

FINAL Meeting Minutes

Big Sur Multi-Agency Advisory Council Meeting

Friday, June 9th 2023

10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Big Sur Lodge, 47225 Highway One, Big Sur, CA 93920

Congressman Jimmy Panetta and Supervisor Mary Adams, Co-Chairs

FINAL MEETING MINUTES

I. Call to Order - 10:03am by Chair Panetta

II. Roll Call and Introductions

- a. Big Sur Resident, North Coast – Martha Karstens
- b. Big Sur Resident, South Coast – Bree Harlan
- c. Big Sur Chamber of Commerce - Kirk Gafill
- d. Community Association of Big Sur – Pam Peck
- e. Monterey County Planning Department – Melanie Berretti
- f. Monterey Peninsula Regional Park District – Joe Navarez
- g. California Coastal Commission – Sean Drake
- h. Caltrans – John Olejnik
- i. California State Parks and Recreation – Marcos Ortega
- j. Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary - Absent
- k. United States Forest Service - Jeanie Dawson
- l. 5th District, Monterey County Board of Supervisors – Mary Adams
- m. 30th District, California State Assembly – Alexis Garcia-Arrezola
- n. 17th District, California State Senate – Kate Daniels
- o. 19th District, United States Congress – Jimmy Panetta

III. Approval of the March 3, 2023 Draft Minutes

Correction to the spelling of Heather Lanier name

Motion by Kirk Gafill, Second by Melanie Beretti, all in favor.

IV. Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items – limited to 3 minutes

Peggy Goodale: What is the status of the time change for PST/daylight savings?

Congressman Panetta responded: He will get back to her, this previous congress voted. Staff can assist.

Steve Beck: The next time this group meets, the Pampas Grass will be in bloom. Winter slides. The landscape of Big Sur is changing, and non-natives have changed the area.

Marcos responds: Provides a little bit of a background. State Parks completed a mapping project from Point Lobos to Andrew Molera. Public agencies working with residents to address invasive species specifically. Acknowledging Keep Big Sur Wild for their efforts.

Dana Carnazzo: Representing Bixby Bridge residents. Non-profit a part of landowners. We expect to be able to get to and from properties. Bottom line. Bixby Bridge public safety. I had a

blood clot in my leg and I was trapped without being able to get out. It has to stop. We can't have people parking on Old Coast Road for visiting the Bixby Bridge. Public Roads of the County, required to get people to and from their home safely.

Sharon Wilson – Member of Keep Big Sur Wild. Put up flyers, one is for tourist to not pull pampas grass and drive it down the highway spreading seeds. And for homeowners to take their pampas grass off. Working with residents on Weston Ridge. Big Sur River Run on October 28th in this beautiful park. Please sign up and sponsor. Three musical groups. Hope everyone can join.

Lindsay Romanov – South Coast LULAC. Los Burros Road is really really bad. Plans to fix it, work would start at the beginning of June, and nothing has happened. I have been here for 50 years, and I have never seen the road in this poor condition.

Jeanne Dawson (USFS) responds that she will share an update on this in her member report.

Marcus Foster – Keep Big Sur Wild, South Coast LUAC. Mismanagement of Big Sur in general. Visit California, state and county uses of Big Sur have been to promote and market to all of California. But we don't seem to bring resources back to manage the visitation. Would love to see more resources going towards invasive plant species. Bixby Bridge, I wish everyone could go and sit there for an hour or two on a weekend to see the over visitation and congestion impacts. Drive by and cars are parked illegally. Law enforcement doesn't give tickets. Are there natural ways to prevent people from parking, like rocks? Italy took action, you can not stop here to take a selfie and block parking.

Tori Buckles – sycamore canyon. Thank you to the USFS for the work that has been done this winter. The road has been closed. Bixby Bridge, part of the stopping is pedestrians crossing the highway, and if that isn't allowed, that might help a little bit.

Dianne Ballantyne – Big Sur Commerce and Fernwood. Thank you to whoever has been cleaning the Highway, like San Jose to Monterey. Just drove on Friday and the road looks amazing! I know we do our own clean up in Big Sur as residents, but the areas outside have improved!

Kate Daniels Responded that Caltrans have gotten back on top of it.

Mike Caplin – Three points. One, report on Caltrans when they will mow along the Highway. It looks like a fire hazard. Mow too early may not be best. Monterey County Community wildfire plan, appendix D wildfire fuel reduction work. Updating this is important for when people apply for grants. People can submit proposed high priority wildfire protection plans. Send an email to CDPP@firesafemonterey.org Process takes place every four years,

Steve Beck – requesting signage that the Highway is closed.

