

BEACON BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING MINUTES

DATE: Friday, March 15, 2024

TIME: 9:00 AM

PLACE: IN-PERSON IN CARPINTERIA & TELECONFERENCE

Item	1A	Call to Order, Roll Call, and Introductions – Vice Chair, Kyle Richards
Minutes / Actions:		<p>Directors Present:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vianey Lopez (County of Ventura) REMOTE • Das Williams (County of Santa Barbara) • Laura Capps (County of Santa Barbara) REMOTE • Kyle Richards (City of Goleta) • Eric Friedman (City of Santa Barbara) • Monica Solórzano (City of Carpinteria) • Doug Halter (City of Ventura) • Gabe Teran, (City of Oxnard) REMOTE • Steven Gama (City of Port Hueneme) <p>Directors Not Present:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Matt LaVere (County of Ventura)
Item	1B - C	<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 January 26, 2024.</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>Motion to approve Administrative Agenda. Moved by Friedman / Second by Solorzano. Unanimously approved.</p>
Item	2	<p>Public Comment and Other Matters not on the Agenda</p> <p>Receive public comments.</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.
Item	3	<p>BEACON Budget Actions and Financial Reports</p> <p>Recommended Actions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. Adopt an increase to voting member assessments (membership dues) by 3% for Fiscal Year 2024-2025 to provide an additional \$10,080 in revenue. (Exhibit I) (Requires unanimous approval (10/10 vote); and ii. Upon approval of member assessments, review and provide direction for the Recommended Fiscal Year 2024-2025 Budget (Exhibit II) with Final Budget Approval to be Presented at May 2024 BEACON Board Meeting.

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Minutes/ Actions:	<p>Executive Director Beyeler explained that the dues increase recommendation this year is once again cost-of-living and matches that of last year, at 3%. The increase amounts to an approx. \$10K increase in revenue. The increase is small but does accommodate cost increases from some consultants. BEACON continues to engage specialist personnel, which is universally very challenging in terms of availability and cost.</p> <p>Board Members Comments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Director Halter indicated he supported the increase in dues. • Director Williams indicated he would support the dues increase. • Director Friedman indicated that with SLR issues, BEACON was more important than ever and with the work of Executive Director Beyeler, BEACON has become a State-wide model. • Director Gama indicated he supported the dues increase. He indicated that we need to look to the future. • Director Solorzano asked if the increases in the future will also be cost-of-living? • Executive Director Beyeler responded that in 2020 the dues were doubled. Staff intends on providing strategic options to determine what the next steps of BEACON will be. We have been successful in leveraging funds and with the SAC have been able to retain the best scientists available. In November 2024, we will have a presentation from the newly established Financial Ad Hoc Committee on the future funding needs and strategy. • Director Teran indicated that he supported the discussion and was willing to make a motion. • Director Richards indicated that he appreciated the limited dues increases, but wanted to make sure BEACON does fall behind. <p>Public Comments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None. <p>Motion to continue Item. Moved by Teran / Second by Gama. Unanimously approved.</p>
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Item	<p>4. Presentation - 2023 Science Advisory Committee (SAC) Activities Presentation Receive a presentation from BEACON Science Advisory Committee (SAC) Co-Chairs on 2023 Activities and Looking Forward to 2024.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Kiki Patsch, California State University Channel Islands (CSUCI) • Dr. Doug George, California Shore and Beach Preservation Association (CSBPA)
Minutes/ Actions:	<p>Executive Director Beyeler introduced Dr. George and Dr. Patsch co-Charis of the SAC.</p> <p>Dr. George and Dr. Patsch made a presentation on the SAC, its work over the last year and what the future looks like.</p> <p>Board Members Comments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Director Richards thanks Dr. George and Dr. Patsch for their presentation and for their

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role as SAC Co-Chairs. He indicated that the SAC is vital to BEACON for policy and decision makers as well as its work with planning and public works managers from the jurisdictions.

