

**BIG SUR MULTI-AGENCY ADVISORY COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES FOR OCTOBER 26, 2018
PFIEFFER BIG SUR LODGE CONFERENCE CENTER
47225 HIGHWAY 1, BIG SUR, CALIFORNIA 93920**

I. CALL TO ORDER

Supervisor Mary Adams called the meeting to order at 10:07 am.

II. ROLL CALL AND INTRODUCTIONS

Roll call and introductions were made. Agency attendees: Rick Aldinger (Big Sur Chamber of Commerce), Butch Kronlund (Coast Property Owners Association), Martha Karstens (Resident of Big Sur – North Coast), Anneliese Agren (Resident of Big Sur – South Coast), Fin Eifert (USFS), Katharine Moon (US Congress), Supervisor Mary Adams, Sara von Schwind (Caltrans), Karen Grimmer (Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary), Michael Watson (California Coastal Commission); John Palaniuk (Monterey Peninsula Regional Park District), Jacqueline Onciano (Monterey County Resource Management Agency).

PROCEEDINGS

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

- Supervisor Adams made two corrections to the Minutes of August 11, 2018. Sara von Schwind’s name is spelled Sara without an “h”. Supervisor Adams also amended the Ms. von Schwind’s report to read “The County is working on the resolution/ordinance to make the no parking area by Point Lobos. When the permit application has been received by Caltrans, Caltrans will review the documentation, Sara will sign a no parking order, and the County should be issued a permit to sign the area for no parking.”

IV. PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS:

- **Rich Larsen** – Asked if No Parking order would be stalled by California Coastal Commission. Jacqueline Onciano of County RMA responded that Monterey County is proceeding with the Ordinance. Will work with Coastal Commission. Any Coastal Development Permit is appealable by the Coastal Commission. RMA will meet with Coastal Commission over next couple of weeks.
- **Mike Caplin** – Made two announcements. 1) California Coastal Trail - Planning process is about to start. Sample map was provided. Visit www.bigsurcct.net and sign up. No representatives currently from Monterey County, California Coastal Commission, or Coastal Conservancy. Agencies who have signed up were noted. Brochure on back table. 2) Appendix D of the Monterey County Community Wildfire Protection Plan (Recommended Fuel Reduction Projects) is currently being updated. Public agencies and homeowners’ associations who want specific fuel reduction projects included, please send email to info@firesafemonterey.org with language to add to Appendix D. Included projects will have higher likelihood of grant funding.
- **Kristin Skromme (Waste Management)** – Gave an update on the Big Sur cleanup event that was held on October 13 at the Big Sur Multi-Agency Facility. Mattresses, Yard Waste, Furniture, Appliances, Metals, Tires, and Household Hazardous Waste were collected. Monterey Regional Waste Management District, Monterey County, and Waste Management hired contractors at Stericycle for this event. Ms. Skromme thanked State Parks, the USFS, CalTrans for coordination. Over six tons of material and over three tons of hazardous waste were collected. Martha Karstens added that it was a wonderful event and well-coordinated.
- **Aegnus Jeffers** – Mr. Jeffers was present on behalf of client Blaze Engineering. Shared history with Blaze. Asked Community to support Blaze who has been evicted from current location. Blaze plans to move to 2.5 commercially zoned acres next door but has opposition from two neighbors. Mr. Jeffers requested community support in form of letters and stories about Blaze’s work in the community.

- **Tom Collins** – Lives on Alms Ridge. Referenced controlled access to Nordoff Ridge. Mr. Collins would like for USFS to institute same controls on Alms Ridge. Fin Eifert of USFS responded he would find out for Mr. Collins how to accomplish this and report back.
- **Dana Carnazzo** – Represents property owners at Bixby. Thanked CalTrans for information about CalTrans' scope of enforcement at Bixby Bridge. Private property owners are working on east side of road to create more signage. Ms. Carnazzo reiterated dangerous situations she sees on the west side of highway where visitors climb down the cliff. Requested more signage over the edge that shares the danger of the cliffside. Not visible, not in the viewshed, but indicates level of danger. Ms. Carnazzo demonstrated bull horn she bought to get visitors off her driveway.

V. OLD BUSINESS:

- There was no Old Business.

VI. NEW BUSINESS:

Item 1.