Dana Carnazzo – cones are working on the ocean side of Bixby. I'd like to see k-rails along the canyon side of Old Coast Road No Parking signs.

Marcus Foster – moratorium on filming Netflix series and commercials.

Dan Perlstein - The agencies that market, should be responsible for cleaning it.

V. New Business - none

VI. Old Business

a. Nacimiento-Fergusson Road Update - Federal Highway Administration

Jeanne Dawson from USFS on FHW update. We have great progress. The contract for the original sites identified have been incorporated and awarded on Monday, June 5th.

Congressman Panetta asked for timeline.

Jeanne Dawson described timeline and the requirement to complete NEPA requirements.

Congressman Panetta said you know we have been having bi-monthly calls. The contractor should be part of those calls. To be kept on timeline. You can reach out to my office to express your concerns to the Federal Gov to make sure they are keeping on the timeline.

Kate Daniels: My question was, if there was a full closure of Naci-Ferg during construction, how will residents be impacted through isolation.

Jeanne Dawson: I don't know the answer, but we are putting together robust communication plans. Equipment will be out, and access will not be possible.

Kate: the calls have been helpful. Reached out to the water boards preemptively. Water was an issue.

Jeanne Dawson. Added 12 culverts and 4 walls because of the modification. Original contract was 3 walls and we added 3 more walls. I know this has been taking some time, but we have been able to capture the additional damage.

Kate: And you found a way to fund it. That is impressive.

Jeanne Dawson: Thank you, we have been working with FHW for the last 3-4 months. \$182 million of damages across the Los Padres National Forest. We are happy that this piece is moving forward.

Supervisor Adams: Thank you, Public Works working hand and glove and keeping the road open. My question is how are you planning to communicate with residents?

Jeanne Dawson: Communicating onsite. We are looking for comments and feedback.

Supervisor Adams: Electronic signs with Caltrans.

Kirk Gafill: How will the weather impact construct? Comment and request for communication. As an institutional challenge for all agencies for opening roads, strong desire to avoid meeting deadlines. But I would urge you to keep in mind that residents and business require info for planning purposes. We are responsible for our own choices in that regard.

Alexis Garcia-Arrazola: type of communication, they will be trying to do real-time info updates.

Marcus Foster: long term plans for rebuilding Naci-Ferg Fire Station

Lindsay Romanov: Los Burros is not passable for the public. The road is incredibly rutted.

Jeanne Dawson: Contractor working on Los Burros, but we don't have a timeline.

Lindsay: We would like to know when the road is passable especially when the Naci-Ferg Is under construction.

Bree Harlan: Semantics, while under construction, residents are different than the public.

Residents need the road to live their lives. Is there a different allowance for residents?

Tom Collins: CABS and resident of the South Coast. Post regular back country roads update.

Long standing agreement, that Naci-Ferg will have the East Side open always, and a few

operations only, west side closure the whole time without interruptions, Fin has always said there will not be a shut down of the west side without the Los Burros Road complete.

Jeanne Dawson says: We don't know if we will have the same contractor for the Los Burros project.

Tom Collins: I have asked Fin and I would like to ask you; I would like to volunteer as communications between contractor and residents. Communication is very important to them.

Lindsay: This is a tremendous project you all are working on. Once this is complete, it is going to allow access to a lot of people for backcountry dispersed planning, and planning for management of camping.

Jeanne Dawson: Thank you for teeing that up. And thank you for the funding!

b. Big Sur Byway Organization Report – Martha Diehl

Martha Diehl: I am asking for a bit of engagement at this time. Many people are not familiar with the establishing document. Coast Highway Management Plan, Caltrans heavy lift to bring this multi-year collaboration of this document. Reading out loud: keeping the highway safe, reliable and good repair is a challenge for Caltrans. The work can sometimes conflict with resource preservation and visitation. Caltrans cannot management the road alone. Collaboration is needed. 19 steering member committee. Evaluate problems and grant solutions. Creating management framework

Early scoping identified key issues, storm damage, maintenance, scenic and habitat conservation, public access and recreation. Pass around sign membership on who built this document. To do all of the things that we JUST talked about. Weed control, Bixby, multi-jurisdictional. Was supposed to be a means of working on these issues. Issue of administration. Our challenge is that the County Board of Supervisors made us a public committee under the Brown Act. Resources are not there, and we can't solve the issues in our own agencies.

