

BEACON BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING MINUTES

DATE: Friday, September 20, 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) • Laura Capps (County of Santa Barbara) • Kyle Richards (City of Goleta) • Eric Friedman (City of Santa Barbara) • Monica Solórzano (City of Carpinteria) • 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) • Das Williams (County of Santa Barbara) • Doug Halter (City 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 July 19, 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 Richards / Second by Gama. 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 Board Visioning Discussion Session Review.</p> <p>Receive a short report from Stacy Miller of Stacy Miller Public Affairs on the Board discussion held at the July Board meeting. BEACON Board Directors participated in a facilitated discussion providing input and suggestions for initiatives and actions BEACON may take in the next three to five years at its July 19, 2024, meeting. (Attachment 1).</p>
Minutes/ Actions:		<p>Executive Director Beyeler reminded the Board that in July we had a very lively and productive discussion of BEACON’s visioning. Mr. Beyeler introduced Stacy Miller and</p>

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Terri Nisich from Stacy Miller Public Affairs, to present a power point summarizing the findings of the July 19, 2024, workshop.

The presentation is available on the BEACON Website.

- Chair Lopez thanks the Stacy Miller Team and asked if any Board members had questions.
- Director Gams said is he is wearing a T-Shirt that says “Looking West” which is band. All our communities look west. The coast meets the land in our jurisdictions. We need good science, good policies to benefit our resources and I believe we should consider bringing in the City Guadalupe in the BEACON fold.
- Director Friedman indicated he appreciated the work done on the visioning workshop. The process helped us all to better get know each other, which is very important. Beach access surfaced at the Coastal Commission hearing the previous week and at the Coastal Access Workshop. One of the items raised was the Coastal Access Shed. Which represents the large areas where all peoples come to visit the beaches in our jurisdictions. As Mr. Beyeler indicated the shed is large and extends well into the inland empire of California. And interestingly, many of the inland communities always go to the same beaches.
- Stacy Miller indicated that she grew up in inland California, but throughout the summers of her youth, she would take the bus to the beach as often as possible. These beach times were very important to her.
- Director Gama indicated that at the PH Beach festival we have a variety of people attending from all over California.
- Chair Lopez indicated that circling back to the Beach Access Workshop hosted by BEACON in Ventura earlier in the month, one of the discussions was to define what Beach Access is? We sit on BEACON as representatives of coastal communities. But we have cities in our regions who are driving out to the beaches, wherever they are from. We need to spread awareness of what BEACON is doing. Not just for our immediate communities but also the greater inland communities.
- Director Richards indicated that Old Town Goleta is within a mile of Goleta Beach (which is a County Park). But there is no easy way to get to the beach. The City working on the San Jose Creek Bike Path Project which would provide a straight shot to Goleta Beach. Just because we are within a mile of a beach does not necessarily mean that there is good access to it. We need to be aware of providing good beach access to the greater California community as well as isolated islands within our coastal communities.
- Director Gama that going back to the 80’s there is a place called Jalama Beach for which access was/is difficult. Access to each beach is unique and requires unique solutions.
- Executive Director Beyeler asked what is next in this process? Life is a journey not a destination. At the beginning of 2025 we will do a review of our Strategic Plan. This involves many steps. We will be coming back to you to discuss how to right-size the strategic plan update process, which will take many months through the next calendar year. My concern is not to get to much into the weeds? So, I am always trying to bring

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	<p>things up to a higher level. Has the Board heard of the Safe Route to the Beach Program? Well, there actually isn't one but there should be. But it is the kind of massaging that BEACON can bring to the table. We are working to identify messages that resonates with the people to redesign the land use and transportation to enhance beach access. Staff welcome the Board's creative energy to inform this effort.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chair Lopez thanked Executive Beyeler and looks forward to keep the Strategic Plan fresh. <p>Public Comments: Public Speaker stated he worked for MTD and they provided many route to access beaches. And the same for bus service in Ventura.</p>
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Item	5A	BEACON Organization and Program Board Members Reports
Minutes/ Actions:		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Director Friedman reported that on September 11, 2024, he attended the Coastal Commission Local Working Group workshop on neighborhood-scale adaptation planning. If you wish to see/hear more details please go to the Coastal Commission Website for the September 11, 2024. • Chair Lopez indicated it would be worthwhile to include a discussion of the Coastal Commission Local Working Group workshop on a future BEACON agenda. • Director Richards reported that on September 3, 2024 the City hosted a meeting of the State Land Commission and it was reported that as of September all 30 wells of Platform Holly has been abandoned and plugged. In addition, Mr. Richards reported that the week of September 21, 2024, is the City's Creek Week, with various creek cleanup activities. • Director Gama reported that the Port Hueneme has a number of beach four beach cleanup events. • Director Capps reported she would be a cleanup event for Ledbetter Beach. Director Capps further added that such clean ups add a lot of data to support clean up policies regarding plastics etc. • Director Solorzano indicated that the City of Carpinteria will be running a Salt Marsh Preserve tours and creek cleanup events for Carpinteria Creek. • Chair Lopez reported that she attended a portion of the Beach Access Research Workshop in Ventura. Participants from France and Brazil attended as well as al the California representatives. • Director Teran reported that the City of Oxnard's local coastal program updates continue. <p>Public Comments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None.