- Highway 1 Coordination and Communication agenda item addressed lack of communication among County and State Agencies along Highway 1 corridor. Kate Daniels provided overview of the item: Jacqueline Onciano of Monterey County Resource Management Agency to discuss the permitting of special events along the corridor that impact access, Sara von Schwind to discuss Caltrans permitting and coordination of film permits and construction along the corridor, Mike Watson to discuss where public safety and access intersect in Coastal Act, Kate Daniels to provide update from State Parks on the most heavily congested State Parks locations along the corridor such as Garrapata and Julia Pfeiffer Burns, MCSO and CHP to weigh in on role during special events and construction projects.
- Goal of this agenda item is to better utilize BSMAAC to communicate on the front end of impacts to the corridor versus once an issue has occurred.
- RMA Jacqueline Onciano walked BSMAAC through the County Events permitting and Events Calendar (<http://montereyco.maps.arcgis.com/apps/Shortlist/index.html?appid=d24344d65e7443889cf6cae29f95bd75>) What events along corridor Highway 1 Corridor trigger a permit was discussed. No specific number of attendees triggers a permit along Highway 1. No events ordinance exists currently. Lead time in permitting is an issue. Ms. Onciano invites community to share events with the County that are not on the calendars.
- Sara von Schwind – Permits are a joint effort with the County. Typically, film permits are not issued between Labor Day and Memorial Day. Martha Diehl asked for clarification and said she was told by Caltrans that the rule only applied to filming that shut down the Highway. Ms. von Schwind responded that that was not her understanding. Both Ms. Onciano and Ms. von Schwind said they would look into it. Permits are issued by Caltrans for events that are in Caltrans right-of-way to ensure activities are safe and include traffic control. Ms. Onciano added that biggest challenge is last minute permit requests. Senator Monning asked Ms. Onciano what the lead time is for a permit. Ms. Onciano responded that there is no current Event Ordinance and explained the County's history drafting an Event Ordinance. Leadtime is a question that needs to be answered.
- Sara von Schwind introduced Susana Cruz who communicates construction projects to agencies and the community. Caltrans provides lists of upcoming projects to all local agencies. Used Climbing Lane project as example. The project was on CalTrans' list, including what was provided to BSMAAC, for years. Projects are restricted by seasons and the environment.
- Kate Daniels provided Brent Marshall's comments. Mr. Marshall reported Julia Pfeiffer Burns is most congested area. State Parks is working on a reservation system for Day Use visitors and a shuttle up in

the Point Lobos Area. Shuttle Bus trial and Reservation system will help to inform next steps along the coast.

- Mike Watson – Spoke about temporary event permits – they are rare. Most permitting is County jurisdiction unless completely within USFS or below the mean high tide line. Permits are required for events between Memorial Day and Labor Day that either block access to the beach or when fees are charged for access. Coastal Act requires that access be maximized consistent with public safety needs. In permitting, Coastal Commission takes in to consideration public safety as well as other concerns addressed by the Coastal Act.
- Karen Grimmer addressed overflight zone along Big Sur Coast where permit is required and issued by the National Marine Sanctuary. National Marine Sanctuary has received many requests for filming lately, especially along the Bixby Bridge in the overflight zone. Marine Sanctuary coordinates with all agencies and Marine Sanctuary issues permits. If unsure if a permit has been issued, call NOAA hotline 800-853-1964.
- Senator Monning asked about permitting decisions. Will County deny a permit? What are criteria that lead to denial of a permit. Jacqueline Onciano responded that permitting criteria has not been developed and she has not seen the County deny an event before due to political blowback. Senator Monning suggested the County include required lead time in an Event Ordinance. He suggested the County also include remedies against event that proceeds without a permit. Sara von Schwind added that Caltrans will deny a permit when operational impacts will occur. Senator Monning suggested improvements to proactively message the public more effectively. Cited the public safety challenge created when law enforcement is asked to mobilize on short notice. Also puts first responders at risk. We must be able to say no with enough lead time, so event has not done advanced publicity. Sara von Schwind added that the financial benefit of the events is positive, so we do try very hard to say yes.
- Captain Cardoza – CHP mainly looks at projects and events from impacts to traffic and public safety. Any event or construction project that shuts down the road comes through CHP for reimbursable contract for traffic control. When there are concerns, alternate routes may be recommended, or proposal may be denied.
- Sheriff Bernal asked for an enforceable ordinance, so MCSO could cite illegal drone activity. Karen Grimmer said Marine Sanctuary ordinance is a federal regulation. No signage exists along coast that refers to federal drone ordinance. Any law enforcement officer can use this ordinance to issue a citation from Carmel River to Cambria. Ordinance is mean high water out. Along the highway is not included in federal drone ordinance.
- Rick Aldinger asked what remedies do we have when activities fall outside a permit? Need to ensure that whatever rules, regulations, permits, permit restrictions are developed, there are resources for enforcement.
- Butch Kronlund asked what threshold is for needing a permit for cycling event. Sara von Schwind responded if it is an organized event with publicity then it generally meets the threshold for a conversation about permitting. Chief Karstens would like to see County and Caltrans create cycling event permitting criteria. Chief Karstens would also like for County and Caltrans to set criteria needed a dedicate an ambulance for cycling event.
- Dana Carnazzo – Can we coordinate a sign at Bixby that with picture of drone with line through it that cites the federal regulations? Improved communication between Film Commission and Community has occurred. But help is needed with the drone situation. Commented that bike events with permits have port-a-potties. No permits, no port-a-potties.
- Martha Diehl – Commented that a permit never refused is added publicity. Asked for rules to be uniform. Ms. Diehl is concerned that the rules do not apply to events on the Highway One Corridor.

