

**Bodega Bay Fisherman's Festival**  
**53rd Annual Fisherman's Festival May 2-3 2026**  
**General Business Meeting Minutes**

**January 21, 2026 • Allocation Presentation Meeting**  
**Bodega Bay Grange**

**Called to Order**  
**7:04 PM**

**Executive Board in Attendance**

Josh Perucchi	President
Kris Lepore	Vice President
Kevin Clancy	Treasurer
Shona Weir	Secretary
Suzanne Martin	Member at Large

**Treasurer's Report**

Checking	\$31,846.00
Charles Schwab	\$114,119.00
Total	\$145,965.00

**Minutes**

**President's Report**

Permits waived fees by county. Anonymous donor donated \$15,000 again this year.

**Old Business**

Theme "Fish to Dish"

**Vacancies needing filled:**

-**Lead photographer:** Jerry Newman cannot lead the group due to physical ability.

-**Volunteer Coordinator:** Need a lead. Online signups will be implemented this year via the website which should make the position more manageable. Volunteer sign up new section on website.

-**Wine Chair-** Need a lead wine booth coordinator and assistant. This is a very important position and contributes a large portion of proceeds from the event. Please let Josh know if you are interested or can recommend someone.

**New Business**

**Chair Reports**

**Allocations:**

Shona confirmed.

**Art Booth:**

Melissa Bechtel confirmed.

**Art Contest:**

Melissa Bechtel confirmed. Theme "Fish to Dish". Entries due February 1<sup>st</sup>, judging February 4<sup>th</sup>.

**Bank:**

Kathy Simmons/Betsy Breunig confirmed.

**Beverage/Beer Booth:**

Kris Lepore- confirmed. Trailer secured for the kegs.

**Boat Challenge (WBC):**

Mike and Diane Bundy confirmed.

**Boat Parade:**

Alicia Ginocchio (Chair-Lead Boat)/Patty Ginocchio (Asst. Chair-Parade) with Bodega Bay Area Chamber of Commerce Confirmed. Rick Powers sold the New Sea Angler. He may get a new boat. The Sea Scooter doesn't hold as many people. There will still be a parade.

**BB CERT:**

Lee Ritchey confirmed.

**Craft Booths:**

Suzanne Martin confirmed. Seven applications in, only 3 are jewelers. Dogwood Animal Rescue may have a booth but they may have over committed.

**Entertainment:**

Josh Perucchi will coordinate starting to book in January. Rotten Tomatoes, Tainted Love, Petty Rocks, Mustache Harbor, Forty Fathoms, and Dry Creek Station.

**Food Vendors:**

Josh Perucchi will coordinate starting to book in January. Most are returning from last year.

**Gate:**

Betsy Spann confirmed. 75 percent of volunteers are coming back. Traffic flow with stanchions needed.

**Information Booth:**

Betsy Spann confirmed.

Pet Parade – dog bandanas for sale. Betsy's sister, Sandra Lake is volunteering to do the parade. Barb Dunning-Trapani, Bodega Bay Veterinary Hospital gave Betsy the sign and was willing to help out and will do give-away bags.

**Kids Zone:**

Maggie Tagilala confirmed for kids zone and Tiffany Flores confirmed to run bouncy houses - ordered.

**Non-Profits:**

Maria Cipriani confirmed. Sending out email to nonprofits. Updated form.

**Parking:**

Chris Lauritzen and crew confirmed.

**Permits:**

Josh Perucchi will coordinate. Applied for fee waiver approved. Secured date with county parks and will secure permits once fee waiver is complete in January. Josh will get all the permits.

**Photography:**

Need new lead. Prior photographers may participate but need someone to organize group and photos. A few names were mentioned as possible replacement. John Hershey is reaching out to the photography community to lead to get photos on website, etc.

**Marketing/Public Relations:**

Stacy Castle. Confirmed she is able to take lead again

**Raffle:**

Thera Buttaro confirmed.

**Scholarships:**

Josh Perucchi confirmed THS has been advised of our scholarship opportunity. Deadline to apply will be March 27<sup>th</sup>. They are moving application to an online format and we will get access to review. Need recipients by April 30<sup>th</sup> and the awards night will be held May 20<sup>th</sup> 2026.

**Security:**

Kris Lepori will coordinate securing security. Contract secured

**Site Set Up/Tear Down:**

Josh Perucchi confirmed to book all rentals oversee setup/teardown Contract secured.

**Signs/Posters/Art Work:**

Shona Weir confirmed.

**Tide Pool:**

Stewards of the Coastal Redwoods has a new head of the group. We will need to contact to confirm they will coordinate the tidepool.

**T-Shirt:**

Melissa and Kris Lepori confirmed.

**Volunteers:**

Need new chair. Online signup in progress on the website to make this position more manageable.