We are asking each agency to do two things. Can you offer a commitment of some amount of funding or staff time that we can count on? The signatories were public sector and private leaders who felt that this would help solve the problems we are talking about today. PLEASE guide the Byway Org to do what the BSMAAC wants. Guidance on how we would interact. Would items be discussed at the Byways once they were referred by the BSMAAC? Craft a solution and work with others to address funding.

Two openings on Byway, Highlands and South Coast. A few people have expressed interest, but these are open and available to apply. Just mention to agency representatives, only the representative who serves on the Byway is the only one who can vote. Carmel Highlands Fire Station to meet in person with the option to join by zoom. Next official meeting is September 9th. The place where we need to get involved is in the PLANNING phase of project. Before the project comes down the road. We want to encourage Caltrans, if we are here to help, it is at a point before it is on the Caltrans report paper.

Congressman Panetta: Thank you, and thanks to Caltrans for doing the excellent job they have been.

Supervisor Adams: Thank you Martha and I hope that as residents, this is a good opportunity for people to come together and work more closely with BSMAAC. Please consider serving. Most importantly, to see the vision that Martha has laid out. We will have addressed them at the beginning stage. As I was looking at the list of signers, it was all of us on the BSMAAC

John Olejnik; I have a copy of the Highway Management Plan. The document is close to 20 years old, but it is more pertinent than it has ever been. There are many items we have not addressed. Your participation in that group is appreciated. This is a hands-on approach and implementation

Kate: What is the annual funding need?

Martha: We think could take up enough for a 0.5 FTE staff member. Public Outreach and stakeholder involvement, \$100,000. It could be in-kind. D5 has been doing the work, now HCD has been helping, and MCCVB does the minutes.

Mike: I did not sign the plan at that time, I was president of Property Coast Owners, CABS members submitted during the public comment period, 80 letters, mostly touched on the same points, and they were ignored. I was not comfortable signing the document representing the association that their comments were not included.

Dana Carnazzo: I could use some guidance here. Somehow, Caltrans you were able to put together a plan. I want to understand a process for how you were able to get cones done. Martha is providing a way to get small things done.

Martha: We are trying to develop a method.

Marcus: Overmarketing. This plan was developed before iPhone and social media. Calls for creative solutions that sustain traveling the highway be pleasant. 20 years ago, we were saying g that.

Martha: We need the plan implementation piece.

VII. Reports from Member Agencies

a. Big Sur Resident, North Coast – Martha Karstens

Grange: We have had a number of classes and meetings at the Grange that meet the criteria of our Tier One definition. The cost of the rental rate that would have been paid by the people or groups renting the Grange has been covered by the grant from the Weston Call fund. Our membership is up to 106 members. Our bake sale over Memorial Day weekend was very successful, thank you to everyone who worked and/or donated baked goods!

We are planning a 75th anniversary on September 30th. Please visit us as www.bigsurgrange.org.

Historical Society: We had 2 programs recently, the first one was held at the museum for members only. There was a display of a limited number of Connie McCoy's photographs inside the museum with written descriptions and a brief history of the subjects in the photos. The second program, sponsored by the Historical Society, was a display of all of Connie's photographs. This was held at the Grange and open to the community. The photographs were displayed around the Grange hall on easels and then Connie showed them as a slide show reading the descriptions about the subjects. It was well attended and fun to see and hear a little history about each person. There will be training for new docents tomorrow (Saturday) at the museum at 3:00. It will be for about an hour. Work is continuing on our new cookbook, we're

getting ready to do the layout. bigsur.cookbook@gmail.com. Please visit us at www.bigsurhistory.org.

Big Sur CERT: 9 CERT team members teamed up with Big Sur Fire to work the Marathon. Our mission was traffic control to keep the runners safe by keeping vehicles off the road/racecourse, provide any medical care needed and be communications along the racecourse. CERT members also started their refresher training last month. This was an all-day training which included medical, rescue and radio training. 2 more days will be offered over the next few months. Thank you to the Grange for allowing CERT to use the Grange with no charge. Please visit us at www.bigsurcert.org

b. Big Sur Resident, South Coast – Bree Harlan

Big Sur Big Share: food deliveries for residents down there in South Coast. Restock and resupply and get together to share experiences.