Asked that Caltrans investigate what has been told to her by the Film Commission about no filming between Memorial Day and Labor Day only applying to filming that shut down the highway.

(Supervisor Adams left the meeting.)

- Pam Silkwood – Commented that Monterey County has been inconsistent when permit is required and when it is not. Ms. Silkwood is unclear why Monterey County needs a separate ordinance when Title 20 Ordinance addressing the assembly of people exists. Why not enforce this current ordinance? Drones cannot fly over private land and violate people’s privacy is the law. Senator Monning added there is a state law that includes intrusion of private property by drones.
- Barbara Woyt – Requested that we begin to audio record BSMAAC meetings. Kate Daniels will bring to Supervisor Adams the idea of recording the meetings and perhaps modifying the extent of what is produced in the minutes. Commented on the development of a new ordinance for events and asked, how will we enforce? Commented that when you add in the cost of enforcement alongside costs to safety and first responders the question becomes is revenue source cost effective.
- Heather Lanier – Commented that conversation is largely about education - educating people to know they need permits. Asked Kate Daniels if anyone is looking at total carrying capacity on top of events? Asked how we are managing education, enforcement, health, and safety. Kate Daniels shared the work of the Destination Management Group and shared about the enabling ordinance for the Byway Organization to implement the Big Sur Coast Highway Management Plan. Ordinance will be on the Monterey County Board of Supervisor’s agenda in the new year and will be staffed by the Monterey County Convention and Visitors Bureau.
- Melissa Morris, manager of Glen Oaks commented that she knows nine months to a year before a bike tour comes through because of hotel reservations. If she knew what the County needed, she could pass along that information to event organizers.
- Dana Carnazzo – Asked which agency has ability to put up a No Drone sign at Bixby. Sara von Schwind responded that whomever put the sign up would need an encroachment permit from Caltrans. Ms. Carnazzo requested permitting agencies to require permits on site.

Item 2:

- Introduction to Monterey County Connect by Paresh Patel Monterey County IT. Mr. Patel gave an overview of the App. App enables the public to view or pay property tax bills, view parcel information, report road issues to Public Works, report an unpermitted event to the Planning Department, and much more. Senator Monning asked Community and Agencies to Download App between now and next BSMAAC and make recommendations for any gaps in the software. For example, NOAA hotline for drone abuse.

VII. REPORTS FROM MEMBER AGENCIES:

- **Anneliese Agren** (Resident of Big Sur – South Coast) – Thanked CalTrans for July 18 Mud Creek opening. Thanked USFS for various community requests. Thanked Parks Management for trash they are dealing with. Thanked Anna Caballero for bathroom effort. Appealed to Monterey County Public Works for road base work and vegetation management on the South Coast. Appealed to Congressman Panetta for USFS funding. Appealed to community to vote No on 6 which would overturn SB1. SB1 will provide \$6.5 billion per year to roads, highway, and bridge maintenance. Encouraged community to plan for increased visitation due to that new flight routes to/from Monterey Airport and San Luis Obispo Airport.

