



**SANTA MONICA BAY RESTORATION COMMISSION
Executive Committee Meeting Minutes**

Date: Thursday, May 21, 2020

Time: 11:30–1:30 p.m.

Meeting Location: Remote Meeting Only

The Santa Monica Bay Restoration Commission's (Commission) Executive Committee meeting was called to order at 11:31 am. Introductions followed.

Charles Caspary chaired the meeting.

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

There were no public comments.

2) Executive Committee Business

a) Order of Agenda

The order of the agenda was approved without changes by roll-call vote. Moved: EJ Caldwell. Seconded: Shelley Luce.

b) Reports from the Chief Administrative Director and Santa Monica Bay National Estuary Program (SMBNEP) Staff

Guangyu Wang reported on Commission staff's work activities including the SMBNEP Fiscal Year 2021 Annual Work Plan, the proposed Amendment to the Commission Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), and accessibility and ADA compliance.

Tom Ford reported on the red tide in Santa Monica Bay and SMBNEP activities carried out by The Bay Foundation including adjustments to the COVID-19 emergency, the Table-to-Farm Composting project, community-based restoration programs, marine programs, and the Coastal Research Institute summer program.

Member comments followed on the artificial rocky reef restoration project off the Palos Verdes Peninsula. Ford and Wang provided an overview and update of the project.

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c) Consideration of Approval of January 16, 2020 Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

Wang notified members of a request from Walter Lamb to revise the meeting minutes with additional discussion of Ballona Creek's flood capacity, Senate Bill 45, and the new agenda calendar of future presentations or action items. Eric Gillman provided guidance on the scope of meeting minutes and voting on meeting minutes. Caspary read Walter Lamb's written comments from May 8, 2020 into the record. Caspary proposed adding to the meeting minutes summaries of the items requested in Walter Lamb's written comments.

The meeting minutes were approved as amended by roll-call vote. Moved: Shelley Luce. Seconded: Timothy Lippman. Abstained: Jonathon Bishop and Kelly Clark.

d) Establish the Governing Board Agenda for the June 18, 2020 Governing Board Meeting

i) Consideration of Election of Coastal Tourism Representative to the Governing Board

Wang introduced this item and reported that the election is needed under the existing MOU and that the term of the current representative will expire in June 2020. Wang recommended that the term for the newly elected representative be in sync with the terms of the other elected Governing Board members. Wang also recommended the Executive Committee consider scheduling the election prior to the Governing Board's consideration of approval of the proposed Amendment to the MOU (Amendment).

Member comments followed on the nomination period for the coastal tourism representative. Wang provided an overview of the nomination procedures.

Wang recommended the Executive Committee vote on proposed items for the Governing Board agenda (2.d.i, 2.d.ii, and 2.d.iii) after discussion of all items.

ii) Consideration of Approval of Amendment to the Santa Monica Bay Restoration Commission Memorandum of Understanding

Wang introduced this item and provided an update on the process for developing the proposed Amendment; opportunities to provide input on the proposed Amendment; review of the draft proposed Amendment; developing the accompanying staff report, response to comments received on the October 14, 2019 draft of the Amendment; and the timing of the anticipated public release of the final version of the proposed Amendment and the accompanying staff report, pending completion of the other signatories' review. Wang also mentioned that draft resolutions will be introduced for approval of the Amendment and addressing the terms and effective dates of existing and new members.

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Public Comment

Walter Lamb commented on the Executive Committee's review of the draft proposed Amendment; the draft January 16, 2020 Executive Committee meeting minutes; the Commission's governance structure; work of the Ballona Wetlands Land Trust; the purpose of the Commission; access to public records; the State Budget Act of 2018; and the Memorandum of Agreement between the Commission and The Bay Foundation.

iii) Consideration of Adoption of Recommendations regarding Measure W Stormwater Investment Plans within the Santa Monica Bay Watershed

Wang introduced this item and provided an overview of the timeline and process for the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors' (Board of Supervisors) approval of the Safe Clean Water Program's Stormwater Investment Plans (SIPs) and options for providing the Commission's input on the SIPs in the Santa Monica Bay watershed. Wang recommended Commission staff provide the Governing Board a high-level review of the SIPs and recommend endorsement or highlight concerns of the projects prior to the Board of Supervisors' consideration of approval.

Wang proposed this item be a potential agenda item for the Governing Board meeting pending additional discussion with Board of Supervisors and Los Angeles County Public Works staff for timeline.

Member comments followed on the timeline of the Safe Clean Water Program's Regional Oversight Committee and recommended Commission staff review approved projects in the Santa Monica Bay watershed, provide a summary to the Governing Board, and solicit the Governing Board's feedback at the June 18, 2020 Governing Board meeting.

Items 2.d.i, 2.d.ii, 2.d.iii were added to the June 18, 2020 Governing Board meeting by roll-call vote. Moved: Jonathon Bishop. Seconded: Timothy Lippman.

e) Closed Session

Open meeting adjourned at 12:51 pm.

Closed session adjourned and open meeting reconvened at 2:01 pm. Eric Gillman reported there was nothing to report from Closed Session.

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

Kelly Clark commented on appreciation of State Water Board staff's work.

The meeting adjourned at 2:03 pm.

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Attendance:

Members/Alternates of the Executive Committee:

Jonathan Bishop, California Environmental Protection Agency

EJ Caldwell, West Basin Municipal Water District

Charlie Caspary, Las Virgenes Municipal Water District

Kelly Clark, Public Member (Environmental/Public Interest), Los Angeles Waterkeeper

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

Shelley Luce, Public Member (Environmental/Public Interest), Heal the Bay

Martha Tremblay, Los Angeles County Sanitation District

Commission and State Water Board Staff:

Eric Gillman, State Water Board

Caitlin Gray, Commission

Claire Waggoner, State Water Board

Guangyu Wang, Commission

The Bay Foundation Staff:

Tom Ford

Guests:

Walter Lamb, Ballona Wetlands Land Trust

Dan Lucas, California Office of Attorney General

Kevin McKeown, Westside Cities (City of Santa Monica)

Randy Rodriguez, California Department of Fish and Wildlife

Erica Yelensky, US EPA Region 9