

## **Executive Director's Report — February 18, 2016**

Thank you very much Chair Wasserman.

Fortunately for those of us who tend toward obsessive compulsive behavior, you can always count on certain events. For example, on any given evening, at least three different episodes of "Law and Order" are broadcast simultaneously on cable television stations. For the 57<sup>th</sup> time in my life, spring training for major league baseball teams has started. And, yes, your FPPC financial disclosure Form 700s are due again on April 1st. Unlike Chet Atkins, who described his long and great career best by saying, "once you become predictable you become boring," please be predictable and bore Reggie the Enforcer by completing your Form 700 on time.

### **BUDGET and STAFFING:**

Nothing to report yet on our search for either a new chief budget officer or a supplemental accountant, which is not good news. However, we have a discussion scheduled with the Department of Finance to determine whether we can use its consulting services to teach us best practices in budget tracking and grants management. More to come.

**POLICY**

You'll remember that our Adapting to Rising Tides team started going on the road to each of our nine counties to discuss with local planners our staff's experience in analyzing vulnerabilities and developing resilience strategies with a wide variety of communities. Next Thursday, the ART team is holding a workshop in American Canyon in Napa County. We want to thank Supervisor Wagenknecht for his invitation and his support, and we look forward to coming to your county!

I now would like Commissioner Sean Randolph to give us a brief introduction to a conference that will occur in San Francisco in April, called City Age, with which he has become involved.

I am sure that each of you has read about the decision by Commissioners and Alternates who sit on the California Coastal Commission to dismiss Charles Lester. One of the consequences of that decision is that several members of the State Legislature have introduced legislation that would somehow change the reporting requirements imposed on individuals and organizations that lobby Commissioners and staff of the Coastal Commission. As of yesterday morning,

staff at the Natural Resources Agency had not seen the proposal and do not know whether the Legislature will want to expand such requirements to other state boards and commissions. As a result of a discussion that I had with the Agency's Deputy Secretary for Legislation, we shall be kept apprised of the Agency's analysis. We have included a story from the Los Angeles Times about the introduction of the bill.

Recognizing that the Academy Awards will be handed out in 10 days, I want to give you a preview of three coming attractions here at BCDC – sort of like verbal trailers. First, we shall reconstitute the Enforcement Committee because at least one case, and likely several others, will need to be heard later this winter or in the spring. Thankfully, in my experience with the Enforcement Committee, its members model Gregory Peck as Atticus Finch more than Frederick March as Matthew Harrison Brady. Second, Steve Goldbeck, Sharon Louie, and I toured the new regional headquarters building at 375 Beale last week – it will be a fine structure in which to house BCDC staff should the Department of Finance allow us to move there. When that happens next January, we can promise you that Sharon and Anna's expertise will more than outclass Woody and Buzz Lightyear of "Toy Story 3." Finally, you may have heard that the City and County of San

Francisco is partnering with BCDC, the San Francisco Estuary Institute, and several other organizations to create a program called “Resiliency by Design,” a Bay Area-wide competition based on the successful “Rebuild by Design” effort that took place after Hurricane Sandy hit New York City. Resiliency by Design, however, is a competition to create practical multi-benefit solutions to rising sea level before the Bay Area is inundated with water due to climate change or a series of whopper storms. We’ll have the project members give you a briefing within a couple months. In sum, we all hope that a successful project will result in a regional “Plan For All Seasons.”

Finally, speaking of predictable behavior, BCDC has instituted its new schedule – as Chair Wasserman noted, the first Commission meeting in March (that would be our next meeting) will adjourn early to commence our second public workshop on rising sea level. The second meeting in March will be a regular business meeting, and April will follow that same pattern.

That completes my report, Chair Wasserman, and I am happy to answer any questions you all may have.