- **Martha Karstens** (Resident of Big Sur – North Coast) – The Big Sur River Run is tomorrow. The run has not happened for last two years. Registration is down. If not enough runners, event will not continue. Nepenthe Bal Masque coming up on October 31. All proceeds benefit Big Sur Fire. Big Sur Fire had a booth at the Jade Festival. They are selling all their old logo inventory. Will also have table at the Grange for the Fall Harvest Arts and Craft Fair. Dates are Friday, 23 – Sunday, 25. Chief Karsten’s thanked Caltrans for berm at Soberanes. Cited post office parking and Henry Miller Library events as traffic concerns from residents. Big Sur Fire received a donation for a drone program to help with locating victims along the coast as well as real time observation during a fire. Big Sur Fire has purchased a rescue truck
- **Rick Aldinger** (Big Sur Chamber of Commerce) – Business continues to recover from events of last two years. Chamber continues to work with local stakeholders on the Destination Management Plan. Mr. Aldinger thanked Nepenthe for commitment to community and to Waste Management for the big cleanup event. It would be nice to see this event happen again twice per year.
- **Butch Kronlund** (CPOA) – Described the process of getting the Destination Management Plan off the ground. Pfeiffer Beach shuttle demonstration project and the loss of Shuttle Operator Weston Call. Calls have agreed to continue demonstration project in 2019. Goal is to significantly reduce traffic on Sycamore Canyon Road, institute a reservation system, and a robust shuttle service. Working closely with Parks Management and the USFS. Mr. Kronlund thanked Brent Marshall for clearing the logjam in Big Sur River that has been in place since January 2017.
- **Jacqueline Onciano** (Monterey County Resource Management Agency) – Gave update that RMA Planning is two-thirds of the way through the BSLUP update. RMA will likely come back to LUAC’s before the end of the year. Will come back first to residents and then go to Coastal Commission. Events calendar access through www.co.monterey.ca.us then go to RMA and you will see events calendar. Mary Trotter asked why there was not a dedicated right turn on to Carmel Valley Road as part of the Highway 1 Climbing Lane project. Kate Daniels responded that she was told there were engineering challenges to adding a dedicated right-hand turn lane such as ensuring the lanes and both sides of the intersection aligned and the steep slope to the right of the highway. Mike Caplin thanked Ms. Onciano for coming back to LUACs before taking the updated BSLUP to the Coastal Commission. Mr. Caplin asked Ms. Onciano if they would see a marked-up copy of the plan. She responded, “yes.”
- **Mary Adams** (District 5, Monterey County Board of Supervisors) – Supervisor Adams departed. No report given.
- **John Palaniuk** (Monterey Peninsula Regional Park District) – Reported on the opening of Palo Corona Regional Park. Over 200 participants gathered on September 28th for music, speakers, food and hiking. The General Development Plan for Palo Corona Regional Park is undergoing environmental review. Upon completion, there will be more public access. Park District recently completed all 2016-2017 winter storm damage. Mill Creek Redwood Preserve remains closed due to Soberanes Fire damage and Palo Colorado road closure.
- **Mike Watson** (California Coastal Commission) – Reported on Big Creek Bridge Application, Big Sur Deli Application, and Tesla Charging Station at Ventana. Tesla Charging Station is an immaterial amendment to original permit that will be before the Commission this month. Since last BSMAAC,

