



**SANTA MONICA BAY
RESTORATION COMMISSION**
MANAGEMENT CONFERENCE OF THE NATIONAL ESTUARY PROGRAM

**SANTA MONICA BAY RESTORATION COMMISSION
Governing Board Meeting Minutes**

Date: Thursday, June 18, 2020

Time: 9:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Meeting Location: Remote Meeting Only

Charlie Caspary chaired the Santa Monica Bay Restoration Commission's (Commission) Governing Board meeting. The meeting was called to order at 9:41 a.m. Caspary provided an overview of the meeting protocols. Introductions followed.

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

Jeanette Vosburg commented on participation with the Commission. Caspary encouraged Jeanette Vosburg's ongoing participation.

Kathy Knight commented on participation with the Commission and protection of the Ballona Wetlands Ecological Reserve.

Patricia McPherson commented in support of Jeanette Vosburg's and Kathy Knight's comments and on the Watershed Advisory Committee (WAC) and work groups and the Ballona Wetlands Final Environmental Impact Report (EIR).

2) Informational Items

a) Order of Agenda

There was no change to the order of the agenda. The order of the agenda was approved without objection.

b) Report from the Chair

Charles Caspary reported on the May 21, 2020 Executive Committee meeting, including the development of the June 18 Governing Board meeting agenda and closed session regarding ongoing litigations.

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c) Reports from the Technical Advisory Committee

Guangyu Wang introduced John Dorsey to provide an update on the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC). John Dorsey reported the TAC's last meeting was on February 5, 2020 which included the recommended appointment of himself as Vice-chair and Dan Pondella as the TAC Chair.

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

Guangyu Wang reported on Commission staff's work activities including the proposed Amendment to the Commission's Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), the Measure W Safe Clean Water Program (SCWP) participation, the Santa Monica Bay NEP Comprehensive Monitoring Program annual progress report to the Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board, Form 700 Commission member compliance, and accessibility and ADA compliance.

Tom Ford reported on Santa Monica Bay NEP activities carried out by The Bay Foundation including LA Living Shorelines project, Manhattan Beach Dune Restoration project, eelgrass research in Santa Monica Bay, preparation for abalone outplanting, kelp reforestation, adjustments to the COVID-19 emergency for the Community Engagement Programs, Marine Protected Area outreach, Coastal Research Institute summer program, NEP grant extension, a competitive grant opportunity for advancement of NEP Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan (CCMP), and the completed NEP Semi-Annual Report.

Wang reported the NEP Semi-Annual Report will be available on the Commission's website and encouraged members to contact staff for information on the competitive grant opportunity.

Member comments followed on the Manhattan Beach Dune Restoration project, the red tide in Santa Monica Bay, and alternative sources of funding due to the COVID-19 emergency. Tom Ford and John Dorsey reported on the recent and historical red tides, and impacts, trends, and adaptation to harmful algal blooms.

Caspary invited Eric Gillman to provide an update on ongoing litigations. Eric Gillman reported on two active lawsuits against the Commission.

3) Governing Board Business

a) Consideration of Approval of April 16, 2020 Meeting Minutes

There was no change to the meeting minutes. The meeting minutes were approved without objection. Moved: Misti Kerns. Seconded: Timothy Lippman. Abstained: Katherine Pease.

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

Wang introduced this item and reported on the expiration of the current representative's term and the Governing Board's ability to postpone the election for additional nominations.

One nomination was received during the nomination period for Misti Kerns representing Santa Monica Travel & Tourism. Caspary closed the floor nominations with no additional nominations.

Members commented on the eligibility of the nominee. Wang responded to member comments.

Jonathon Bishop moved to nominate the coastal tourism representative. Seconded: Kelly Clark. Santa Monica Travel & Tourism was elected as the coastal tourism representative.

c) Consideration of Approval of the Amendment to the Santa Monica Bay Restoration Commission Memorandum of Understanding and Staff Report

Wang introduced this item and provided an overview of the process, major changes, and staff recommendations regarding draft Resolution 20-02 approving the proposed Amendment to the MOU (Amendment).

Public Comment

Walter Lamb commented on the Commission's governance structure, the Santa Monica Bay NEP partnership, the annual assistance agreement, the Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) between the Commission and The Bay Foundation, and the Host Entity.

Patricia McPherson commented in support of Walter Lamb's comments and commented on stakeholder participation.

