



REGULAR MEETING

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

Wednesday, August 12, 2026

*The Board of Directors conducted this meeting in accordance with
California Government Code section 54953.*

DRAFT MINUTES

**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 7:01 p.m.

ROLL CALL

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

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Assistant General Counsel II Egan Hill, Assistant General Manager Brian Malone, Assistant General Manager Susanna Chan, 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, Executive Assistant/Deputy District Clerk Nelia Lopez, Interpretation & Education Program Manager Ellen Tjosvold, Management Analyst II Sophie Christel, Senior Planner Jared Hart, Planner III Melissa Borgesi

President Kersteen-Tucker announced that the public has the opportunity to comment on the agenda, and the opportunity to listen to this meeting through the internet or via telephone. This information can be found on the meeting agenda, which was physically posted at the District's Administrative Office, and on the District website.

REPORT OUT OF CLOSED SESSION

President Kersteen-Tucker reported the Board met in closed session on July 8, 2026, and no reportable action was taken.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

Public comment period opened.

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

Public comment period closed.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

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

ROLL CALL VOTE: 7-0-0

SPECIAL ORDERS OF THE DAY

Introduction of Staff

- Nelia Lopez, Executive Assistant/Deputy District Clerk

CONSENT CALENDAR

Public comment period opened.

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

Public comment period closed.

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

ROLL CALL VOTE: 7-0-0

1. **Approve the July 8, 2026 Board meeting minutes**
2. **Approve Claims Report**
3. **Award of Contract to Ecological Concerns, Inc. for the treatment of invasive species to support the Natural Areas and Fuel Management Master Weed Project (R-26-114)**

General Manager's Recommendations:

1. Authorize the General Manager to enter into a contract with Ecological Concerns, Inc., in the amount of \$383,295 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 success criteria, for an additional \$1,268,754, for a total not-to-exceed contract amount of \$1,652,049 over the four-year term.
3. Authorize a contract allowance of \$193,956 (first year is \$45,000), specifically for consumable items to perform the contracted work for a combined not-to-exceed contract amount of \$1,846,005.

4. Update to Board Policy 5.01 – *Site Naming, Gift, and Special Recognition* (R-26-115)

General Manager's Recommendation: Approve an update to Board Policy 5.01 – *Site Naming, Gift, and Special Recognition* regarding special recognition eligibility for constituent-requested bench dedications to honor or remember a significant supporter or volunteer.

5. Granite Data Solutions Computer Workstations Procurement (R-26-116)

General Manager's Recommendation: Authorize the General Manager to purchase Dell computer workstations in the amount of \$80,000 from Granite Data Solutions

6. Contract Amendment with Balance Hydrologics for the Purisima Pond Restoration Project (R-26-117)

General Manager's Recommendation: Authorize the General Manager to execute a contract amendment in the amount of \$57,160 with Balance Hydrologics, Inc. of Santa Cruz, California to provide additional design, material testing, permit reporting, and construction administration services for the Purisima Pond Restoration Project, bringing the contract total to a new not-to-exceed total amount of \$307,701.

7. Award of Construction Contract for the Purisima Pond Restoration Project (R-26-118)

General Manager's Recommendations:

1. Award a contract to Old La Honda General Engineering of La Honda, CA, for the Purisima Pond Restoration Project for a not-to-exceed base amount of \$119,679.
2. Authorize an allowance in the amount of \$15,972 for the potential import of engineered fill material.
3. Authorize a contingency of 15% in the amount of \$17,952 to be reserved for unanticipated issues, bringing the total-not-to-exceed contract amount to \$153,603.

8. Award of Contract to complete the Interim Stabilization and Re-Roofing Plan for Hawthorns Historic Complex (R-26-119)

General Manager's Recommendations:

1. Award a contract to SAE Consulting Engineering of San Jose, California for a not-to-exceed base amount of \$720,000.
2. Authorize a contingency of 20% in the amount of \$144,000 to be reserved for unanticipated structural issues, bringing the total not-to-exceed to \$864,000.

9. Award of Contract for the L'Andre and Big Dipper Barn Structures Removal Project in Long Ridge and Skyline Ridge Open Space Preserves (R-26-120)

General Manager's Recommendation:

1. Award a contract to Randazzo Enterprises, Inc. of Castroville, California for the L'Andre and Big Dipper Barn Structures Removal Project in a not-to-exceed amount of \$275,304.
2. Authorize a 10% contingency in the amount of \$27,531 to be reserved for unanticipated issues, bringing the total not-to-exceed contract amount to \$302,835.

BOARD BUSINESS

10. Oral Update on Stevens Creek Nature Trail Interpretive Panels

Interpretation & Education Program Manager Ellen Tjosvold and Management Analyst II Sophie Christel presented.

Director Riffle suggested that similar interpretive panels could be beneficial near Daniels Nature Center. He also suggested that staff occasionally dust the panels.

Director Holman noted that although it likely would not be feasible, it would be captivating for visitors to see the creative process for panel demonstrated in real time. She further commented that there may be an advantage to giving the Board of Directors (Board) an opportunity to provide feedback on future interpretive panels prior to installation.

Public comment period opened.

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

Public comment period closed.

No Board action required.

11. Upper Stevens Creek Trail Connection Project Status Update (R-26-121)

Senior Planner Jared Hart and Planner III Melissa Borgesi presented. Assistant General Manager Brian Malone assisted in answering questions.

Public comment period opened.

The following people provided comments:

- Trent Poltronetti
- Rajiv Mathur

Public comment period closed.

No Board action required.

INFORMATIONAL REPORTS

A. Committee Reports

None.

B. Staff Reports

None.

C. Director Reports

Director MacNiven reported that she presented to the Atherton Town Council and the Pescadero Municipal Advisory Committee.

Director Kishimoto reported that she attended the Bay Conservation and Development Commission meeting on August 6, the Silicon Valley Youth Climate Action Summit on August 8, and attended a meeting regarding Highway 17 with Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority, Caltrans, and the District on August 12.

Director Gleason presented to the Terraces of Los Gatos and attended District volunteer events. He expressed support for Director Holman's suggestion to have a time lapsed video of the creation of the interpretive panels and inquired about the feasibility of installing it at the Daniels Nature Center.

Mr. Malone stated it would be difficult to implement at the Daniels Nature Center but that there could potentially be a presentation or a link to the District's website with additional information.

Director Cyr reported that he attended the Santa Clara Valley Water Commission meeting but it was canceled due to an insufficient number of members being present.

Director Riffle reported that he attended the District's All Staff presentation on July 15, the release of the San Francisco garter snakes on July 24, a webinar for the California Natural Resources Agency on August 5, the Silicon Valley Youth Climate Summit. He further reported that he will attend the dedication of Don Horsley County Park at Tunitas Creek Beach.

President Kersteen-Tucker reported that she attended the San Francisco garter snake release on July 24, attended the California Joint Powers Insurance Authority meeting on July 22. She also presented to the San Carlos City Council on August 10 and attended the Silicon Valley Youth Climate Summit.

ADJOURNMENT

President Kersteen-Tucker adjourned the regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District meeting at 8:23 p.m.

Maria Soria, MMC
District Clerk