Coastal Commission has worked with Monterey County on an emergency permit to allow for removal of dead trees in Palo Colorado Canyon. Extended offer to utilize this approach elsewhere in the County for fuel management purposes. Mr. Watson is looking forward to working on 2019 Sycamore Canyon Shuttle Demonstration Project. Thanked Coastal Trail Working group for inviting Coastal Commission to working group and said he was looking forward to participating. Senator Monning asked Mr. Watson about the State Parks' Reservation system at Point Lobos. Mr. Watson responded that he is reviewing the State Parks General Plan and will have comments soon. Also, he will be meeting with ParkIt! group and working with them on a strategy to address all aspects of their plan. Mary Trotter commented on the issue of original jurisdiction over the Deli/Tap Room permit – that local input is bypassed. Mr. Watson said he did promise all projects would go through LUACs. Said that the LUAC did approve that project. Mike Caplin thanked Mr. Watson for supporting fuel mitigation efforts in the coastal zone. Barbara Woyt commented that the Historical Resources Review Board had responded that the wall that was built at the Post Homestead was not what they had approved. Ventana had offered to make it right but community efforts have stalled. Ms. Woyt feels that the process of original jurisdiction and immaterial amendments leaves community without ability to uphold tenants of the Land Use Plan. Senator Monning asked Mr. Watson to consider facilitating improved communication with new Ventana Management and the community. Mary Trotter added that LUACs were asked to comment on Tesla Charging Station but not on new bathrooms built behind the Post Homestead.

- **Sara von Schwind** (Caltrans) CalTrans will be closing Route 1 at Paul's Slide for two nights on the 28th and 29th of October. Before winter starts, CalTrans will be looking at preemptively closing the highway if Caltrans anticipates a large winter storm event. Concern about public safety at Mud Creek and Paul's Slide. The cracks apparent at Mud Creek are due to settling and consolidation. CalTrans is aware of the cracks and crack sealing is being done. Under normal circumstances, settling would have been allowed to occur prior to the reopening of the road. The Traffic Demand Management is ongoing. A consultant has been hired. They are completing a destination and origin study and will be holding community meetings in the future as well as returning to BSMAAC. Butch Kronlund asked if locked gates would be installed at road closure locations. Ms. von Schwind responded "yes." Martha Karstens asked if this would be for Paul's Slide and Mud Creek. Ms. von Schwind and Chief Karstens will connect regarding gate codes.
- **Brent Marshall** (State Parks) – Written report was shared earlier in the meeting by Kate Daniels. No further report. Mary Trotter asked about the opening of the Naval facility for tourism. Commented it needed to be brought before the entire community. Ms. Trotter read in Lighthouse Keepers newsletter that the facility was opening for tours. BSMAAC exists for the purposes of daylighting these plans. Requested we place this item for a future BSMAAC meeting agenda. Gentleman from Lighthouse Keepers responded that State Parks has not given any authority to the Lighthouse Keepers to conduct tours. They are preparing to do so and will be getting authorization from State Parks before proceeding with tours. Kate Daniels will connect with Brent Marshall before next BSMAAC meeting and follow up via email.
- **Karen Grimmer** (Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary) – Provided update on marine research ships within the Marine Sanctuary. The Nautilus has found octopus gardens and jumbo squid while the Shimada will be studying newly established essential fish habitats. Sanctuary divers recently conducted exploration and monitoring at Mud Creek to see how the habitat is recovering from landslide. Relocated abalone to Piedras Blancas from Mud Creek are doing well. Elephant Seal season is coming up. Reminder to not disturb the seas and to call NOAA Hotline to report any seal disturbances. Reported on

an Ocean Protection Council grant funding opportunity for restoration projects that increase marine life associated with Marine Protected Areas for projects that are close to power plants. Big Sur may qualify because of proximity to Diablo Canyon.