Members commented on dispute resolution procedures; the intent of the Commission's establishing legislation, Senate Bill 1381; staff's work to develop the proposed Amendment; transparency for non-governmental organization partners; alignment with US EPA NEP guidance; stakeholder engagement; and the MOA between the Commission and The Bay Foundation. Eric Gillman responded to member comments.

Caspary commented on opportunities for stakeholder participation, a standing agenda item for Executive Committee agenda to receive input from Santa Monica Bay Stakeholders, and the Executive Committee's role in identifying stakeholders' issues of concern.

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Resolution 20-02 was approved by roll-call vote. Moved: Timothy Lippman.
Seconded: Dennis Washburn.

d) Consideration of Approval of Resolution to Concur on the Selection of the NEP Director of the Santa Monica Bay NEP

Wang introduced this item and recommended adopting draft Resolution 20-03 concurring on the selection of Tom Ford as the NEP Director of the Santa Monica Bay NEP.

Member comments followed on the ability to develop document-sharing procedures in the MOA between the Commission and The Bay Foundation. Eric Gillman responded to member comments.

Resolution 20-03 was approved by roll-call vote. Moved: Enrique Zaldivar.
Seconded: Timothy Lippman.

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

Wang introduced this item, provided an overview of the SCWP Stormwater Investment Plans (SIPs) within the Santa Monica Bay watershed, and recommended adopting draft Resolution 20-04. Wang invited John Dorsey to discuss the TAC's recommendation. John Dorsey provided an overview and commented on the importance of standardized monitoring programs for all infrastructure projects funded under the SCWP.

Member comments followed on member participation in the SCWP process and incorporating a standardized monitoring program. Wang responded to member comments.

Resolution 20-04 was approved by roll-call vote. Moved: Timothy Lippman.
Seconded: Jonathon Bishop.

4) Other Businesses

a) Closed Session

No closed session was held.

b) Member Comment

There were no member comments.

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c) Announcement of Next Meeting Date (tentatively set for August 20, 2020 at 9:30 a.m.)

Caspary announced the next Governing Board meeting (tentatively set for August 20, 2020 at 9:30 a.m.) and the next Executive Committee meeting (tentatively set for July 16, 2020 at 11:30 a.m.).

Meeting adjourned at 12:42 p.m.

Attendance:

Voting Members/Alternates of the Governing Board

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)
Liz Crosson, Office of the Mayor, City of Los Angeles
Bob Godfrey, At-Large Member (Marina del Rey Anglers)
Gloria Gray, West Basin Municipal Water District
Kenny Kao, South Bay Cities (City of Redondo Beach)
Misti Kerns, Public Member, Tourism Business/Economic Interest (Santa Monica Travel & Tourism)
Timothy Lippman, Supervisor Sheila Kuehl's Office, 3rd District, County of Los Angeles
Kevin McKeown, Westside Cities (City of Santa Monica)
Dan Murphy, Los Angeles County Fire Department, Lifeguard Division
Cung Nguyen, LA County Department of Public Works
Katherine Pease, Public Member (Environmental/Public Interest), Heal the Bay
Dave Pederson, Las Virgenes Municipal Water District
Randy Rodriguez, California Department of Fish and Wildlife
Rorie Skei, Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy
Rod Spackman, Public Member, Business/Economic Interest (Chevron)
Wing Tam, LA City Sanitation
Maral Tashjian, LA County Beaches & Harbors
Matthew Tecle, Councilmember Mike Bonin's Office, Los Angeles City Council District 11
Martha Tremblay, Los Angeles County Sanitation District
Roberto Uranga, California Coastal Commission
Dennis Washburn, At-Large Member BWC (Resource Conservation District of the Santa Monica Mountains)
Enrique Zaldivar, LA City Sanitation

Non-Voting Members/Alternates of the Governing Board:

John Dorsey, Technical Advisory Committee
Laurie Newman, The Bay Foundation
Erica Yelensky, US EPA Region 9

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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
Karina Johnston
Marcelo Villagomez

Other Attendees:

Vince Bacalan, US EPA Headquarters
Richard Brody, California Department of Fish & Wildlife
Kara Kemmler, State Coastal Conservancy
Kathy Knight, Ballona Ecosystem Education Project and Sierra Club
Walter Lamb, Ballona Wetlands Land Trust
Patricia McPherson, Sierra Club Airport Marina Group and Grassroots Coalition
Jeanette Vosburg, Sierra Club and Grassroots Coalition
Shahla Farahnak, State Water Board