



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

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

Date: Thursday, September 16, 2021

Time: 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Meeting Location: Remote Meeting Only

Charlie Caspary chaired the Santa Monica Bay Restoration Commission's (Commission) Governing Board meeting and called the meeting to order at 1:01 p.m. Commission staff 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

Gabrielle Crowe introduced herself as a councilmember of the Gabrielino-Shoshone Nation and commented on involvement with the Ballona Wetlands Land Trust.

2) Executive Committee Business

a) Order of Agenda

Charlie Caspary amended the order of the agenda to move item 3 before item 2.e. without objection.

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

Guangyu Wang reported on collaboration with The Bay Foundation to complete the NEP Online Reporting Tool (NEPORT) report and develop the Santa Monica Bay NEP website. Wang also reported on Commission staff's work activities, including holding a workshop, finalizing proposal evaluation criteria, and establishing the review panel for the Proposition 50 grant program; routing the Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) to The Bay Foundation for consideration of approval; holding a Technical Advisory Committee meeting to discuss the State of the Bay report and membership; Proposition 84 grant management; and addressing two Public Records Act (PRA) requests.

Tom Ford reported on unanimous approval of the MOA by the board of The Bay Foundation. Ford discussed the postponement of the NEP technical transfer meeting and collaboration with Commission staff to develop the NEP annual report and the Santa Monica Bay NEP website. Ford also reported on Santa

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Monica Bay NEP activities carried out by The Bay Foundation, including supporting the OA sensor array project; outreach for Proposition 50 grant proposals; kelp forest restoration; engaging with Force Blue and students of Environmental Charter Middle Schools; dune restoration, including an additional project at Santa Monica Beach and progress at LAX; and eelgrass transplanting. Ford also reported on the washout of Westward Beach Road and Coastal Beach Cleanup Day.

Public Comments

There were no public comments.

Member Comments

Members commented on the Proposition 50 grant program, including anticipated number of applicants and proposal review panelists; the Santa Monica Bay NEP website, including the anticipated completion date and informing the Governing Board of its completion at the next Governing Board meeting; the NEPORT report; and the washout of Westward Beach Road.

c) Consideration of Approval of July 15, 2021 Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

The meeting minutes were approved without changes by roll-call vote. Moved: Timothy Lippman. Seconded: Martha Tremblay. Abstained: Gloria Gray.

d) Establish the Governing Board Agenda for the October 21, 2021 Governing Board Meeting. Consider the following agenda items:

i) Table-to-Farm Community Garden: A Presentation by Environmental Charter Middle School Inglewood Students

Guangyu Wang introduced this item and recommended for the Executive Committee to schedule this item for the next Governing Board meeting. Tom Ford reported that the students would highlight their experiences with Table-to-Farm project and impacts in their community.

Public Comments

There were no public comments.

Member Comments

Member expressed their excitement for student involvement and commented on the timeliness of this item. Members requested the presenters make a clear connection to the associated action in the Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan (CCMP) Action Plan.

Members requested for Commission staff to schedule an update on the Informational Items List for the next Executive Committee meeting and send the list to Executive Committee members in advance.

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ii) Updates on the Palos Verdes Shelf Superfund Site and Ocean DDT Disposal Site – US Environmental Protection Agency (pending availability of US EPA staff)

Guangyu Wang introduced this item and recommended for the Executive Committee to schedule this item for the next Governing Board meeting. Wang reported that US EPA staff would provide updates on the Palos Verdes Shelf Superfund Site, including next steps based on latest data, and the ocean DDT disposal site.

Public Comments

There were no public comments.

Member Comments

Members requested questions on these issues be sent to Commission staff before the presentation. Caspary suggested the presentation could cover potential plans to address the contaminants at the Superfund Site and updates on funding. Members commented on this item being presented as separate presentations and including the history of DDT dumping.

Caspary requested for Commission staff send the Projected Agenda Items Calendar to Executive Committee members in advance of the next Executive Committee meeting.

Member Votes

The agenda for the October 21, 2021 Governing Board meeting was approved by roll-call vote with the following agenda items: student-led presentation on the Table-to-Farm Community Garden, update on the Palos Verdes Shelf Superfund Site, and update on the ocean DDT disposal site. Moved: Jonathon Bishop. Seconded: Timothy Lippman.

e) Closed Session

Eric Gillman announced closed session. Open session adjourned at 2:19 p.m. Closed session adjourned and open session reconvened at 2:39 p.m. Gillman reported there was nothing to report from closed session.

3) Member Comments

There were no member comments.

The meeting adjourned at 2:40 p.m.

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Attendance:

Voting Members/Alternates of the Executive Committee

Jonathon Bishop, State Water Resources Control Board
E.J. Caldwell, At-Large Representative (West Basin Municipal Water District)
Charlie Caspary, Las Virgenes Municipal Water District
Gloria Gray, At-Large Representative (West Basin Municipal Water District)
Timothy Lippman, Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors (3rd District)
Annelisa Moe, Environmental/Public Interest (Heal the Bay)
Martha Tremblay, Los Angeles County Sanitation Districts
Claire Waggoner, State Water Resources Control Board

Non-Voting Members/Alternates of the Executive Committee

Tom Ford, Santa Monica Bay NEP Director
Erica Yelensky, US EPA Region 9

Commission and State Water Resources Control Board Staff

Marissa Caringella, Commission
Eric Gillman, State Water Resources Control Board
Caitlin Gray, Commission
Guangyu Wang, Commission

Public Attendees

Gabrielle Crowe, Gabrielino-Shoshone Nation
Robert Torres, Los Angeles County Department of Public Works