**Water Activities:**

Josh to coordinate with SCSO helicopter, USCG aux and Sonoma County Fire Boat.

**Website/Design/Maintenance:**

Send updates to Josh who will send to our 3<sup>rd</sup> party website coordinator.

**Wine Booth:**

Need new chair and co-chair.

## **Allocations:**

**Bodega Bay CERT - \$4000** The funds in this request will be used to acquire the supplies needed to set up an emergency field hospital to be used to triage injured persons during an emergency such as an earthquake until professional first responders can get to them.

**Bodega Bay Community Association - \$3500** Gravel for entry driveway to parking lot and exit (\$2000). Additional electrical wiring for Farmers Market (\$1500). Jim Irving presented.

**Bodega Bay Elementary School – PTA - \$700** PTA Yearbook publication expenses. Shannon Amoroso presented.

**Bodega Bay Elementary School After School Program – Sunset School \$1000–** Safari West field trip. Logistics are difficult no bus driver. Elena Irving presented.

**Bodega Bay Fire Foundation - \$10,000** Funds will be used to support yearly community events, to assist persons in financial or supportive need and for community organizations with special requests. We also maintain the AEDs at the Bodega Bay School, the Grange and the Bodega Bay Community Center and distribute “Hands Only” CPR brochures at community events. Ray Hill presented.

**Bodega Bay Grange - \$14,199** While the most basic infrastructure of our kitchen is complete as of January 2026, we still need to supply the kitchen with fundamental items including: microwave oven, utensil racks, electric can opener, mixer, rice cooker, blender, mixing bowls, knives, pots and pans, and utensils such as tongs, spatulas and ladles. Subtotal request: \$10,043. Jim Moore presented.

We also need to begin to amass the supplies needed for emergency response. Working in contact with Bodega Bay CERT we have identified necessary items such as disposable plates and bowls, napkins, hot and cold cups, foil wrap, disposable chafing dishes with fuel, flatware pre-rolled with napkins, sanitary wipes, disposable handwash stations and aluminum foil. Subtotal request: \$4,156.

**Bodega Bay Union Church - \$2000** Asking for funds to provide gifts to children in need at Christmas time. Provide support to families and persons in need in the way of food, gas, help with rent and docking fees to fishermen.

**Bodega Land Trust - \$5424** Mary Biggs presented

Costs to reproduce our brochure and/or develop a new one, this includes printing, paper, layout and consulting on new content. \$2085

Cost to support attendance of one staff member and one Board Member at the Land Trust Alliance (LTA) annual conference in Denver, Colorado. This conference is usually 2 days of training seminars in all aspects of operating a successful land trust and one day of outings to see what the local land trust does. Training topics range from operational functions, ethical standards, guidance for Accreditation, transitioning from an all-volunteer Board to hiring staff, current best practices and many more. They include training tracts aimed at the needs of Board Members, Executive Staff, technical and hands-on staff, training for new staff, working successfully with volunteers, trends in conservation, best practices, etc. Each training course is presented by experienced land trust staff from across the country and everything about the conference is geared to help each land trust achieve more expertise and increase resilience.

Unfortunately, details of the Conference, including specific sites, are not yet available. I looked up the Federal Register with reimbursement costs for Denver in September 2026 to come up with the proposed Budget. Actual costs are often higher for the hotel. \$2470

2026 LTA Training Pass, provides free online training for all BLT participants.

Another iPad so we can have two Monitoring teams go out at the same time during the high activity season. \$869

**Family Reunited Initiative** did not submit.

### **Fisherman's Marketing Association of Bodega Bay - \$10,000**

The entirety of this grant will go toward Safety Equipment for items such as personal EPIRB (Emergency Position-Indicating Radio Beacon), Hydrostatic release for both Life raft and EPIRB, flares, life raft equipment/certification, and protective clothing (gloves, boots, jackets, bibs).

EPIRB:

Search and Rescue Operations

Unique Distress Signal

- 406 MHz Frequency: Both EPIRBs and PLBs transmit a distress signal on the globally recognized 406 MHz frequency, ensuring their signals are picked up by Search and Rescue Satellites (SARSAT.)
- HEX ID (Unique ID): Each beacon sends a unique digital code, known as the HEX ID or Unique ID. This code is used to identify beacon registration information, including the owner, type of vessel (for EPIRBs), emergency contacts, and trip plans.

Satellite Communication and Ground Stations

- Satellite Relay: Once the distress signal is detected by satellites, it is relayed to Local User Terminals (LUTs), ground stations that process the data.
- Positioning: The LUT calculates the location of the distress beacon and transmits the decoded alert to the Mission Control Center (MCC.)

