

City of Capitola Commission on the Environment Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, January 21, 2026 – 5:30 PM



Capitola City Hall, Community Room
420 Capitola Avenue, Capitola, CA 95010

Chair: Michelle Beritzhoff-Law

Vice Chair: Michael Maroney

Commissioners: Council Member Clarke, Dennis Norton, Scott Rohlf

Staff Representative: Jessica Kahn

-
- 1. Call to Order and Roll Call** – Chair Beritzhoff-Law called the meeting to order at 5:32 PM.
Commissioners Present: Michelle Beritzhoff-Law, Michael Maroney, Council Member Clarke, Dennis Norton, Scott Rohlf
Absent: None
City Staff Present: Jessica Kahn (Public Works Director)

- 2. Additions and Deletions to the Agenda**
None.

- 3. Public Oral and Written Communications**

Brookvale Terrace residents Katy Guernsey and Sheryl Coulston spoke about an upcoming informational event on native pollinator plants and plans for a Mid-County Senior Center plant giveaway in May.

- 4. Staff Comments**
None.

- 5. December 17, 2025 Regular Commission Meeting Minutes**

Recommended Action: Review and approve minutes.

Motion to approve the December 17, 2025 minutes: Council Member Clarke

Seconded: Vice Chair Maroney

Motion passed 5-0-0

- 6. General Business**

- A. Offshore Oil Drilling**

Recommended Action: Receive a presentation on the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management's proposed 11th National Outer Continental Shelf Oil & Gas Leasing Draft Program.

Dan Haifley and Katie Thompson of Save Our Shores presented on BOEM's offshore oil and gas program and the status of 27 coastal ordinances regulating or prohibiting onshore oil

support facilities. The presenters also responded to questions from the Commission and the public.

B. Selection of Chair and Vice Chair

Recommended Action: Select a Chair and Vice Chair to serve a one-year term for 2026.

Motion to select Commissioner Beritzhoff-Law as Chair of the Commission on the Environment for calendar year 2026: Council Member Clarke

Seconded: Commissioner Norton

Motion passed 5-0-0

Motion to select Commissioner Maroney as Vice Chair of the Commission on the Environment for calendar year 2026: Chair Beritzhoff-Law

Seconded: Commissioner Rohlf

Motion passed 5-0-0

7. Items for Future Agenda

1. 2026 Calendar Year Goal Setting

8. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 6:26 PM to the next Regular Meeting of the Commission on the Environment on February 18, 2026.

ATTEST:



Erika Senyk, Environmental Projects Manager



Michelle Beritzhoff-Law, Chair