



**SPECIAL AND REGULAR MEETING**

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
MIDPENINSULA REGIONAL OPEN SPACE DISTRICT**

**Wednesday, March 11, 2026**

**DRAFT MINUTES**

**SPECIAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE MIDPENINSULA  
REGIONAL OPEN SPACE DISTRICT**

President Kersteen-Tucker called the special meeting of the Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District to order at 6:00 p.m.

**ROLL CALL**

Members Present: Jed Cyr, Craig Gleason, Zoe Kersteen-Tucker, Yoriko Kishimoto, Margaret MacNiven, and Curt Riffle

Members Absent: Karen Holman

Staff Present: General Manager Ana Ruiz, General Counsel Hilary Stevenson, Assistant General Manager Susanna Chan, Assistant General Manager Brian Malone, Chief Financial Officer/Director of Administrative Services Stefan Jaskulak, District Clerk/Assistant to the General Manager Maria Soria, Executive Assistant/Deputy District Clerk Shaylynn Nelson, and Governmental Affairs Program Manager Josh Hugg

President Kersteen-Tucker announced that this meeting is held in person only. This information can be found on the meeting agenda, which was physically posted at the District's Administrative Office, the Senior Coastsiders, and on the District website.

**1. Legislative Position Recommendations (R-26-28)**

Governmental Affairs Program Manager Josh Hugg presented.

Director Riffle expressed interest in supporting the District's legislative positions and requested that staff keep the Board of Directors informed of opportunities where the Board could support advancing legislative opportunities.

Director Kishimoto inquired whether there is proposed legislation related to farm worker housing which may address the challenges of managing septic and water.

Mr. Hugg stated he has not seen bills explicitly for farm worker housing but there was a pilot between Santa Clara and Santa Cruz counties to reduce barriers for building farm worker housing. Mr. Hugg advised he could follow up with additional information.

Director Riffle requested that, at the appropriate time, the District consider offering support for the Santa Clara Valley Open Space Authority parcel tax.

Public comment opened at 6:39 p.m.

District Clerk/Assistant to the General Manager Maria Soria reported there were no public speakers for this item.

Public comment closed at 6:39 p.m.

**Motion:** Director Kishimoto moved, and Director Riffle seconded the motion to approve the recommended list of legislative positions for the 2026 state legislative session.

**ROLL CALL VOTE: 6-0-0 (Director Holman absent)**

**ADJOURNMENT**

President Kersteen-Tucker adjourned the special meeting of the Board of Directors of the Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District at 6:40 p.m.

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE MIDPENINSULA REGIONAL OPEN SPACE DISTRICT**

President Kersteen-Tucker called the regular meeting of the Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District to order at 7:02 p.m.

**ROLL CALL**

Members Present: Jed Cyr, Craig Gleason, Zoe Kersteen-Tucker, Yoriko Kishimoto, Margaret MacNiven, and Curt Riffle

Members Absent: Karen Holman

Staff Present: General Manager Ana Ruiz, General Counsel Hilary Stevenson, Assistant General Manager Susanna Chan, Assistant General Manager Brian Malone, Chief Financial Officer/Director of Administrative Services Stefan Jaskulak, District Clerk/Assistant to the General Manager Maria Soria, Executive Assistant/Deputy District Clerk Shaylynn Nelson, Senior Resource Management Specialist David Liefert, Senior Resource Management Specialist David Liefert, Senior Resource Management Specialist Coty Sifuentes-Winter, and Senior Planner Jared Hart

President Kersteen-Tucker announced that this meeting is held in person only. This information can be found on the meeting agenda, which was physically posted at the District's Administrative Office, the Senior Coastsiders, and on the District website.

**ORAL COMMUNICATIONS**

Public comment opened at 7:02 p.m.

District Clerk Maria Soria reported there were no public speakers for this item.

Public comment closed at 7:02 p.m.

**ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

**Motion:** Director Cyr moved, and Director Riffle seconded the motion to adopt the agenda.

**ROLL CALL VOTE: 6-0-0 (Director Holman absent)**

**CONSENT CALENDAR**

Public comment opened at 7:03 p.m.

Ms. Soria reported there were no public speakers for this item.

Public comment closed at 7:03 p.m.

**Motion:** Director Riffle moved, and Director Gleason seconded the motion to approve the Consent Calendar.

**ROLL CALL VOTE: 6-0-0 (Director Holman absent)**

- 1. Approve the February 25, 2026 meeting minutes**
- 2. Approve Claims Report**
- 3. Award of Contract for Foothill Field Office Annex Foundation Repair Project at Rancho San Antonio Open Space Preserve (R-26-29)**

**General Manager’s Recommendations:**

1. Authorize the General Manager to enter into a contract with Altor Construction, LLC, for a not-to-exceed base contract amount of \$138,840.
2. Authorize a 10% contingency in the amount of \$13,884 to be reserved for unanticipated issues, bringing the total not-to-exceed contract amount to \$152,724.