- **Fin Eifert** (USFS) – Mr. Eifert introduced himself to BSMAAC. He has replaced Jeff Kwansy. Reported that the Strategic Community Fuelbreak document is being finalized. Mr. Eifert expects implementation beginning next season. Rec signs with fire danger and trail maintenance information have been installed on Nacimiento Fergusson, Plaskett, and Los Burros Road. Fire crews been working to remove hazardous trees along Los Burros Road. Approximately 250 hazardous trees have been removed so far along a 1.5-mile section of road. Mr. Eifert looks forward to engaging further with BSMAAC. Senator Monning welcomed Mr. Eifert. Mike Caplin thanked him for report on Community Strategic Fuelbreak Project but hopes the project is a start to a more meaningful fuel break.
- **Aline Reyna** (representing Anna Caballero, 30th District, State Assembly) – Neither the Assemblymember or Aline Reyna representing the Assemblymember were able to make the BSMAAC meeting due to the date change. Kate Daniels delivered short report from the Assemblymember thanking the Big Sur Community for their engagement at BSMAAC and the community for the opportunity to serve them for the past two years. The Assemblymember committed herself to work on the restroom issue along the coast. She thanked State Parks for the new restroom signage at Pfeiffer State Park, Andrew Molera State Park, and Julia Pfeiffer Burns State Park. Each new location has two signs – one facing the north and one facing the south. She also thanked State Parks for the new restrooms that are in development at Garrapata State Park.
- **Bill Monning** (17th District, State Senate) – Senator Monning shared Herald article by Lisa Kreiger discussing visitation challenges facing Big Sur and other areas. Thanked Caltrans for the Mud Creek reopening and the continued work at Paul’s Slide and to all the community for “forbearance and support.” Urged strongly voting no on Prop 6 for road and bridge safety not only for Big Sur but for all of Monterey County. Senator Monning’s Senate Bill 1079 was signed by the Governor which allows for advance payment to Fire Safe Councils versus prior reimbursement system. Big Sur is within risk zone of Diablo Canyon. Diablo Canyon Power Plant. Diablo Canyon is scheduled for decommissioning in next seven to eight years. Senate Bill 1090 is the most important legislation for continued safe operation of the facility. Bulk of the funding through SB1090 will retain skilled work force at the nuclear power plant. Senator Monning thanked Mike Caplin for his continued leadership on the Coastal Trail. Commented that community involvement is the cornerstone of this vision to have community be primary voice in the alignment conversation. Senator Monning also thanked Pam Peck for her ongoing involvement and he thanked his District Director Nicole Hollingsworth who is the point person for Big Sur. Mike Caplin thanked Senator Monning for his role in giving the community the opportunity to plan the Coastal Trail’s alignment through the Big Sur Community. He also thanked the Senator for the new fire legislation citing the critical change in the way the State pays out grant funds. Mr. Caplin also mentioned additional grant funding for fuel reduction in the State of California to prepare for wildfires.
- **Katharine Moon** (representing Jimmy Panetta, 20th District, United States Congress) – Congressman could not be here because of local visit by Senator Feinstein. Farm Bill remains in Conference, but Congressman is hopeful it will pass this time. Farm Bill is critical for SNAP, on which 40 million Americans rely for food. Farm Bill also critical for local Ag Industry. Congressman Panetta also strongly supported Wildfire Funding fix changes in 2018 Omnibus bill to address the problem of USFS running out of fuel mitigation funding. Fix comes into effect in FY2020. Office continues to work with

community, Parks Management, USFS and Sur Transportation on Sycamore Canyon Shuttle program. District Director Kathleen Lee will continue to engage with community stakeholders, MCCVB, and elected officials' offices on Destination Management for Big Sur. Pam Silkwood asked where she could go to find the language of the Omnibus bill. Ms. Moon suggested CRS.gov but said she would follow up with exact details.

VIII. REPORTS FROM OTHER AGENCIES ON ISSUES PERTINENT TO BIG SUR:

- **Captain Kelly Cardoza** (California Highway Patrol) – Countywide DUI collisions are increasing due to drivers under the influence of drugs. CHP has the enforcement side handled but called on the Community to help with the educational component. With the legalization of cannabis, CHP has found that many people believe that it is legal to drive under the influence of cannabis. 87% of all fatal collisions right now are due to drivers under the influence. That number had decreased substantially prior to legalization of cannabis and now there is an increase statewide. Jacqueline Onciano requested that CHP come to the County. CHP is statewide coordinator for drug expert recognition programs and they trail all allied agencies. Community member asked if anything was being done at the School District. Captain Cardoza responded “yes.” Captain Cardoza offered her phone number to reach her: 831-770-8000. Captain Cardoza also gave update on CHP resident officer housing project. Project did go out to bid and bid walk has occurred. Funding has been set aside. Moving forward at the “State’s pace.” Senator Monning added that another big issue is distracted driving. Changes were made this year that not only would a texting and driving lead to a citation, but it will now also lead to a point on your insurance rating. Don’t text and drive. Jacqueline Onciano added that her son went through the Start Smart program.
- **Sargent Dave Murray** (Monterey County Sheriff’s Department) Sargent Murray recently transferred to Monterey County. He introduced himself to BSMAAC.

IX. NEXT MEETING: TBD

X. ADJOURNMENT: Senator Monning adjourned the meeting at 1:45 pm in honor of Weston Call.