

**THE SANTA MONICA BAY RESTORATION COMMISSION TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE
December 7, 2016 MEETING MINUTES**

Contact: Guangyu Wang, 231-576-6639 or gwang@waterboards.ca.gov

ATTENDANCE

TAC Members

Steve Bay (Chair)	Present
Mas Dojiri (Vice Chair)	Present
Rich Ambrose	Present
John Dorsey	Present
Rainer Hoenicke	Present
Karen Martin	Present
Dan Pondella	Absent
Eric Stein	Present

Staff Present

Tom Ford, Executive Director
Guangyu Wang, Deputy Director
Vicki Gambale
Karina Johnston

Members of the Public

Celine Gallon, Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board
Joe Gully, LA County Sanitation District
Hanna Hart, Ballona Wetlands Land Trust
Phil Markle, LA County Sanitation District
Suzanne Marr, US EPA (via conference phone)
Molly Martin, US EPA (via conference phone)

1. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Chair Steve Bay called the meeting to order at 9:38 am. Round robin introductions followed.

2. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Hanna Hart gave a brief introduction to her background and thanked TAC for being able to attend this public meeting.

Joe Gully announced the new LA County Sanitation District contact will be Phil Markle.

3. GENERAL BUSINESS

a. Order of the Agenda.

Approved with no changes.

b. Approval of Meeting Minutes.

For August meeting minutes item 3.d, Mas Dojiri requested inclusion of the City of LA as another group that is collaborating on the ichthyoplankton bar-coding technique study. Mas provided his revisions to Guangyu for the April and August meetings. It was requested that revised minutes be sent out to TAC members via email. The minutes of the April and August meetings were approved unanimously as amended. M: Mas, S: John, A: Rainer

c. Reports from the Chair, Subcommittees, and Staff

Tom Ford reported the work by the Clean Beach Task Force on Prop. 84 proposal review was presented to Executive Committee and Governing Board. Tom reported due to the work and evaluation TAC and staff performed and the aligned recommendations Prop 84 project recommendations were approved without much discussion. Tom reported John Bishop from state water board is pleased that the Prop 84 money is being spent and Tom will discuss with him the potential of Prop 1 funding. Tom reported a Bay Restoration Plan (BRP) revision is in the preliminary stages and is expected to be completed by 2019 followed by another State of the Bay report. Tom asked TAC if they see a serial process or parallel process regarding Climate Change Vulnerability Assessment (CCVA), Comprehensive Monitoring Program (CMP), and BRP revision. Eric Stein hopes these processes will move forward along with some sort of comprehensive monitoring. Tom agrees and mentioned it's potentially possible for administrative funds to be allocated for comprehensive monitoring. Tom announced Dec. 15th is the next Governing Board meeting. Mas added highlights from his Governing Board meeting TAC report. Guangyu highlighted two Climate Change impact related projects: Santa Monica Beach Dunes, pH sensors (County SAN, City of LA) and Tom Ford highlighted one: kelp forest restoration.

d. Member comments

Rainer mentioned and discussed the air resources board carbon sequestration funds. Rainer announced Nov 1-2 was a science enterprise workshop with a focus on science, government, and adaptive management. A draft report is available and will be distributed to TAC.

Karen Martin gave a grunion update noting they seem to have shifted northward with low returns to the beaches in San Diego. Karen commented there were huge runs in Tomales Bay, first arrived in 2007, then they retreated and came back again in 2016.

Rich Ambrose commented UCLA has funding to do ocean acidification modeling, and they are expanding to very nearshore. Discussion followed.

4. PRESENTATION: Final report on Bay Restoration Plan climate change vulnerability assessment project and next steps

Karina Johnston presented the CCVA final report. Discussion followed. External feedback primarily from other NEPs was positive, we set the bar high. Suzanne noted the EPA has and will share our report far and wide. Karina Johnston will send Suzanne a PDF of the presentation. Guangyu Wang discussed next

steps, primarily to consider these CCVA findings when revising the BRP. The role of the TAC in the next steps will be to give their input on BRP actions, based on the results of the CCVA. TAC is more in a review capacity regarding the updated BRP when considering the CCVA. Eric Stein expressed concern this process is moving forward in a bubble without regards to other similar projects and management areas that are occurring in the same geographic area. Steve Bay suggested one way to determine what degree of coordination is needed by determining our role in the project as noted in the BRP (i.e. lead, supporter, etc.). John Dorsey recommended convening a workshop of all these groups, or Eric Stein suggested targeted discussion. TAC's next role will be to help us prioritize. CCVA may be an addendum to the BRP. Rich Ambrose noted it might be worth it to have a separate document, which Tom noted as a possibility, due to the different time scale among other reasons. Mas suggested a general roadmap as the next steps (1- identify actionable items, 2-review and compare with other work by partners, 3-meet with others to discuss various projects and each organizations roles, etc.). Tom suggested working with select TAC members on an ad hoc basis instead of convening everyone as a group. It was then agreed that the next step is for staff to develop a road map followed by prioritizations, and capture findings into separate document which may be an addendum to the BRP. Staff also clarified that the major revision of the BRP can include additions and removals of projects, milestones, goals, etc. Johnston noted the BRP is not driven by climate change but the altered needs of the bay. Staff will have a roadmap ready at the next TAC meeting.

5. PRESENTATION: Planed update of the Santa Monica Bay Comprehensive Monitoring Program

Guangyu Wang presented a history and planed update of the Comprehensive Monitoring Program (CMP) including where TAC help will be needed. Molly Martin noted the State of the Bay (SotB) should be tied to the CMP. Rainer commented the CMP should use permit driven regulations and permit agencies along with academia to help fill data gaps. Mas suggested teasing out regulatory into two aspects POTW and NPDES (stormwater). Steve suggested a workshop, and then a discussion for implementation and noted timing is good due to the Bight program planning effort. Steve, Mas, and Karina agree they should start off using the SofB. TAC can help organize workshop, structure, synthesis, and other partners. Eric commented EWMPs are developing monitoring program so now the timing is good and added relevancy, connecting data to management decisions and prioritize that way. Linked back to management action as the big throughput otherwise it's a nice knowledge but not actionable. It was agreed that a workshop will be used to help get it done and the workshop structure will be determined at the next TAC meeting.

6. PRESENTATION: Center of Santa Monica Bay Studies

Tom Ford gave the Center for Santa Monica Bay Studies (CSMBS) update. Tom reported on the MOU with LMU, increased collaboration, and potential funding to the Center to support its work. The SofB is a potential work product the CSMBS can produce. TAC supports the partnership and agrees the CSMBS should have involvement with the TAC once the MOU is executed. TAC recommended a SotB subcommittee. Rainer suggested a model using academic mentors through the center and community member. Rainer will share the model system with Tom. John Dorsey suggested having technical papers

through the center (SCCWRP model) as opposed to Urban Coast scientific journal. Steve Bay described SCCWRP annual report format and suggested doing something similar.

The meeting adjourned at 2:09 pm.