USFS deserve special thanks for your work coordinating access on the south coast roads like Naci-Ferg and maintain communication. Email list started and south coast is communicating so well together. Fin Eifert has been forthcoming with info and letting us know of what is coming on and what to expect. Residents really appreciate it. While Highway 1 has been closed. Thank you, Caltrans, for doing everything you can, with a district in your district, it is astonishing you manage to maintain it as well as you do. After this winter, with catastrophic slides, and the progress of Paul's Slide and Gilbert Creek. Paul's Slide is monumental. Issues requested to address we would like more communication regarding road status and progress with slides. We were having weekly status updates and would like to have photos and bullet point descriptions. General public should be separate from the south coast residents. The residents should have more access to information. There was dismay at Gilbert's, there was a passage through the yard that they restricted access. The South Coast is a little more feral and little wilder. Access, access, access. Another idea from residents. An implementation of an Incident Management Response for long-term closure. "It is on schedule, behind schedule, ahead of schedule....." as examples. People of Hermitage would really like to know. Brush clearance along highway will happen at some point. Highway is getting overgrown. Residents have expressed concern using herbicide on the weeds. Mechanical clearance. There is an issue, road closure north of Lucia. And Lucia suffered a terrible fire. The motel is still open. Due to closure north, they have been unable to get guests. Written Caltrans to move closure so Lucia can be in business again. Move closure further South. Yesterday, there was an incident for a trespasser at Lucia. Confusion on who 911 dispatch should send. They didn't know if they could send someone from the North.

c. Big Sur Chamber of Commerce - Kirk Gafill

Doesn't the TAMC report go out on a weekly basis? TAMC uses Caltrans Lane closure reports. It would be a good idea for people to be added to the email list. Diminishment of 30-35% of visitor traffic in Big Sur area. Consistent going back to the early 80s. Shaping up to one of those years where we had a long-term closure. With the continued closure of Highway 1 to the south of the Big Sur Valley, traffic levels and hospitality industry business volume is down by 30-35% which is consistent with historic experiences of south coast highway closures going back to the 1983-1984 El Nino period. The resulting loss and accumulated loss of business since the inception of the early January 2023 highway closures has had a significant negative economic impact for hospitality businesses and has notably reduce incomes, available hours, and job opportunities for local residents in the workforce. Currently, weekends have relatively strong business and traffic levels, while weekdays are very soft.

d. Community Association of Big Sur – Pam Peck

1) South Coast Road Closures

(CABS / the Big Sur Big Share have done a Food Resupply each month since March.)

There was a 4th Food Resupply on June 3rd at Pacific Valley School - this was made possible via funds donated to CABS earmarked for the South Coast and the Big Share. The Big Share, led by Helen Handshy, made the long drive around for the third time to deliver this essential food to our south coast neighbors. Approximately 80 people were served. A special thanks goes to Katie Day for helping organize this resupply as a PV board member and as the newest member of the CABS board. We eagerly await Caltrans July update regarding the timeline for reopening at Paul's slide. A point of concern is that with the closure of dispersed camping on south coast ridge roads and Los Burros road there will likely be a sizable increase in dispersed campers on Plaskett ridge this summer. Once a fire ban goes into effect, it is essential that law enforcement have a presence there in the evenings from 6 - 9pm especially on weekends. If this is not the case, we fear that our community will face another multimillion-dollar fire and the potential loss of homes and lives.

2) Fire Adapted Big Sur

CABS continues to support the work of Fire Adapted Big Sur, led by Rayner Marx

Last month Post Creek Firewise became the first Firewise recognized community in Big Sur.

This includes Coastlands, Nepenthe, Post Ranch and Ventana. Collectively, these four neighborhoods assessed their preparedness for wildfire and established goals and action plans to become more fire resilient. Achieving Firewise recognition is an initial step towards implementing the fire resiliency activities recommended in the Fire Adapted Communities component of the federal National Wildland Fire Management Strategy. Those interested in finding out more about this process (which in addition to increasing fire resiliency of homes / businesses holds the potential to lower fire insurance rates) should reach out to Rayner at info@fireadaptedbigsur.com. Additionally, there was a Fire Adapted Town Hall meeting on 5/12 at the Grange that included

discussion of a Community Emergency Response Plan, Fuel Reduction Landscape Treatment Permits, and how to achieve Firewise USA Recognition

3) Visitor Use Management

We will soon be entering the final VUM Project stage of Implementation. Upcoming Community Meetings will present the Management Strategies to bring about the Desired Conditions residents have helped to identify. Community response to these strategies and residents further suggestions will be discussed. USFS can start implementing some strategies immediately. Others may require a NEPA event. A proposed Defined Designated Camping by permit strategy is still actively being considered. The next step is Community Meetings the week of July 24th at the Big Sur Lodge for those in the North. The week of July 31st for the South Coast residents at PV School if available.

