

SMBRC Governing Board Meeting Minutes

December 15, 2016

Welcome and Introductions

At 9:47 Enrique Zaldivar called the meeting to order. Introductions followed.

1) Comments from Members of the Public on Items Not on the Agenda and Public Testimony on All Agenda Items

Public Comment:

Kathy Knight made public comment regarding her home water use reduction and getting fresh water to Ballona wetlands.

David Coupe made comment regarding litigation with Ballona Wetlands Land Trust (BWLT) and noted the Executive Committee (EC) discussed the issue in closed session and encouraged board members to ask him any questions they may have.

Enrique Zaldivar commented, pending nominations, there may be a closed session at the next commission board meeting.

Laurie Newman commented that there is currently no lawsuit against the Foundation. However BWLT has threatened to sue the Foundation.

2) Informational Items

a. Order of Agenda.

The order of the agenda was not changed.

b. Reports from the Chair

Enrique Zaldivar reported briefly about the EC meeting.

c. Reports from the Technical Advisory Committee

Mas Dojiri gave the TAC report. Dojiri reported the December 7th TAC meeting had three main agenda items: Climate Change Vulnerability Assessment (CCVA) which TAC discussed next step and directed staff to develop a road map, for the CCVA and for updating the Santa Monica Bay Comprehensive Monitoring Program (CMP). The third item regarded the partnership between the Foundation and LMU for the Center for Santa Monica Bay Studies. Discussion supported greater integration of the Center in monitoring related to the CMP. TAC members supported the Center and encourage more direct involvement with the TAC.

d. Reports from the Executive Director (ED) and Staff

Tom Ford gave the ED report. Ford thanked the board members and many of the Santa Monica Bay National Estuary Program (NEP) partners. Ford provided an update on projects: Santa Monica Beach Restoration Pilot Project broke ground, CCVA was presented at a meeting with other NEPs, Arroyo Sequit project is nearly complete with all steelhead trout barriers removed and the second bridge under construction, Malibu Lagoon and Culver City rain garden sampling continues, and additional Abalone broodstock collection will occur next week in La Jolla. Ford presented some projects for next year including annual work plan for fiscal year 2018 which is due to the EPA in May 2017. A WAC meeting will be held to seek input on the work plan and the input be brought to the Commission board. Ford proposed an extended workshop style meeting in April to review the annual work plan and proposed inviting the Foundation Board to participate. Ford reported the BRP has been updated and revised many times but a full comprehensive analysis and revision will occur and he will provide board members with a roadmap of this project.

Ford reported since the Foundation is the host entity of the NEP. Ford encouraged members of the Commission to contact Molly Martin at US EPA Region 9 if they have any concerns that the Foundation is not moving forward satisfactorily in implementing the annual work plan or BRP. Ford reported moving forward that TBF will publish all Foundation board meeting minutes, federal tax returns and semiannual reports of the SMBNEP, once US EPA Region 9 has approved them. Ford encouraged member to follow the Foundation on their website for updates as well. Ford and Martin commented on a possible revision of the current MOU between the Commission and Foundation. Martin then commented on the five year program evaluation of the NEP and noted the next one is in 2019.

3) Governing Board Business

a. Consideration of Approval of October 20, 2016 Meeting Minutes

Suzanne Goode requested a change be made to a misstatement that Malibu Lagoon restoration might cause more sediment erosion. The October minutes were approved as amended. (M: Caspary S: Schuchat A: Pestrella, Martin, Stevens, Uranga)

Lauren Pizer Mains requested the updated minutes be emailed to all commission members.

b. Election of Governing Board Chair and Vice-Chairs

Guangyu Wang announced Enrique Zaldivar was nominated to fill the position of chair. Wang then opened the floor to additional nominations. No nominations occurred, since there was only one nomination and one position to fill a voice affirmation of vote occurred, no objections, Martin abstained. Enrique Zaldivar was elected to fill the position of chair.

Guangyu Wang announced the vice-chair nominations: Heal the Bay (Sarah Sikich), LA Waterkeeper (Bruce Reznik), Regional Water Board (Fran Diamond), West Basin Municipal Water District (Gloria Gray), Supervisor Kuehl (Timothy Lippman), and Coastal Conservancy (Sam Schuchat). Wang then opened the floor to nominations. No nominations occurred. Per request of Debbie Dyer Harris; Bruce Reznik, Gloria Gray, Sam Schuchat, Fran Diamond, and Timothy Lippman gave brief remarks regarding their nominations as vice-chair. Ford noted that the EC is made up of members that represent a broad range of organizations. Mark Pestrella reflected his experience as past EC members. Since there were six nominations and six positions to fill a voice affirmation of vote occurred, no objections. Each nominated organization was elected to fill the positions of vice-chair.