Rescue Operations

- Investigation and Dispatch: The RCC investigates the distress alert, reaches emergency contacts, and dispatches the nearest SAR teams to the location.
- Rapid Response: SAR teams are deployed quickly to the distress location, providing timely rescue operations and ensuring survivor safety

**Rancho Bodega Historical Society** did not submit.

### **Redwood Empire Foster Parents Association - \$10,000** Kim Streeter presented

*The Blue Bag Program:* It was designed to assist children who have been recently separated from their home and are entering the foster care system. Before the Blue Bag Project began in 1999, a child who entered a new emergency foster home often came with nothing more than the clothes he or she was wearing. The Blue Bag Program supports foster youth ages 0-8 years old. Children are given a blue duffle bag full of essentials. Each bag contains new clothes (gender specific, size, and season appropriate), new toys, books and a handmade quilt. The duffle bag and content of the bag becomes the child's own property. Annually we provide approximately 150-200 bags to Sonoma County foster youth.

Here is a quote from a Foster Parent: "The Blue Bag Program is invaluable as our family cares for children anywhere from newborn up to sixteen-year-olds. Receiving a duffle bag with essentials and enough clothing for the first few days is an immense help, and I am so grateful"

*Gift Cards:* In recent years, we have had many requests from foster parents and social workers to provide gift cards for older children and teens entering foster care. Gift cards provide children over 8 years old with urgent necessities while allowing them to exercise choice. We look forward to being able to fulfill more requests for gift cards in 2026.

*Car Seat:* The Blue Bag program expanded to give every child 0-7 years old \$200.00 towards a new car seat. The car seat is to stay with them until they outgrow it or it expires.

### **Sanctuary of the Heart Ministry - \$3000**

Provides a safe place where children and adults can come to meet and practice their religious beliefs. Funds would pay for bills for two youth groups. Equipment storage \$1343 and Grange rent \$600. Remainder for supplies for youth picnic, food and drinks and also movie nights.

### **Stewards of the Coast & Redwoods - \$3000**

Stewards of the Coast and Redwoods respectfully requests a \$3,000 grant from Fish Fest 2026 to expand equitable access to hands-on marine and coastal education for local youth. Grant funds will support free tidepool education programs and field trips for Sonoma County schools at tidepool sites within Sonoma Coast State Park, including Campbell Cove; a biologically rich coastal habitat that provides an ideal outdoor classroom for learning about marine life, ocean stewardship, and conservation.

A primary barrier for many schools, particularly those serving underserved and low-income communities, is the cost of transportation. A portion of this funding will be dedicated to bus transportation, ensuring that students who might otherwise be excluded can participate in meaningful, place-based learning experiences along the Sonoma Coast.

In 2026, Stewards will deepen student connections to the coastal environment by introducing a pre-trip educational video. This resource will help students prepare for coastal conditions, introduce key species and ecosystems, reinforce safety and stewardship principles, and build excitement prior to their visit. By combining pre-visit learning with immersive outdoor experiences, the program fosters environmental literacy, curiosity, and long-term stewardship of marine resources, directly supporting Fish Fest's commitment to protecting fisheries, coastal ecosystems, and the next generation of ocean advocates.

**Tomales Elementary PTA - \$1000** Funds will go toward events and language interpretation. They host parent information events and groups, parent-only social events, family movie and game nights.

**Tomales Future Farmers of America - \$1500** – submitting late.

**Tomales High School Football / Baseball - \$1500** Half to Football and half to Baseball. Pays for Hudl, a platform to review game film to help teach the game from all angles and for practice equipment needed to enrich the playing experience of the student athlete.

**Tomales Project Grad** – submitting late

**US Coast Guard Auxiliary Flotilla 55 - \$2500** Promote boating safety for the public and Bodega Bay commercial fishing fleet. Also, support the active US Coast Guard with search and rescue ops and training. Funds will purchase safety equipment and protective gear, life vest giveaways, public education event supplies, Bodega Bay Christmas tree, other gear and safety equipment not covered by the government.

**Waves of Compassion - \$10,000** 100% of the funds requested will be used solely for the purchase of food for the Bodega Bay Food Pantry. We partner with Redwood Empire Food Bank (REFB) for donated and discounted food. However, the increase in demand for food has resulted in a sharp decrease in quantity/quality of food available through REFB. This has coincided with an increased cost of food everywhere. We have no paid staff members, rather we are completely staffed by volunteers.

### **Next Meetings**

Wednesday February 11th 7pm on Zoom

Wednesday March 18th 7pm at Bodega Bay Grange

Wednesday April 15th 7pm at Bodega Bay Grange- Final planning meeting

53<sup>rd</sup> Annual Bodega Bay Fisherman's Festival May 2-3 2026

Festival recap meeting TBD on Zoom

Allocation committee meeting TBD

After Party TBD

Meeting adjourned 7:58pm

Minutes by Shona Weir