4.) New CABS Executive Director

Butch's health continues to improve and he knows that everyone is sending him positive thoughts. In a recent letter from Butch he noted that his recovery has left him with three lessons he'd like to share – Be in the now. Worrying about the past or future is a waste of energy and harmful to survival. This practice also allows your brain to not be so busy. Cultivate your compassion for others. Especially those who don't see things the way you do. Very few people are bad to the bone so finding room in your heart to hear them out takes the stress away and makes for an environment conducive to peace. Express your love and gratitude openly to others,

especially those who are helping you on your personal journey. Because of Butch's current condition and the time it will take for him to recover, the CABS board recently voted to hire Patte Kronlund as interim ED of the CABS organization, effective July 1st. Butch noted that he "believes Patte will do a better job than I have to maintain and improve CABS service to our community." The CABS board is grateful to Patte for stepping into this important role, and we know that Big Sur will benefit greatly from her leadership.

e. Monterey County Planning Department – Melanie Beretti

berettim@co.monterey.ca.us Organizational updates, this year we have been able to conversion of an existing position, we are adding two permit technicians to our planning team which will help with condition compliance and do more permit processing. In addition, extended offers to fill 3 planner vacancies. Plans and policies under development. Budget process support augmentation to HCD budget to continue general plan updates. Funding for complete vacation rental ordinance EIR. Updating three general plan elements. Environmental Justice Element is new and being developed. Generalplansupdates@co.monterey.ca.us email list. Community Housing Element Survey. Second community wide meeting related to Housing Element to plan for the next 8-year cycle accommodating state allocation of housing units. Minimum goal of 3,326 new housing units. To plan for that, we plan to accommodate over 5,000 units to reach goal. Available on HCD website you can watch the community meeting and the presentation. Sites inventory is available for comment, until June 30. No sites identified in Big Sur but identified in Carmel and Carmel Valley. Just because there are no sites included in Big Sur in the inventory, does not mean there won't be new housing units in Big Sur. Big Sur land Use Plan update, ad hoc has met 57 times. This plan is so important, and we will have this draft plan out for community to review this summer. Next week will have a more refined date. Thank you all for your engagement.

Kirk Gafill: Asked for timeline on Vacation Rental Ordinance EIR.

Melanie: I can tell you; no other jurisdiction has done an VRO EIR. We have added an additional chapter on economic and social impacts of STRs. The public draft to be released in August. Draft review period once it is released.

Kate Daniels: Clarifies economic and environmental impacts

Melanie: As a part of CEQA, not required, but impacts economic and environmental impacts. New territory.

Mike Caplin: I participated in hundreds of meetings on the Big Sur Land Use Plan update. Mary Trotter is not here. Not a member of the LUAC. Is the draft going to come back for review by the LUAC with Planning staff so that anything that needs to be hashed out can be hashed out. Kate or Martha to address.

Martha: the plan came to the Planning Commission. So, it was not in a state where the planning commission could take action. The Planning Commission sent it to the ad hoc committee. Since it is the PC, our charge is to take the draft back to the planning commission and workshop it there. But it is not planned to go to the LUAC. Personally, I think going back to LUAC would be an endless loop and previously the LUAC has been invited to participate in the hearing.

Kate adds: reiterate, the document will be released to the public for period of review. Go back to Planning Commission, workshop with the people who have been involved for the last decade.

Dana Carnazzo: Working towards creating more affordable housing. Does it mean you will be gentler with us who have land and who would like to build something? Do you think that providing that service will allow us an easier time to build?

Melanie: Big Sur specific issues trying to address in the Big Sur Land Use plan update.

Dana: With these changes, are ADU's allowed in Big Sur?

Melanie: The coastal ADU ordinance has not been certified by Coastal Commission and we have to make edits for it to be certified. It is in the works.

Dana: I had to pay a fine for a 8X8 shed for not having a design permit. How do I write a letter to appeal the fine?