Item	5B	BEACON Budget Actions and Financial Reports No Items.
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Item	5C	<p>Contracts and Agreements</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Approve and authorize the Chair to execute an Agreement with Moss, Levy, Hartzheim, LLP to provide financial audit services in an amount not to exceed \$10,250 with a period of performance from September 20, 2024, through March 31, 2025 (Attachment I). ii. Approve and authorize the Chair to execute Amendment No. 1 to the Agreement with California State University Channel Islands (CSUCI) for the Southern California cell Phone Data Project to assist Beacon in acquiring additional data from a range of sources and providing technical services to analyze the data without a change to the period of performance from July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2025, and with an increase of \$32,248 for a revised total amount not to exceed \$72,248 using grant funds provided by The Bay Foundation (Attachment II). iii. Approve, authorize, and ratify the Chair to execute Amendment No. 1 to the Agreement with Stacy Miller Public Relations to assist Beacon staff in organizing, conducting, and reporting on the Board Discussion Session without a change to the period of performance from July 1, 2024, to September 30, 2024, and with an increase of \$5,000 for a revised total amount not to exceed \$10,000 (Attachment III). iv. Approve and authorize the Chair to execute an Agreement with HDR Engineering, Inc. to develop a Debris Basin Modification Best Practices Manual as part of the Santa Barbara County Debris Basin California Ocean Protection Council grant project with a period of performance from September 23, 2024, to December 31, 2024 for a total amount of \$30,000 (Attachment IV). v. Approve and authorize the Chair to execute an Agreement with Outdoor R&D, a research unit of the University of Washington, to assist BEACON in acquiring and analyzing large-scale mobility data from cell phone derived-location information to identify beach use patterns with a period of performance from September 20, 2024, to June 30, 2025, in an amount not to exceed \$180,000 using grant funds provided by The Bay Foundation (Attachment V).
Minutes/ Actions:	<p>Executive Director Beyeler explained BEACON must hire consultants and other partners. We could not do the work without this assistance. Before you today are some agreements. One of them is the budget audit which we bring before you every two years. We must follow budget and accounting rules. We are able to secure consultant budgets that are frankly a lot less due to the consultant's willingness to support BEACON. The second agreement I want to highlight is the agreement with HDR to prepare a Best Practices Manual that will capture the lessons learned from South Santa Barbara County regarding completed projects that modify existing debris basins to allow the natural sediment transport process and thereby enhance the delivery of sediment to our coastline. This activity is a good example of how BEACON secured funds to contribute to the delivery of these projects and also to develop these guidelines to help inform other flood control agencies, such as Ventura County. So, a lot of benefit. There are two other agreements with universities before you today. Both are</p>	

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	<p>related to the data research related to beach access, and the population. The universities perform this type of work very well.</p> <p>Board Members Comments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Director Gama indicated that he recently met with the President of CSUCI and he indicated that there is a new undergraduate research program that has been initiated. Which is great to see the involvement of undergraduates in research. • Executive Director Beyeler responded that CSUCI used undergraduate students to do beach counts this last summer including interview protocols. We had to train the students on how to do this work. Professor Patsch over saw this effort. • Director Solorzano asked if the Board could receive a presentation on the Best Practices Manual once it is complete. Executive Director Beyer responded that he would arrange this. • Brian Brennan reported that in early September Gerald Comati delivered a presentation to Smart Coast California on the Basin Modifications to great response. • Executive Director Beyeler reported that we are always trying to present technical information and data to varies bodies whenever we can. We will be bring the Debris Basin Project back to the Board once it is completed this year. Mr. Beyeler also wanted state how complicated and time consuming all these projects and agreements and how much time the BEACON staff spend on them, including the vital role of Santa Board County Legal Counsel and the Auditor Controllers Office of Ventura. • Director Richards indicated that he was very interested in hearing a report on the debris basin modification projects. <p>Public Comments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None. <p>Motion to approve all items. Moved by Solorzano / Second by Richards. Unanimously approved.</p>
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Item	6	<p>Executive Director’s Report and Communications</p> <p>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.</p>
Minutes/ Actions:		<p>The Executive Director indicated that, as mentioned by the Chair, BEACON did host for the Beach Access Research Workshop. There a lot of common themes related to coastal access. BEACON’s focus is the issue of the public’s right to access a public beach. BEACON wants to protect this right. But there are disputes related to private property rights and public access and BEACON can contribute to resolutions. Coastal access has been underrepresented in the BEACON Strategic Plan and we will address when we re-look at the strategic plan.</p>

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The SAC has been in place for a few years, and we will have a our annual SAC meeting later in September. We also have an annual SAC/Agency managers meeting, the last one was held in November 2023, and we will host another meeting in early 2025. This joint meeting is critical.

There will be changes in the Board composition starting in January 2025. Currently we are on a two-year cycle for officer terms and in January the Board will be voting on the new officers. Staff hopes that there is continuity for BEACON assigned agency members.

Also, in January we would be adopting the new meeting schedule. The schedule is currently the third Friday of every other month starting in January.

We have advanced the budget discussion to begin in November with a report from the ad hoc committee mtg.

In January 2025 we will also bring you a report on the completion of at least two of our grant funded projects.

Board Members Comments:

- Director Richards asked if there will be an opportunity for more Board interaction with the SAC.
- Executive Director Beyeler responded that Board members can attend the annual SAC meeting, but we have to be in compliance with the Brown Act and not have a quorum. Board members who are interested should indicate so to me and it would be first come first served up to five members.
- Chair Lopez asked that the SAC meeting notice be sent to Board Members.
- Director Gama indicted that he has a contact with Amgen. It is a massive company, interested in contributing to the discussion on Beach Access and beach cleanups. We need to coordinate with these companies.
- Director Teran also asked to see the notice for the SAC meeting for both Board members and agency staff.
- Director Richards reported that the City of Goleta has contributed funds to the next phase of the Kelp Anchor Demonstration Project. An updated report on the project would be welcome.
- Executive Director Beyeler, indicted that there is a second kelp related permitted project in Goleta Bay and it would be great have reports from both kelp projects.

Public Comments:

- None.

The next Board Meeting will be held on November 15, 2024, 9:00 AM, at the City of Carpinteria