

SANTA MONICA BAY RESTORATION COMMISSION

MINUTES OF THE MEETING  
OF  
THE GOVERNING BOARD

April 16th, 2009  
Del Rey Yacht Club

**1. Welcome and Introductions**

At 9:42 AM, chair Richard Bloom called the meeting to order. Introductions followed.

**2. Approval of the February 19<sup>th</sup>, 2009 Meeting Minutes**

Minutes approved unanimously. (Motion by Steve Maguin, second by Mark Pestrella)

**3. Order of Agenda**

No changes.

**4. Reports from the Chair and Executive Committee**

Bloom reported on the meeting of the Executive Committee in March, 2009 at Senator Pavley's office to discuss Assembly Bill 139.

**5. Report from the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC)**

Richard Ambrose, TAC Chair, reported on the recent TAC meeting where members discussed the State of the Bay Report. Ambrose spoke of the MTAC subcommittee, which can provide guidance on issues of monitoring in the Santa Monica Bay.

**6. Reports from the Executive Director and Staff**

Shelley Luce, Executive Director, announced SMBRC's involvement in completing another round of review for PIE (Public Involvement in Education Program) Grant applications. Twenty-four applications were reviewed by staff members and six outside reviewers, with a total of \$60,000 awarded to five or six awardees. Charles Caspary requested the names of the awardees be forwarded to the Governing Board members.

Luce described a recent annual trip to Washington DC to meet with fifty-five legislators who signed onto a support letter to sustain the NEP (National Estuary Program) through the EPA, with support from Congress.

Luce alerted Governing Board members of the status of Prop 84 money. Staff is currently compiling a project list so when money becomes available, projects can begin work. Luce reported on stimulus money which may become available to our region. Fran Spivy-Weber, CA EPA, provided support for our projects to receive stimulus money and commented on the number of proposals determining whether support from SMBRC and the NEP will be useful.

Lastly, Luce reported on the status of Prop 50 projects which were stopped in December, 2009. Currently, projects are waiting to hear from the State Water Resources Control Board on whether stimulus money will become available to continue projects that are currently on hold. Spivy-Weber commented on timeline and status of stimulus money.

Scott Valor, SMBRC staff member, distributed the sign-in sheet, and requested members make necessary changes to contact information.

**7. Discussion of Assembly Bill 139 (Brownley), specifically soliciting SMBRC Board Members' feedback for the bill's author, regarding preferred environmental outcomes of the bill.**

Bloom introduced AB 139 and reminded the Board members that this agenda item is for discussion only. Luce noted the importance of the ability to create a fund to support storm water projects and the recent work of the ACE (Action Committee on Environment).

Pestrella, LA County Department of Public Works, distributed detailed information on Assembly Bill 139 and a Draft report on storm water clean up. Pestrella explained the difference between AB 139 and the local bill of the flood control district to rate payers. AB 139 authorizes an election that could allow amendment of the flood control act to create a service and thus rate payers would pay a new fee.

Susan Nissman, Supervisor Yaroslavsky's Office, discussed regional planning with respect to water quality improvement. The AB 139 would be beneficial because it requires partnerships between regional and municipal agencies.

Questions followed. Abramson asked whether concrete removal was necessary. Pestrella supports green solutions to projects, but if water quality is improved, concrete will be not be removed. Bloom questioned whether cities would be required to implement projects generated by the fee to improve water quality within the city. Zaldivar and Rosendahl commented on the average cost per parcel, \$54/home, and encouraged listening to cities within the watershed regarding the general fund. Gin commented on the accountability of these funds being used for water quality improvement programs and what agency would approve the projects. Alexander, Ambrose, and Edmiston support AB 139 and commented on the need for a storm water quality improvement bill to meet TMDLs. Ulrich described concern on whether adequate work could be done on lower population cities like Malibu. Mullin questioned the difference between this new fee and the \$30 flood control fee. Kubani commented on the need for more funds to become available to meet TMDLs, which requires a new tax/fee on resident's within watershed cities.