- 4. Contract Amendment for Bear Creek Redwoods North Parking Area Project Mitigation – Baseline Survey and 2026 Monitoring and Reporting (R-26-30)**

**General Manager’s Recommendation:** Authorize the General Manager to execute a contract amendment with AECOM Technical Services, Inc., of Oakland, California, to provide a baseline survey and associated monitoring and reporting to facilitate mitigation monitoring and reporting for the Bear Creek Redwoods North Parking Area Project in the amount of \$14,799, bringing the contract to a new total amount not-to-exceed \$104,788.

**BOARD BUSINESS**

**5. Amendment to Partnership Agreement with San Mateo Resource Conservation District for Implementation of the Johnston Ranch Habitat and Agricultural Water Supply Improvement Project (R-26-31)**

Senior Resource Management Specialist David Liefert presented. San Mateo Resource Conservation District (RCD) Executive Director Kellyx Nelson and Peninsula Open Space Trust Working Lands Program Manager Dylan Sondermann provided remarks. RCD Senior Conservation Project Manager Ryan Silsbee assisted with answering questions.

Public comment opened at 7:41 p.m.

Ms. Soria reported there were no public speakers for this item.

Public comment closed at 7:41 p.m.

**Motion:** President Kersteen-Tucker moved, and Director MacNiven seconded the motion to authorize an amendment to the Partnership Agreement with San Mateo Resource Conservation District in the amount of \$2,371,000 to fund a portion of the construction costs for the Johnston Ranch Habitat and Agricultural Water Supply Improvement Project, bringing the total not-to-exceed contract amount to \$2,658,270.

**ROLL CALL VOTE: 6-0-0 (Director Holman absent)**

**6. Comprehensive Ecologically Sensitive Vegetation Management Report (2022-23) (R-26-32)**

Senior Resource Management Specialist Coty Sifuentes-Winter presented the item.

Director Gleason inquired if running the volunteer program is less costly than the value provided by the volunteers.

Mr. Sifuentes-Winter said he believed the cost was lower but he would need to confirm.

Director Gleason suggested the answer could be included as part of the 2024-25 report.

Public comment opened at 8:24 p.m.

Ms. Soria reported there were no public speakers for this item.

Public comment closed at 8:24 p.m.

No Board vote required.

**7. Award of Contract to Ecological Concerns, Inc., for the treatment of invasive species to support the Conservation Grazing Program (R-26-33)**

Senior Resource Management Specialist Coty Sifuentes-Winter presented the item. Public comment opened at 8:32 p.m.

Ms. Soria reported there were no public speakers for this item.

Public comment closed at 8:32 p.m.

**Motion:** Director MacNiven moved, and Director Kishimoto seconded the motion to:

1. Authorize the General Manager to enter into a contract with Ecological Concerns, Inc., of Santa Cruz, California in the amount of \$89,468 for one year of invasive species management services.
2. Authorize the General Manager to extend the contract for three additional years, if the program achieves specific success criteria, for an additional \$296,150, for a total not-to-exceed contract amount of \$385,618 over the four-year term.
3. Authorize a separate 20% contract allowance of \$77,124, specifically for consumable items to perform the contracted work for a combined not-to-exceed contract amount of \$462,742. The allowance will not exceed 20% of the authorized contract amount in any year.

**ROLL CALL VOTE: 6-0-0 (Director Holman absent)**

**8. Cloverdale Interim Public Access Plan Implementation Status Update (R-26-34)**

Senior Planner Jared Hart presented the item. General Manager Ana Ruiz and Assistant General Manager Susanna Chan assisted with answering questions.

Public comment opened at 8:55 p.m.

Ms. Soria reported there were no public speakers for this item.

Public comment closed at 8:55 p.m.

No Board vote required.

**INFORMATIONAL REPORTS**

**A. Committee Reports**

Director Riffle provided an update of the March 10, 2026 Action Plan and Budget Committee meeting.

**B. Staff Reports**

General Manager Ana Ruiz provided an update of the Conservation Career Fair held on March 6, 2026.

Assistant General Manager Brian Malone provided a status update for Bear Creek Stables.

C. Director Reports

Director Kishimoto advised that the Stevens Creek Watershed Summit is coming up in a few weeks. She also reported being the recipient of the Geraldine Steinberg Justice in Action award.

Director Gleason reported attending the Santa Clara County Special Districts Association meeting where he represented the District.

President Kersteen-Tucker reported that she attended the Conservation Career Fair. She also reported meeting with a constituent regarding accessing Miramontes Ridge.

**ADJOURNMENT**

President Kersteen-Tucker adjourned the regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District meeting at 9:08 p.m.

Shaylynn Nelson  
Deputy District Clerk