger than ground data? Nat Merrill indicted that ground data always undercounts and cell # data, always overcounts. We use cell # data as a multiplier of ground data.• Director Williams pointed out that SBCAG and CHP have done traffic analyses for transportation projects and volumes during weekends is consistent with the beach data presented today.• Director Richards indicated that cell # data does not have demographic data, but it tracks where you are from and what census tract you live.• Director Halter indicated that the study was fascinating and ironic. Question: does the phone have to be on for location date to be detected? Nat Merrill responded that the phone does have to be on and using certain apps.• Director Halter indicated that he often drives as much as three hundred miles in one day for business, but a lot of areas he goes through does not have cell service.• Director Solorzano indicated that she felt the information was incredible. She asked if smart phones are needed? Nat Merrill indicated that yes, smart phones are required, but that 97% of all cell phone owners have smart phones today. The data is actually obtained through the apps that people use on their smart phones. <p>Executive Director Marc Beyeler added that the study indicates that a large percentage of disadvantaged population use the beaches. Use is from across our region and across all demographics.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Director Gama indicated that Port Hueneme Beach has a weekly beach cleanup activity and participation in this mirrors the data presented today.
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Director Teran thanked the presenters and indicated it was excellent information. Director Halter asked whether, by using cell data, is there a potential for biased based on the types of apps people use? Nat Merrill responded that this could theoretically be a problem because apps change all the time, and we need stability over the survey duration. So, it is not the gold standard. • Chair Lopez thanked the presenters and indicated that she looked forward to the next update. <p>Public Comments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None.
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Item	5A	BEACON Organization and Program - Board Members Reports.
Minutes/ Actions:		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Director Richards wanted to know what the status of the kelp project was. More specifically, Director Richards was interested in the connection of established kelp with algae blooms, beach nourishment and general ecological benefits. The BEACON Mission has been expanded to encompass ecological issues. • Director Halter indicated that the City of Ventura is looking forward to the next phase of the Surfers Point Project and stated that the City will do a better job with traffic control during construction. • Director Gama indicated that he had been looking at La Jonelle shipwreck and he found a podcast called “Port N Stuff” and it was fascinating. He indicated that he is thinking of developing a “BEACON Beaches” t-shirt. • Director Solorzano indicated that the City of Carpinteria has a report on the seal rookery identification issues.

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Item	5B	<p>Appointment of BEACON Special Projects Staff Recommended Actions: i. Receive a Staff Report on Special Projects Staff ii. Adopt Resolution 2023-3 appointing Brian Brennan as Special Projects Volunteer Staff for a period up to June 30, 2024 (Exhibit 1).</p>
Minutes/ Actions:		<p>Executive Director Beyeler explained that this item it to re-instate Brian Brennan as a Special Project Staff member of the BEACON Team and to adopt a confirming resolution. Brian remains a valuable asset to BEACON and his help is extremely important especially on the Surfers Point Project and Mondo’s Beach Stair Access Project.</p> <p>Board Members Comments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Director Gama indicated that Brian has an immense history with BEACON and in many ways represents the face of the organization. His work is indispensable. • Director Halter indicated his absolute support for the action. Brian has been so important for so many years in our community. • Brian Brennan responded with his thanks for the support of the Board. <p>Public Comments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None. <p>The Board approved unanimously the recommended actions. Moved by Richards / Second by Gama.</p>

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Item	5C	<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. 1 to the existing Agreement with COM3 Consulting Incorporated to provide program manager and organizational specialist services by increasing the amount by \$5,000 for a revised total not to exceed \$50,000 without a change to the period of performance from July 1, 2023, through June 30, 2024 (Exhibit 1). ii. Approve and authorize the Chair to execute an Agreement with The Bay Foundation for BEACON to provide mobility location data project support services through grant funding in the amount of \$336,250, with a period of performance from July 14, 2023, to December 31, 2025 (Exhibit 2).
Minutes/ Actions:	<p>Executive Director Marc Beyeler explained that this was the last business item on the agenda. There are two approvals under consideration. One is a small amendment to the COM3 Consulting agreement for Gerald Comati’s Program Manager Services for FY 23-24. The amendment will allow Mr. Comati to undertake additional operational specialist services, including coordination with the Executive Director for supervision and training of a part-time grants and administrative services specialist. The second is approval of an Agreement with the Bay Foundation for BEACON to provide mobility location data project support services through a grant. This will continue our work on the mobility study presented today. It should be noted that embedded in this grant is reimbursable budget for BEACON management services.</p> <p>BEACON staff recommend approval of both agreements.</p> <p>Board Members Comments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None. <p>Public Comments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None. <p>The Board approved unanimously the recommended actions. Moved by Gama / Second by Solorzano.</p>	

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Item	6	Executive Director's Report and Communications
Minutes/ Actions:		<p>The Executive Director reported on the following upcoming activities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">A. Presentation-Regional Sediment Management (RSM) and Sea Level Rise (SLR) Adaptation PlanningB. Project UpdatesC. Budget Updates and Approvals <p>Executive Director Beyeler explained that the H2O Conference is coming up in November of this year and will be held in Ventura and BEACON will help host. BEACON will host a field visit to Surfer's Point during the 3-day conference. The Surfer's Point Project, which will soon be entering it Phase 2 Construction, has already shown great success in storm protection earlier this year.</p>

Adjourn to next regular meeting on September 22, 2023, at 9:00 AM at the Carpinteria City Hall and via Teleconference.

Meeting Minutes by Gerald Comati, Program Manager, BEACON.