

SANTA MONICA BAY RESTORATION COMMISSION

MINUTES OF THE MEETING
OF
THE GOVERNING BOARD
April 17, 2008
Del Rey Yacht Club

1. Welcome and Introductions

At 9:45 AM, chair Richard Bloom called the meeting to order. Laurie Newman presided over meeting starting 10:45 AM. Introductions followed. Pauline Dror, Del Rey Yacht Club Vice-Commodore, welcomed the Commission's Governing Board.

2. Approval of the February 21, 2008 Meeting Minutes

The minutes were approved unanimously.

3. Order of Agenda

The order of the agenda was not changed.

4. Reports from the Chair and Executive Committee

None.

5. Reports from the Technical Advisory Committee

Richard Ambrose announced that during the first meeting held on March 17, the TAC discussed orientation of roles and activities. The first large task will be writing the State of the Bay report and how to gather information for this report. The TAC appointed Steve Bay as TAC vice chair.

6. Reports from the Executive Director and Staff

Shelley Luce introduced the new Policy and Science Analyst for the Bay Restoration Commission, Lia Protopapadakis.

Luce reported that SMBRF did not make the list for proposed allocation of Proposition 50 funds for the watershed coordinator grant program. Luce asked board members to submit letters requesting DOC to reconsider the preliminary allocation to include SMBRF. This agenda item was tabled for discussion during Agenda Item 7, as the watershed coordinator was an integral implementation method for work plan objectives.

Scott Valor distributed new board member contact list. Valor will send an email to board members requesting nominations to fill vacant board positions.

7. Consideration of Approval of FY 2008 - 2009 Work Plan & Budget Amendments

Staff requested governing board to approve new work plan, including changes.

Mark Gold asked staff to mention Green Solution's work on private lands and pluralize "area" in MPA task section title. Carol Gross wanted to commend staff on their successful implementation of projects in fully urbanized areas. Marvin Sachse asked if all funds were secured. Mike Gin told staff he liked work plan sections "outcomes" and "performance measures" and asked if there was a way to track progress of tasks. Susan Nissman mentioned increasing budget for Green Solutions projects and

whether this discussion is scheduled on the agenda. Mark Pestrella requested that staff include all partner organizations, not just local regulatory agencies, in order to characterize all sides of the story and not just regulatory. He would like to see this inclusion to unify groups towards water quality improvement.

Motion to Approve Budget Amendments by Mary Small. Second by Mark Gold. Motion approved without objection.

8. Election of Governing Board Members to Santa Monica Bay Restoration Foundation

All nominations for Governing Board Members were approved unanimously. The new Santa Monica Bay Restoration Foundation Board of Directors include: Richard Bloom, Fran Diamond, Tom Ford, Mark Gold, Laurie Newman, Randal Orton, and Marvin Sachse.

9. Consideration of Approval of Funding for Proposition 12 Projects

Staff requested that board members approve the seven following recommended projects for Proposition 12 funding (initial introduction and explanation of projects occurred during February 21st meeting).

1) Six hundred thousand dollars (\$600,000) to the Santa Monica Bay Restoration Foundation (SMBRF) for preparation of three Ballona Creek Watershed Studies: the Ballona Historical Ecology study, the Ballona Water Budget and the Ballona Greenway Plan.

Mike Mullin asked for the amount of federal allocation and whether SMBRC grant funds were conditional. Susan Nissman responded that federal funding is ahead of SMBRC funds and our allocations need to catch up to federal funding allocations. Some board members hoped for a presentation by the Army Corps. This item was approved without objection.

2) Two hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$250,000) to the California Department of Parks and Recreation (CDPR) for preparation of the Malibu Creek Environmental Restoration Study.

This item was approved without objection.

3) One hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000) to the CDPR for the California Redlegged Frog Survey Project.

Charles Caspary asked if revitalization of the California Redlegged Frog was within the scope of work for the Commission. Board members responded that this project is similar to work on Steelhead Trout and does remain consistent with Commission goals and objectives.

Motion by Marvin Sachse. Second by Mark Gold. Motion approved without objection

4) Two hundred thousand (\$200,000) to the LA Conservation Corps for the Beach Bluffs Restoration Project.

Board member requested that a deliberate, planned pathway be a part of work plan to alleviate erosion.

Motion by Mark Gold. Second by Fran Diamond. Motion approved without objection.