Melanie: I'll connect

f. Monterey Peninsula Regional Park District - Joe Navarez

In March dealing with flood damage, we are mostly done with that. Mowing schedule is ongoing, especially Palo Corona. Board of Directors approved FY 23-24 budget. Includes funding for turn lane Highway 1 left turn lane. Mill Creek Redwood Preserve remains closed to do Soberanes Fire and Palo Colorado Road. Flood Plane Restoration project at Rancho Canada, allow flood dispersal in flood plain, 75% planning stage and spring 2024. Storm recovery we were shy one ranger, hired new ranger. Big Sur resident hired. Been on for two months. Summer wildflower show is happening this weekend at Garland Park.

g. California Coastal Commission – Sean Drake

Project updates, still receiving emergency response authorizations. One recent example, State Parks addressing erosion issues on Big Sur River. Excited about long term vision for that site. Coordinate with Caltrans, Parks, and others. Proposed project for replacement of Limekiln Bridge.

h. Caltrans – John Olejnik

I can't prepare a report, so I take notes and try to capture things to respond to. Kevin Drabinski here with us today. District 5, \$1.4 billion in construction projects. We run from Santa Cruz to Santa Barbara Counties. 8:00am propane truck made it over the slide to deliver propane. Target point for opening is mid-July. Dana Creek.

Using material from up top to use on the bottom as resisting force. Mid-July, we will have the right assessments to make better updates. Crews are working 24/7, 7-days a week. Invasive species topic, point back to Byways Org. Marcos and John and others are working on this issue. We have our district arborist on this committee. We are on strict regulations on herbicide. Then, land along the right of way is almost unreachable. Regarding comments about delineators, it was an attempt to try to address bad behavior of visitors. Delineators come with a lot of maintenance. We are brainstorming how to fix them. Intention is to replace them. Using boulders, while it is a part of the natural environment, it is an impediment to emergency response. Visitation, sentiments are captured in Destination Stewardship Management Plan and Transportation

Management Plan. Clean California efforts of crews to pick up litter. Successful program with a reduction in phone calls bringing up litter as a concern. Communication: some are not receiving updates, so if you do receive them, please forward them. We try to use notable landmarks and mile markers. And accommodate visitors so they are aware. Three social media accounts. Northern Closure, working on the next few weeks to bring closure down to Lucia.

Lindsay Romanov: Caltrans says they have to move 500,000 cubic yards of dirt. 500,000 dump trucks of dirt we have to move.

John: We are using the earth on site to develop the roadway underneath. Minimize cost by using material from close sites.

i. California State Parks and Recreation – Marcos Ortega

Emergency work at Molera, campground remains closed. Equipment and deliveries to the parking lot. Park Closed sign now updated to Parking Lot Closed. Access open with limited trail opens. Limekiln, thank you Caltrans for providing access to Limekiln. Vandalism lost another bridge. Made a push to include invasive species removal, June 15th at 8:45a Andrew Molera. State Parks natural resources team. In the prescribed burn area. Talking about Jubata and Pampas Grass.

j. Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary – ABSENT

Written report read out loud - In order to reduce whale ship strikes, MBNMS expanded the NOAA voluntary speed reduction program to the entire sanctuary from May 1st to December 15, 2023. This means that we are requesting large vessels (over 300 tons) to slow to 10 knots while transiting the sanctuary during this time of high presence of blue, humpback and fin whales. This also pertains to Channel Islands, Greater Farallones and Cordell Bank national marine sanctuaries (see map below). The federal partners include US Coast Guard and EPA. In addition, we are implementing the [Protecting Blue Whales and Blue Skies](#) partnership with California Marine Sanctuary Foundation, air resource districts and other partners. We incentivize companies to incorporate sustainable shipping practices across their global supply chain. By creating seasonal and predictable slow speed zones, we help companies protect endangered whales from fatal ship strikes and noise disturbance, reduce fuel use and regional greenhouse gas emissions, and improve air quality and human health outcomes.

