

Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

Santa Monica Bay Restoration Commission
March 16, 2017, 12:30 to 2:00 pm
West Basin's Edward C. Little Water Recycling Facility
1935 S. Hughes Way
El Segundo, CA 90245

Attendance:

Members:

Fran Diamond
Gloria Gray
Timothy Lippman
Bruce Reznik
Sam Schuchat
Sarah Sikich
Enrique Zaldivar

Absent:

Guests:

E.J. Caldwell, Rich
Nagel, Wing Tam

Staff:

Tom Ford, Marcelo Villagomez,
Guangyu Wang, David Coupe
(SWRCB)

Meeting called to order at 12:31 p.m.

Enrique Zaldivar chaired the meeting. Introductions followed.

Agenda Item 1. Public Comment

There was no public comment at this meeting.

Agenda Item 2. Informational Items

- a. Consideration of Approval of January 19, 2017 Meeting Minutes

Approved without objection. (M: Diamond, S: Sikich)

- b. Order of Agenda

No change

- c. Reports from the Executive Director and Staff

Tom Ford reported on the status of various projects, including the new Santa Monica Dunes project, which has been received with great interest from the

public. Ford said four Western Snowy Plovers, which are classified as threatened were spotted at this dunes project site. He also mentioned improvements to come of signage at the site. Ford also reported on other projects, including success with green abalone at the reef of Palos Verdes after years of no results. He said 45 abalone were spotted and tissue samples were collected from 20 animals for genetic analysis.

Ford also reported on an aerial survey report to come after a series of meetings and presentations throughout southern CA. Ford reported aerial surveys showing low levels of non-compliance throughout mainland southern California with the exception of San Diego County. Ford also reported on grant applications to fund new and continuing projects, including; white abalone recovery, green abalone aquaculture and kelp hydrodynamic studies.

Ford also reported on a new phase, Phase II, of the Climate Change Vulnerability Assessment (CCVA) which continues the collaboration with a UCLA honors class led by Dr. Alison Lipman. Ford also reported on a new TBF program called Table-to-Farm, a collaborative project with local partners within the City of Inglewood that utilizes food scraps from restaurants to enable local composting and urban agriculture. Lastly, Ford reported on the Honey Pot Day program being available in the summer of 2017 for recreational boaters to be informed and understand the importance of proper waste disposal, by encouraging them to take an online quiz/survey which earns the participant a certificate for a free pump out service.

Agenda Item 3. Executive Committee Business

a) Establish Governing Board Agenda for April

3. a) i) Consideration of Approval of Fiscal Year 2018 Work Plan

Ford provided an overview of the changes to structure and content of the 2017-2018 Work Plan and the reduced timeframe for submission this year. EC members discussed the review process leading up to the submission to the US EPA, and discussed ways to get input from the GB members given the time constraints. EC members exchanged ideas and proposals and members agreed to provide the GB a draft WP and WAC comments in advance of the April GB meeting for input to the WP during a 2-week period, then have staff incorporate their input, and prepare and distribute a redline version of the Work Plan for consideration of approval by the Governing Board meeting at the April Meeting.

EC members recommended that the WAC input report be provided to the GB for reference to ensure relevant important ideas and projects are appropriately reflected in the WP.

3. a) ii) Closed Session

Executive Committee Meeting Minutes for Closed Session

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Bruce Reznik
Sarah Sikich
Sam Schuchat
Enrique Zaldivar

Staff:

Tom Ford, Guangyu Wang, David
Coupe (SWRCB Legal Counsel
assigned to the SMBRC)

Closed session began at 1:21 pm.

David Coupe updated EC members on the status of litigation with the Ballona Wetlands Land Trust and a memo he sent to the Governing Board members regarding the litigation prior to the February 16 Governing Board meeting.

David Coupe and EC members very briefly discussed a February 2016 confidential settlement memo from the Trust's counsel, Brian Acree. Mr. Coupe noted that he will send a two-page confidential memo to the EC members after the meeting.

Closed session ended at 1:42 pm.

b) Member Comments and Announcements Regarding Matters not on the Agenda

There were no member comments or announcements.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:43 p.m. without objection.