



SAN FRANCISCO BAY
RESTORATION AUTHORITY

Governing Board

SUMMARY MINUTES

October 18, 2024

11:00 A.M. – 1:20 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 11:05 A.M.

2. Roll Call

Paul Johnson, Clerk of the Governing Board, reported that four (4) members were present, Karen Holman, Sophie Hahn, Lisa Gauthier, and Dave Pine.

A quorum of the Governing Board was present at 11:07 A.M.

John Gioia joined the meeting at 12:11 PM.

3. Public Comments

There were no public comments.

4. Board Member Announcements

5. Chair's Report

Chair Pine made no announcement.

6. Executive Reports

Amy Hutzal, Executive Officer, reported on several key items. First, she discussed the upcoming December 2024 Board Meeting and the proposed 2025 Board Meeting Schedule, noting that a memo on this topic had been circulated along with Resolution 127, which updates the December 2024 meeting time and adopts the 2025 schedule.

A send-off will take place at the December board meeting for outgoing Board Members not continuing on the board in 2025. ABAG is currently conducting a call for Board Member applications for the next four-year terms. The deadline for Board Member applications is the

end of November. Current members wishing to remain on the board are encouraged to reapply, with appointments to be made by the ABAG President.

A video highlighting the South Bay Tour was also shared during the meeting, providing a visual overview of restoration efforts in the region.

Ms. Hutzel then provided a report on expenditures and letters issued under the Executive Officer's delegated authority, referencing a memo that was distributed to the Board.

Additional announcements included updates on Proposition 4, which will be on the November ballot and includes \$85 million for projects that meet Authority or the Coastal Conservancy's SF Bay Area Conservancy Program objectives, with further funding allocated for sea level rise and coastal resilience projects statewide.

Ms. Hutzel reported on several meetings she conducted to advocate for federal funding sources for restoration work. She touched on the US EPA Bay Geographic Program, noting \$54.5 million in funding for FY 25 in the President's Budget and Senate bill, and advocacy efforts underway to increase FY 26 funding to \$75 million. Ms. Hutzel highlighted the success of the US Army Corps of Engineers funded beneficial use program, which in FY 23 placed nearly all suitable dredged sediment at wetland restoration sites. She also noted ongoing efforts to include regional sea level rise studies in the Water Resources Development Act bill, with relevant language already included in the House bill. In addition, she mentioned advocacy efforts to increase the National Wildlife Refuge budget.

Finally, Ms. Hutzel provided an update on the check fraud issue.

Amy Hutzel recommended that the board pass Resolution 127, updating the December 2024 Governing Board Meeting Time and adopting the 2025 Governing Board Meeting Schedule. The resolution was moved and seconded.

Ayes: Holman, Hahn, Gauthier, Pine

7. Approval of Summary Minutes of June 14, 2024

Summary Minutes of the Governing Board Meeting of June 14, 2024, were approved with no corrections.

Moved and seconded.

Ayes: Holman, Hahn, Gauthier, Pine

8. Advisory Committee Chair's Report

Advisory Committee (AC) Chair Jessica Martini-Lamb reported that the AC met on September 13, 2024. Key topics included approval of amendments to the AC Charter and a presentation on draft habitat quality performance measures from the Wetland Regional Monitoring Program. Updates were provided on the South Bay Salt Pond Restoration Project, communications and performance measures for the upcoming annual report, and the 8th grant round of Measure AA funding. AC members were invited to volunteer as grant application reviewers, and a call for AC member applications was announced, with applications due by November 8, 2024. The next AC meeting is scheduled for November 8, 2024.

Grant Item

9. Augmentation for Scared Spaces Community Grant

Linda Tong, Acting Deputy Program Manager, presented the staff recommendation.

Resolution:

The San Francisco Bay Restoration Authority hereby authorizes the disbursement of an amount not to exceed one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000) to Coastal Quest, fiscal sponsor of Ninth Root, to augment the grant of \$200,000 previously authorized by the Authority on March 22, 2024 to conduct the Sacred Spaces Planning Project, consisting of collecting planning data, holding community engagement workshops, and creating plans for habitat and public access enhancements along the Damon Marsh Trail, including a series of climate-resilient and culturally relevant wellness zones at Martin Luther King, Jr. Regional Shoreline in Alameda County. All conditions of the Authority's prior grant authorization 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, Hahn, Gauthier, Pine

Non-Grant Items

10. Formation of Ad Hoc Committee to Select Advisory Committee Members

Linda Tong, Acting Deputy Manager, recommended that the Governing Board authorize the Executive Officer to recruit two to three board members to form an Ad Hoc Committee to assist with the selection of new Advisory Committee members.

Sophie moved and then amended her motion, which Karen seconded, to authorize the Executive Officer to recruit two to three board members, potentially including former board members whose term ended in 2024/25, to an ad hoc advisory committee to assist with the selection of new Advisory Committee members.

Moved and seconded.

Ayes: Holman, Hahn, Gauthier, Pine

11. Draft Staff Response to Oversight Committee Letter

Karen McDowell, Deputy Program Manager, presented the memo on the Draft Staff Response to the Independent Citizens Oversight Committee Letter.

12. Measure AA: Voter Analysis for the Ballot Measure

David Lewis, Save the Bay, presented on voter analysis for Measure AA.

There were two public comments on the Measure AA voter analysis presentation.

Public Comments: Gita Dev and Rebecca Groves.

13. Wetlands Regional Monitoring Program Performance Measures Update

Karen Verpeet and Melissa Foley, San Francisco Estuary Institute, presented the Wetlands Regional Monitoring Program Performance Measures Update.

**14. Annual Performance Assessment of Bay Restoration Regulatory Integration Team
(BRRIT)**

Frances Malamud-Roam, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Current Chair of the BRRIT Policy Management Committee and BRRIT staff, and Sahrye Cohen, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Liaison to the BRRIT Policy and Management Committee, presented the Bay Restoration Regulatory Integration Team's (BRRIT) 2024 Annual Report.

15. Yearly Update on Implementation of Equity Guidelines

This item agenda was postponed by the Executive Officer to the December 2024 meeting.

16. Plan to Achieve Measure AA Campaign Goals

This item agenda was postponed by the Executive Officer to the December 2024 meeting.

17. Adjournment

Chair Pine adjourned the Governing Board meeting at 1:20 P.M.