k. United States Forest Service - Jeanne Dawson

First BSMAAC meeting. Sitting in for Fin Eifert, based out of the Supervisor's office in Solvang working with Christopher Stubbs. Today is June 9th, it has been five months since the storm response. Public access, health and safety. Trying to address this massive life altering event. \$182 million in documented damage from January storms, haven't assessed March storms. Estimating 25-50% more. Thank you to our partners, Ventana Wilderness, Caltrans, residents, and more that helped support USFS. Good News, before Memorial Day weekend, Pfeiffer beach parking lot open for Memorial Day weekend. We were able to complete repairs to Brazil Ranch entry road. Under last forest closure orders, we have been able to reopen Sand Dollar day use area, Plaskett campground, Willow and Mill Creek, Pfeiffer beach. June 8th contractor work. Estimating two-three weeks for repair, access will be blocked for a few days as they do wall installation. Great outdoors project, apex construction working on this work. Grading of South Coast Ridge, Plaskett, Olms, Cone Peak.....Key thing, less than 5 months since the added damage, I am optimistic to include.... Developing communications plan. Los Padres High level

for wildfire. Chief of USFS has submitted. Improve employee barracks and housing. Recreational resources have been affected as have the administrative resources. Naci-Ferg station rebuild, working with a contractor. Not where the station used to be. Looking at other options internally and with partners for site locations. Visitors use management: Week of August 7-11th, August 8th Big Sur lodge conference room, 3-6pm. August 10th PV school. Hiring updates: Monterey ranger district has full time front desk staff to provide info to public. Finalizing hiring recreation technicians. Add capacity management recreation in district. Range Management Specialist and Technician to provide capacity for invasive species concerns. Wildlife Biologist, archeologist, fuels crew. Resource officer. Outreach form on website.

l. 5th District, Monterey County Board of Supervisors – Mary Adams

Thank you, staff. County staff in almost all departments have been busy on storm response and now repairs. I know you are all dealing with such serious issue in Big Sur, and I would like to acknowledge the Pajaro area has been devastated in our northern part of the county. The Board of Supervisors finalized the \$1.9 billion 2023-2024 Budget for the County of Monterey. The County's budget process included the Budget Workshop in April to hear requests from county departments, then the annual Budget Hearings were held on May 31st and June 1st, and the final budget will be heard on June 22, 2023. I am particularly happy for the approved CABS funding of \$56,250 for the Fire Adapted Community efforts. Through the Big Sur Byway Organization, representatives continue to move forward the "No Camping" signs to be placed along Highway 1. The proposed sign is going to be heard at the California Traffic Control Devices Committee that review new sign proposals. If approved, the new sign can be used to continue our efforts to address illegal camping along Highway 1. My office and I are aware of Old Coast Road, the concerns about a bear. Additionally, the County continues to work on updating the Housing Element. For those who may be impacted by it, the emergency responders in our area are practicing an emergency fire drill in Carmel Valley. Finally, I am in my final term as County Supervisor and have chosen to not run for reelection. I have a year and half left in office and I look forward to working with you all to complete many of these on-going projects and address your concerns that arise in Big Sur.

m. 30th District, California State Assembly – Alexis Garcia-Arrazola

This is a wonderful group, and it has been so important to hear your voice concerns. Testament to community engagement and I thank you for speaking up. I oversee the Monterey District Office and we are adding staff and trying to tackle issues. We work collaboratively with State Senator John Laird's office. The Assemblymember's 12 bills all passed the assembly and are in the Senate. The Assembly District stretches down to SLO. On Wednesday, we will honor Big Sur Health Center for non-profit of the year.

n. 17th District, California State Senate – Kate Daniels

Kate Daniels and Isabel: We are working with his schedule to get him here in September. Introduces staff members Deputy District Director Justin Tran and District Representative Isabel Mesa. Isabel previously worked for Speaker Robert Rivas. 20 bills have moved forward through the Assembly. \$31 billion shortfall in Governor's budget. Push to fund rural schools. Advocate for more funding. Central Coast broadband for all.

o. 19th District, United States Congress – Jimmy Panetta

Frustrated that we govern by crisis and not with leadership. Negotiations went well. We averted a crisis in a global financial market which would have jeopardized credit for the nation.

Minimize reductions. This Congress protected a lot of the major accomplishments we've met so far. Infrastructure bill. Clean Energy. Chips and Science Act. We came out ahead on this deal. It was unfortunate for the time that it took, but we were successful for the country. When it comes to funding, it is my job to get federal funding here. I was successfully in the NOAA's office at CSUMB, strengthening both. Highlighting and protecting the marine sanctuary. Power of the purse. We were able to get \$18 million for the Naci-Ferg Fire Station. Look forward to continued work with the forest service. Two bills put forward. Save Our Forests Act to provide more funding for forest personnel. Housing in and around National Parks and National Forests. Central Coast impacted by storms. Glad they are doing training in Carmel Valley for wildfires. We need to look into prescribed burns to help manage our forests. Broadband, Jobs Act \$65 Billion, rural broadband for across the country. Each state, California, is going through a process to determine where that money and those investments should go. Using the FCC maps, California is doing its own mapping and relying on other organizations. Legislatively, give investments to small businesses that invest in rural broadband. We are looking at legislative for grant programs that deals with cell service. Appreciate everyone's engagement.

