



SAN FRANCISCO BAY
RESTORATION AUTHORITY

Governing Board

SUMMARY MINUTES

December 15, 2023

11:00 A.M. – 12:54 P.M.

Hybrid Teleconference Meeting

For additional information please contact

Paul Johnson, Clerk of the Governing Board: Paul.Johnson@scc.ca.gov

Agenda and Attachments available at:

www.sfbayrestore.org

1. Call to Order

Dave Pine, Chair of the Governing Board, called the meeting to order at 11:02 A.M.

2. Roll Call

Paul Johnson, Clerk of the Governing Board, reported that five (5) members were present: Aaron Peskin, Lisa Gauthier, Karen Holman, John Gioia, and Dave Pine.

A quorum of the Governing Board was present at 11:03 a.m. Susan Gorin joined the meeting at approximately 11:06 a.m.

3. Public Comments

No public comments were made.

4. Board Member Announcements

There were no board member announcements.

5. Chair's Report

Chair Pine made no announcement.

6. Approval of Summary Minutes of October 20, 2023

Summary Minutes of the Governing Board Meeting of October 20, 2023 were approved with no corrections.

Moved and seconded.

Ayes: Holman, Gioia, Peskin, Gauthier, Pine

After passage of this motion, Supervisor Gorin joined the meeting.

7. Acceptance of Audited Financial Statements and Reports for Fiscal Year 2022-23

Kathy Lai, Lead Engagement Partner, Crowe, LLP presented the *FY 22-23 SFBRA Audit Results and Required Communications*. Grace Martinez, Section Director, Financial Reporting & Operational Accounting, Metropolitan Transportation Commission, presented the *FY 22-23 SFBRA Financial Reports*.

Approval of the financial reports was moved and seconded.

Ayes: Holman, Gioia, Peskin, Gauthier, Gorin, Pine

8. Lower Walnut Creek Restoration Project (Augmentation)

Resolution

The San Francisco Bay Restoration Authority hereby authorizes the disbursement of an amount not to exceed three million dollars (\$3,000,000) to the Contra Costa County Flood Control and Water Conservation District (District) to augment the grant of \$7,929,855 previously authorized by the Authority on December 6, 2019, for implementation of the North and South reaches of the Lower Walnut Creek Restoration Project, consisting of restoration and enhancement of brackish tidal wetlands and adjacent uplands along the southern shore of Suisun Bay, Walnut Creek and Pacheco Creek in Contra Costa County. All conditions of the Authority's prior authorization to grant funds for this project apply to this augmentation.

Findings:

Based on the accompanying staff recommendation and attached exhibits, the San Francisco Bay Restoration Authority hereby finds that:

1. The proposed authorization is consistent with The San Francisco Bay Restoration Authority Act, Gov. Code Sections 66700-66706.
2. The proposed authorization is consistent with The San Francisco Bay Clean Water, Pollution Prevention and Habitat Restoration Measure (Measure AA).

Moved and seconded.

Ayes: Holman, Gioia, Peskin, Gauthier, Gorin, Pine

9. Appointment of New Advisory Committee Members

Jessica Davenport, Deputy Program Manager, presented Resolution 119 *Appointing Two Members to the Restoration Authority Advisory Committee*.

Moved and seconded.

Ayes: Holman, Gioia, Peskin, Gauthier, Gorin, Pine

10. Appointment of Oversight Committee Members

Karen McDowell, Deputy Program Manager, presented Resolution 120 *Appointing Two Members to Second Terms for the Independent Citizens oversight Committee.*

Moved and seconded.

Ayes: Holman, Gioia, Peskin, Gauthier, Gorin, Pine

11. Levy Report

Tim Seufert, Managing Director, NBS, presented *2023/24 Annual Levy Report for Measure AA Special Parcel Tax.*

12. Executive Reports

Luisa Valiela , U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, presented on *U.S. EPA DRAFT San Francisco Bay Geographic Program Priority List.*

Amy Hutzler, Executive Officer, highlighted that the Coastal Conservancy has submitted a \$75 million grant application to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, which successfully passed the initial phase. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, San Francisco District, is closely monitoring the Strategic Aquatic Placement Pilot Project. This process involves transferring dredge sediment from Redwood City Harbor across the Bay to the Eden Landing shoreline, aiming to assess the cost-effectiveness of nourishing marshes and mudflats. Additionally, the Corps of Engineers played a significant role, contributing 80% of the dredge sediment utilized for beneficial purposes in the Montezuma Wetland Restoration Project this year. On December 14th, 2023, a noteworthy event took place—the restoration of Salt Pond R4, spanning around 300 acres in the Ravenswood ponds. A news clip depicting the levee breach was aired, drawing attention to the event. The news clip was played for the Board.

13. Update on the North Richmond Shoreline Living Levee Project

Liz Juvera, Project Manager; Andrew Clough, West County Wastewater; Josh Bradt, Bay Area Regional Collaborative; Graham Laird Prentice, Mithun; Naama Raz-Yaseef, The Watershed Project; and Eddie Divita, Environmental Science Associates presented on the *North Richmond Shoreline Living Levee Project.*

14. Advisory Committee Chair’s Report

Advisory Committee (AC) Chair Jessica Martini-Lamb presented an update on the Committee’s activity since the October 20 Governing Board meeting. The AC last convened on November 3rd, where the agenda included the presentation of the BRITT Annual Report and the BCDC Sediment for Wetland Adaptation Project. During the meeting, the AC received an update from Authority Staff on proposed Equity Guidelines. Members were tasked with considering whether to recommend the adoption of these guidelines to the Governing Board. A robust discussion ensued among committee members regarding whether to allow additional time for Authority staff to address comments from the AC and bring the guidelines back at the next meeting or to expedite the process by recommending them to the Governing Board right away. The AC voted to direct Authority staff to respond to comments and revisit the equity guidelines at the next meeting in February. The February meeting will also feature an update on the development of tribal engagement recommendations.

15. Review Proposed Equity Guidelines

Sara Haugen, Project Manager, shared a *Presentation on Proposed Equity Guidelines*.

16. Updated on Development of Tribal Engagement Recommendations

Sara Haugen, Project Manager, presented the draft *Tribal Engagement Recommendations*.

17. Draft Response to Oversight Committee Memo

Karen McDowell, Deputy Program Manager, presented *Draft Response to the Independent Citizens Oversight Committee Letter covering Fiscal Year 2021/2022*.

18. Adjournment

Chair Pine adjourned the Governing Board meeting at 12:54 P.M.