**8. State of the Bay Update**

Ambrose introduced the State of the Bay report as a five-year requirement by the EPA. Work is being done every TAC meeting to compile the updated State of the Bay report. Lia Protopapidakis, SMBRC staff, presented on the report update, outline, introduction, and the progress so far.

**9. Meeting of the Bay Watershed Council to consider election of Malibu Surfing Association to its membership.**

Consideration of the Malibu Surfing Association to be elected as a member of the Bay Watershed Council. Michael Bloom, President, described the historical significance of the club in the State of California and their desire to become more involved in the community and environmental projects. Election of Malibu Surfing Association as members of the Bay Watershed Council approved unanimously. (Motion Gold, second Ulich)

**10. Member Comment**

Gin commented on the need to report on if stimulus funding becomes available to the region and if Governing Board members may be eligible for funds. Ulrich announced the City of Malibu's hosting of a Water Quality Conference on April 30<sup>th</sup>, 2009, at Pepperdine University.

**11. Public Comment**

Maria Hanscom, Sierra Club & Ballona Institute, and Steve Finton, representing Micheal O'Leary from the City of Culver City, fully supports AB 139 and the importance to move forward with approval.

**12. Announcement of next Governing Board Meeting**

The next Governing Board meeting will be held on June 18th, 2009 at 9:30 a.m.

The Governing Board meeting for the Santa Monica Bay Restoration Foundation will follow promptly after this meeting at 12:00 pm.

### **13. Adjournment**

The Governing Board meeting was adjourned at 11:32 am.

#### **Attendance:**

##### *Voting Members of the Governing Board:*

Mark Abramson, Public Member (Environmental/Public Interest), Santa Monica Baykeeper (for Tom Ford)  
Paul Backstrom, (for Jack Weiss) Bay Watershed Council, President  
Richard Bloom, SMBRC Chair, At-Large Member BWC ( City of Santa Monica, Mayor)  
Mike Gin, South Bay Cities (City of Redondo Beach, Mayor)  
Steve Maguin, LA County Sanitation District  
Michael Mullin, Office of the Mayor, City of Los Angeles  
Susan Nissman, Office of Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky, 3rd District, County of Los Angeles  
Mark Pestrella, LA County Department of Public Works (for Gail Farber)  
Bill Rosendahl, Councilmember, LA City Council District 11  
Fran Spivy-Weber, California Environmental Protection Agency (for Linda Adams)  
Pamela Ulich, Malibu Creek Watershed Cities (City of Malibu)  
Enrique Zaldivar, LA City Department of Public Works

##### *Non-Voting Members of the Governing Board:*

Angus Alexander, LA County Fire Department, Lifeguard Division Captain  
Richard Ambrose, Technical Advisory Committee, Chair  
Charles Caspary, Las Virgenes Municipal Water District  
Joe Edmiston, Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy  
Stephanie Molen, California State Senator, 23<sup>rd</sup> District (for Fran Pavley)  
Louise Rishoff, State Assembly member, 41<sup>st</sup> District (for Julia Brownley)  
Catherine Tyrrell, Santa Monica Bay Restoration Foundation, President

##### *Commission Staff:*

Karina Johnston  
Michelle Kearney  
Grace Lee  
Shelley Luce  
Lia Protopapidakis  
Jack Topel  
Scott Valor  
Guangyu Wang  
Sarah Woodard

##### *Other Attendees, including other Bay Watershed Council Members:*

Rorie Skei, Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy  
Michael Blum, Malibu Surfing Association  
Steve Finton, City of Culver City  
Phillip Friess, LA County Sanitation District  
Marcia Hanscom, Sierra Club & Ballona Institute  
Greg Jaquez, LA County Department of Public Works  
Dean Kubani, City of Santa Monica  
Alex Fay, Los Angeles City Council, District 11  
Chris Sellers, Department of Beaches and Harbors  
Wing Tam, LA City Department of Public Works  
Kaden Young, City of Culver City