VIII. Report from Non-Member Agencies on Issues Pertinent to Big Sur

a. United States Forest Service, Law Enforcement Officer John Ares

Los Burros Road. Lindsay, drove from Santa Barbara to Big Sur for illegal campfires at 10:00pm at night. Supervisor given leeway to address the fires. Nighttime on Plaskett, adjust schedule accordingly. Rely on local partners. County Sheriff, will go in service with County Dispatch, please call 911 or non-emergency line to sheriff to get a hold of John Ares. In group chat with other law enforcement agencies. Working an agreement with SO, able to enforce state and county regulations. Noise, campfires, camping.

Supervisor Blanca Rosa Patrol Captain- out of Solvang. First time attending BSMAAC, very informative. John is the only one in Monterey. We have four officers with five districts. Limited on manpower. He may be asked to patrol on other areas. We rely on other agencies. Flexibility. Trying to hire for Santa Barbara position. Housing for staff is a struggle.

b. California Highway Patrol – Captain Ian Troxell

Congressman Panetta thanked Captain Troxell for the helicopter ride to see the storm damage. I attended the last BSMAAC meeting, and I am in charge of the field office for this region. My family travels these roads, I travel these roads, I understand and can relate to your issues. I am working with 58 officers covering 37,000 square miles. Under-staffed. Big Sur, lucky, Oscar Loza and John Yearace, live full time in Bug Sur. Please "like" our social media. Send direct messages. Maximum staffing was out on Memorial Day. Wrote multiple parking citations along Bixby Bridge. Resource gap what happens, will get into a situation and then they are out of the game for 3-4 hours with that one situation. I am trying to maneuver grant funding. Collaborative effort to look at and solve issues. Please reach out to us 831-770-8000 and our Facebook page. I want to engage with town hall meetings.

Dana Carranazzo: Do you hire meter maids?

Captain Troxell. No, we do not.

c. Monterey County Sheriff's Office – Sheriff Tina Nieto

Mary, thank you for the support. Supervisors are adding 7 new positions to budget. Staffing is what it is. We do not have meter maids. We would like to get a volunteer group together to

administer citations. We are a big County, Aromas to Lockwood, to Parkfield, to the Coast, we are one of 110 major counties. Talking about best practices for sheriff's all across the country. I am also your POST Commissioner. Up in Sacramento for POST and advocate for legislation that will make our county safer. Visited elected representatives from a Sheriff's standpoint. Thank you, Senator Lairds' office, to increase money for civil service. We are losing money as a county. Takes me to another issue. You will be losing your resident deputy Jesse Villasenor. We didn't remove Jesse. Jesse would like to promote, this move is for his family and for the betterment of Jesse, but you will also be helping Jesse. The other deputy, Jesse Grunt, was shot in the line of duty. Jesse has been released from the hospital, and this gentleman was amazing. He was in surgery all day long the day he was shot. Later than evening when the incident ended, I visited him in the hospital. He was a combat veteran. Well wishes from Big Sur Community.

d. Big Sur Fire – written report

- 1) Big Sur Fire recently graduated 9 new firefighters and they will be joining our ranks and responding to calls this week!
- 2) County radio was able to install a new repeater at Piedras Blancas greatly improving our communications. Thank you County Radio and IT Shop!
- 3) Big Sur Fire is working on a strategic plan as we look ahead to our 50th year next year.
- 4) We hosted a meeting to collaborate with allied agencies and community partners ahead of this summer and potential fire/emergency responses.
- 5) Congratulations to CABS and the Fire Adaptive Coordinator for achieving Big Sur's first Firewise Community - "Post Creek Firewise"
- 6) Please join us for our Annual Muster and Barbecue on July 8th from noon-3 pm at Pfeiffer State Park.
- 7) Thank you Supervisor Adams and Congressman Panetta for hosting this invaluable meeting in Big Sur and to all the agencies, entities and community members that provided such substantive reports.

IX. Adjournment – 1:12 p.m.

Next Meeting – Friday, September 22nd 2023

~Thank you to the Big Sur Lodge for your hospitality and for the use of the conference room at the Big Sur Lodge~