Ford announced governing board members are welcome to attend the Executive Committee meetings which are open to the public.

c. Consideration of Approval of 2017 Governing Board Meeting Calendar

Robert Spackman suggested moving the December meeting from the 21st to the 14th. The 2017 board meeting calendar was approved as amended. (M: Pestrella S: Gray)

Reznik requested an outlook reminder for all meeting dates.

d. Consideration of Approval of a Resolution Endorsing the Nomination of the Malibu Historic District to the National Register of Historic Places

Ford introduced the history of our involvement in and additional relevant information about this topic. Discussion followed. Several board members representing organizations that own land or have operational authority and responsibilities in the proposed historic district, provided comments regarding the status of the process from their perspective. The general theme was that more information needed to be gathered before a vote could be properly considered by the SMBRC GB.

Public Comment: Craig Cadwallader, Surfrider Foundation, commented that the nomination of Malibu Historic District to the National Register of Historic Places makes sense economically and historically. He encouraged board members to support it.

A vote on the resolution did not occur. The commission board voted to support in concept pending further information which Ford as a representative of the Commission will find out and bring back to the board in a timely manner in order to support the resolution. (A: Goode, Espinosa)

e. Closed Session

No closed session was held.

f. Member Comment—Governing Board members may wish to comment on issues not otherwise on the agenda

Bob Godfrey commented about the youth fishing program and the start of a veterans fishing program. Charlie Caspary reported the Las Virgenes Municipal Water District board received a favorable amendment to the basin plan with incorporation of a new TMDL and the board is proceeding with the “pure water” project that uses advanced treatment to produce drinking quality water from wastewater with a cost of \$100 million. Caspary noted a demonstration plant should be up and running in a few years with the final plant being ready in 13 years. Martin announced her refusal to use disposables and her work with Monterey Bay Aquarium to reduce plastic waste. Suzanne Goode highlighted State Parks is putting used fishing line containers on the Malibu Pier in partnership with Audubon Society.

g. Announcement of Next Meeting Date (tentatively set for February 16, 2016 at 9:30 a.m.)

The meeting was adjourned at 11:26 without objection.

Attendance

Voting Members of the Governing Board:

Jonathan Bishop, California Environmental Protection Agency
Charlie Caspary, Las Virgenes Municipal Water District
Fran Diamond, California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Los Angeles
Debbie Dwyer Harris, Councilmember, Los Angeles City Council District 11
Cesar Espinosa, LA County Department of Beaches and Harbors
Suzanne Fuentes, South Bay Cities (El Segundo)
Gloria Gray, At-Large Member (West Basin Municipal Water District)
Robert Godfrey, At-Large Member (Marina Del Rey Anglers)
Suzanne Goode, California Department of Parks and Recreation
Timothy Lippman, Office of Sheila Kuehl, Supervisor, 3rd District, County of Los Angeles
Kevin McKeown, Santa Monica/WSCCOG
Mark Pestrella, LA County Department of Public Works
Bruce Reznik, Public Member Environmental, Los Angeles Waterkeeper
Sam Schuchat, California State Coastal Conservancy
Rod Spackman, Public Member Business, Chevron
Clark Stevens, At-Large Member (SM Mtns RCD)
Enrique Zaldivar, SMBRC Chair, LA City Bureau of Sanitation

Non-Voting Members of the Governing Board:

Mas Dojiri, Technical Advisory Committee, Vice-Chair
Molly Martin, US EPA Region IX
Laurie Newman, The Bay Foundation
Timothy Pershing, Assembly Member Richard Bloom, 50th District

Lauren Pizer Mains, State Senator Ben Allen, 26th District

SMBNEP Staff present:

Armand Barilotti, TBF in attendance
Heather Burdick, TBF in attendance
David Coupe, SWRCB Legal Counsel
Julie Du Brow, TBF in attendance
Tom Ford, Commission Staff
Victoria Gambale, Commission Staff
Parker House, TBF in attendance
Marcelo Villagomez, Commission Staff
Guangyu Wang, Commission Staff

Other Attendees, including other Watershed Advisory Council Members:

Michael Blum, Malibu Surfing Association
Craig Cadwallader, Surfrider Foundation South Bay Chapter
E.J. Caldwell, West Basin Municipal Water District
Tonya Durrell, LA City Sanitation
Kristen Elsmore, UC Davis
Hannah Hart, Ballona Wetland Land Trust
Kara Kemmler, State Coastal Conservancy
Shahram Kharaghani, LA City Sanitation
Kathy Knight, Ballona Education Project
Danielle LeFer, California State Parks
David Pedersen, Las Virgenes Municipal Water District
Josh Svensson, Los Angeles County Department of Public Works