5) Three hundred twenty two thousand dollars (\$322,000) to Community Conservation International for the Green Solutions Project, Phase II.

Mark Gold said private properties should be stressed in project. Esther Feldman responded that acquisition of private land is a different project and is concerned about ramifications of identifying private land for potential restoration, but hopes to address it in the future. Staff was directed to agenda discussion of a project to examine private parcels for potential water quality solution projects.

Motion by Tom Ford. Second by Enrique Zaldivar. Motion approved without objection.

6) One hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000) to Santa Monica Baykeeper for the Stone Canyon Creek Restoration Project.

Charles Caspary wants to get UCLA to agree to future maintenance of restoration site in accordance with methods set forth in original project efforts. Mark Pestrella requested Baykeeper create a maintenance manual as product for UCLA landskeeping group.

Motion by Sara Wan. Second by Mark Gold. Abstention by Tom Ford. This item was approved without objection.

7) One million dollars (\$1,000,000) to the City of Los Angeles for the Downspout Retrofit Program.

Board members expressed concern about homeowner selection process and liability issues. Marvin Sachse asked whether this money would be well spent and expressed concerns about engineering techniques.

Motion by Fran Diamond. Second by Mark Gold. This item was approved by majority vote, with one no vote by Marvin Sachse.

8. Member comments and announcements.

Tom Ford announced opening of Malibu Lagoon parking lot.

Mark Pestrella announced opening of constructed wetlands on east side of Los Angeles River around Del Amo exit off 710 freeway.

Susan Nissman announced passing of a bill regarding plastic bags which allows stores to charge shoppers \$0.25 per bag. Environmental warning labels will be printed on the bags.

Mark Gold announced upcoming issue of the Heal the Bay Report Card on May 21st.

9. Public comments and announcements regarding matters not on the agenda

Jim Lamm thanked the governing board for watershed projects.

Paul Herzog encouraged the Commission to consider private properties for green solutions projects.

11. Announcement of next meeting date

The next meeting of the Governing Board will be held on June 19, 2008.

12. Adjournment

The Governing Board meeting was adjourned at 11:54 AM.

Attendance:

Voting Members of the Governing Board:

Paul Backstrom, Office of Council Member Jack Weiss
Richard Bloom, Santa Monica, Mayor
Fran Diamond, California Regional Water Quality Control Board
Tom Ford, Santa Monica Baykeeper
Mike Gin, City of Redondo Beach, Mayor
Mark Gold, Heal the Bay
Carol Gross, Culver City (for Jeff Prang)
Dean Kubani, City of Santa Monica (for Richard Bloom, who had to leave at 10:45)
Steve Maguin, Los Angeles County Sanitation District
Mike Mullin, City of Los Angeles, Mayor's Office
Susan Nissman, Office of Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky, 3rd District
Marvin H. Sachse, Brash Industries, Public Member for Business
Mary Small, CA State Coastal Conservancy
Frances Spivy-Weber, Cal EPA
Sara Wan, California Coastal Commission
Enrique C. Zaldivar, LA City Department of Public Works

Non-Voting Members of the Governing Board:

Rich Ambrose, Technical Advisory Committee, Chair
Charles Caspary, Las Virgenes Municipal Water District
Stephanie Molen, Ted Lieu, State Assemblymember, 53rd District
Laurie Newman (for Senator Sheila Kuehl), CA State Senator, 23rd District
Louise Rishoff, for Julia Brownley, State Assemblymember, 41st District
Rorie Skei, Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy

Commission Staff:

Sean Bergquist
Joel Hanson
Grace Lee
Shelley Luce
Lia Protopapadakis
Jack Topel
Scott Valor
Guangyu Wang

Other Attendees, including other Bay Watershed Council Members:

Mark Abramson, Santa Monica Baykeeper
Adel Hagekhalil, City of Los Angeles
Paul Herzog
Shahram Khargahani, City of Los Angeles
Jim Lamm, Ballona Creek Renaissance
Dan Murphy, LA County Fire Department, Lifeguard Division
Mark Pestrella, LA County Department of Public Works
Brent Scheiwe, LA Conservation Corps, S.E.A. Lab
Eric Stein, Southern CA Coastal Water Research Project
Wing Tam, LA City Department of Public Works
Catherine Tyrell, Friends of Ballona Wetlands
Melina Watts, Resource Conservation District of Santa Monica Mountains