- Director Solorzano asked for an explanation of the context for the application of equity/environmental justice by the SAC.
- Dr. George indicated that the SAC will focus on social and economic issues similarly to their other specialties. The SAC is still looking for a specialist in the area of equity and environmental justice.
- Executive Director Beyeler added that at the November 2022, Board Meeting the Board approved a Bylaw amendment to include the equity person on the SAC. The position has yet to be filled.
- Director Gama recommended BEACON needs to get more involved in legislative actions to fund coastal projects. The Matilija Dam removal project secured Federal funding and sediment releases have begun. Mr. Gama also expressed his support for social equity specialist involvement.
- Director Friedman asked Dr. Patsch how and if the science data that is being gathered is connected to coastal access questions.
- Dr. Patsch responded that the determination of what beach is important from a social and equity standpoint is a variable that the SAC is considering as we look at adaptation strategies in response to SLR. Dr. Goerge also pointed out that BEACON is only one of three agencies that is examining the question of “who goes to the beach”. The other agencies are San Diego, and San Francisco.
- Director Halter thanked Dr. Patsch and Dr. George for their volunteer work with the SAC. Mr. Halter asked how the SAC was interfacing with the Coastal Commission.
- Dr. George responded that the SAC is well connected with the Coastal Commission. The SAC has two retired Coastal Staff, Lesley Ewing and Charles Lester. Mr. Beyeler added that a SAC meeting with the Coastal Commission was being planned in order to keep the Commission in the loop of SAC activities. In addition, the RCAMP is funded by the Coastal Commission.
- Director Richards indicated that he understood the need for standardized monitoring and that BEACON was in a great position to facilitate this. Mr. Richards remembered that bio and equity were added to the SAC scope in 2022 and he asked if the SAC had an expertise in Water Quality.
- Dr. George responded that to date water quality has not been a focus of the SAC, but that it is on the list to add this specialty. Mr. Beyeler added that in the update to the research agenda, water quality will be discussed.

Public Comments:

- John Ilasin, Public Works Director from the City of Carpinteria asked what level of effort is anticipated to coordinate with local agencies re/ the dune and shoreline management plan.
- Dr. Patsch responded that the SAC will be reaching out.

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Item	6A	<p>BEACON Organization and Program Board Members Reports</p>
Minutes/ Actions:		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Director Richards reported that a sewage spill of over 1 M gallons discharge occurred at Goleta Beach in February. The discharge occurred on February 16, 2024, although it was not announced till after this date. The City of Goleta was very concerned. • Director Capps reported that this morning Goleta Beach was reopened following the sewage discharge, and that she has asked for an after action report. • Director Gama indicated that he was forced to stop surfing at Santa Clause River in the 1980's because of a sewage spill. Mr. Gama also indicated that the City of Port Hueneme was teaming up with Surf Rider to implement an environmentally clean up Ormond Beach. • Director Friedman reported that OPC has released a new draft SLR projection for public comment. • Director Solorzano reported that the City of Carpinteria has taken down its winter berm and cobble has been exposed. It is a good opportunity to remind the community of the importance of cobble in maintaining beaches. <p>Public Comments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None.
Item	6B	<p>BEACON Contracts and Agreements Recommended Actions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. Approve and authorize payment of an invoice to the California State University Channel Islands (CSUCI) in the amount of \$2,173.56 to initiate review of a coastal research center. ii. Approve and authorize the Chair to execute an Agreement with Integral Consulting to assist BEACON in completing a report on options for integrating Regional Sediment Management and Sea-Level Rise (SLR) Adaptation with a period of performance from March 15, 2024, to December 31, 2024, in an amount not to exceed \$50,000.
Minutes/ Actions:		<p>Executive Director Beyeler explained that as the Board knows, BEACON needs outside entities to perform work and it is often important to keep the work within a Fiscal Year. The first item is the last payment to CSUCI for the new Coastal Resources Center. This invoice did not make it into FY 22-23 and therefore must be paid in FY 23-24. Staff recommends the Board authorize approval of the invoice. The second item is a new agreement with Integral for work to prepare a report on options for integrating Regional Sediment Management and Sea-Level Rise (SLR) Adaptation. The work is being paid through a grant from the Coastal Conservancy.</p> <p>Public Comments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None. <p>Motion to approve all items. Moved by Solorzano / Second by Capps. Unanimously</p>

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	approved.
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Item	7	Closed Session Executive Director Performance Evaluation. (Gov. Code § 54957(b)(1).) Conference with Labor Negotiators (Gov. Code § 54957.6(a).) Employee: Executive Director. Agency-designated representatives: Chair Lopez and Counsel McKenzie.
Minutes/ Actions:		Following the Closed Session, Counsel McKenzie indicated there were no items to report out.

Item	8	Executive Director’s Report and Communications The Executive Director will report on recent activities and achievements of BEACON, upcoming events of interest to the Board of Directors and the public, and general status of BEACON major projects, including the status of recent BEACON presentations on activities and accomplishments to our member agencies. There will be no Board discussion except to ask questions or refer matters to Staff; no action will be taken unless listed on a subsequent agenda.
Minutes/ Actions:		The Executive Director indicated that at the May 2024 Board Meeting the budget for FY 24-25 will be presented for approval along with the professional and technical specialists and agency services agreements for FY 24-25.

The next Board Meeting will be held on May 17, 2024, 9:00 AM, at the City of Carpinteria City Council Chambers.

Meeting Minutes by Gerald Comati, Program Manager, BEACON.