

SMBRC Governing Board Meeting Minutes

June 21, 2018

Welcome and Introductions

At 9:39 a.m. Fran Diamond 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:

Jack Topel commented on youth sailing program and his desire for a grant to subsidize the program.

Kathy Knight commented on restoration of freshwater Wetlands at Ballona Wetlands Ecological Reserve.

2. Informational Items

a) Order of Agenda

The order of the agenda remained the same.

b) Report from the Chair

There was no report from the Chair.

c) Reports from the Technical Advisory Committee

Steve Bay gave the TAC report. Mr. Bay reported that TAC met to discuss Bay Restoration Plan (BRP) revisions, including a focus on helping staff consolidate and better communicate the proposed BRP actions, develop habitat assessment indicators, and in the future will engage in meetings to help with developing proposals for Prop 50 funding.

d) Reports from the Chief Administrative Director and SMBNEP staff

Erika Yelensky reported that an extra \$15,000 in funding was secured to support the SMBNEP FY 19 work plan task in Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plans (CCMP) revision, especially the governance structure. Funding will be available by September 30, 2018.

Tom Ford gave SMBNEP report, including status of programs and projects carried out under the current SMBNEP annual work plan.

i). Update on Prop 12 SM Bay Restoration Grant

Guangyu Wang gave update on Prop 12 SM Bay Restoration Grant. Wang reported that one application from the City of Calabasas was received as of the meeting date.

Public Comment:

Walter Lamb commented on the lawsuit filed by the Ballona Wetland Land Trust.

David Coupe addressed Mr. Lamb's comments and informed the Board that the Executive Committee will meet in closed session to discuss the lawsuit and asked Governing Board members to contact him directly if anyone had questions and concerns regarding the lawsuit.

ii). Update on Prop 50 SM Bay Restoration Grant

Guangyu Wang gave an update on the Prop 50 Santa Monica Bay Restoration Grant Fund. Wang reported that approximately \$3.2 million of funding remaining after \$15 million of funding spent on 15 projects. Members questions and comments followed.

Public Comment:

Patricia McPherson commented on the SMBRC's relation with the private non-profit the Bay Foundation and SMBRC's role in Ballona Wetlands restoration.

David Coupe addressed the comments and pointed out that although an account was established by the enabling legislation, it is his understanding that there have never been funds appropriated to the SMBRC., and there will be discussion of governance and structural issues later in the agenda.

3. Governing Board Business

a) Consideration of Approval of April 19, 2018 Meeting Minutes

The April minutes were approved with an amendment to correct (1) the following names: LA County Department of Public Works' Cung Nguyen, California State Coastal Conservancy's Kara Kemmler, and US EPA Region IX's Gail Louis, (2) missing comments from alternate (commented by Bill Brand), and (3) missing plastic bag comment by Jefferson Wagner.

Approved as amended. Moved: Rorie Skei, Seconded: Jefferson Wagner. Abstained: Robert Uranga.

b) Consideration of Election of a Tourist Representative to the Governing Board

Guangyu Wang introduced this item and invited Kevin McKeown to introduce Santa Monica Travel and Tourism.

The Santa Monica Travel and Tourism was elected unanimously. Moved: Kevin McKeown, Seconded: Daniel Murphy.

c) Workshop on Revision of the SMBNEP Bay Restoration Plan (BRP)

i). Staff Presentation – SMBNEP Organizational Structure

Tom Ford gave presentation on the general structure and governance of a National Estuary Program and how it is translated to the current structure of the SMBNEP. Members questions and comments followed.

Public Comments:

Walter Lamb commented on SMBNEP organizational structure.

David Coupe addressed the comment and informed the Board that a comment letter on Governance issues was received from the BWLT and governance and structure issues will be considered as part of the CCMP revision process.

Patricia McPherson commented on the need to review legislative information establishing the SMBRC and staff function.

ii). Staff Presentation – Draft BRP Actions

Tom Ford and Karina Johnston gave brief introduction to the draft list of BRP actions.

iii). Facilitated Breakout Group Discussion

Breakout group discussion was convened.

d) Closed Session

No closed session was held.

e) Member Comment

There was no member comment.

f) Announcement of Next Meeting Date (tentatively set for August 16, 2018 at 9:30 a.m.)

Meeting adjourned at 12:00 p.m. by Fran Diamond with no objection.

Attendance

Voting Members/Alternates of the Governing Board

Kevin McKeown, Westside Cities (City of Santa Monica)

Michael Tripp, LA County Department of Beaches & Harbors

Daniel Murphy, LA County Fire Department

Jefferson Wagner, Malibu Watershed Cities (City of Malibu)

Kara Kemmler, California State Coastal Conservancy

Bruce Reznik, LA Waterkeeper

Wing Tam, Watershed Protection Division (City of LA)

Fran Diamond, Los Angeles Regional Water Control Board

Timothy Lippman, Office of Sheila Kuehl, 3rd District, County of Los Angeles

Bill Brand, City of Redondo Beach

Roberto Uranga, California Coastal Commission

Shelley Luce, Heal the Bay

Charles Caspary, Las Virgenes Municipal Water District

Robert Godfrey, Marina del Rey Anglers (At Large Member)

Rorie Skei, Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy

Non-Voting Members of the Governing Board:

Steve Bay, Technical Advisory Committee Chair

Laurie Newman, President, The Bay Foundation

SMBNEP Staff present:

David Coupe, SWRCB Legal Counsel

Julie DuBrow

Tom Ford

Karina Johnston

Jack Topel

Marcelo Villagomez

Guangyu Wang
Victoria Gambale
Kimberly Riley
Adri Sparks

Other Attendees, including other Watershed Advisory Council Members:

Erica Yelensky, US EPA Region IX
EJ Caldwell, West Basin Municipal Water District
Cung Nguyen, LA County Department of Public Works
Kathy Knight, Sierra Club Airport Marina Group
Danielle Lefer, CA State Parks
Mike Lenemen, Multi Marine
Walter Lamb, Ballona Wetlands Land Trust
Meghan Sahli-Wells, WSCCOG (City of Culver City)
Craig Cadwallader, Surfrider South Bay
Chuy Orozco, CD II, City of LA
Jake Procino, CD II, City of LA
Kieran Althaas, CD II, City of LA
Jack Topel, Youth Sailing Program