



**SPECIAL AND REGULAR MEETING**

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

**Wednesday, April 14, 2021**

*The Board of Directors conducted this meeting in accordance with California Governor Newsom's Executive Order N-29-20. All Board members and staff participated via teleconference.*

**DRAFT MINUTES**

**SPECIAL MEETING**

President Riffle called the special meeting of the Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District to order at 5:00 p.m.

**ROLL CALL**

Members Present: Jed Cyr, Larry Hassett, Karen Holman, Zoe Kersteen-Tucker, and Curt Riffle

Members Absent: Yoriko Kishimoto and Pete Siemens

Staff Present: General Manager Ana Ruiz, General Counsel Hilary Stevenson, Controller Mike Foster

President Riffle announced this meeting is being held in accordance with Governor Newsom's Executive Order allowing Board members to participate remotely. The District has done its best to conduct a meeting where everyone has an opportunity to listen to the meeting and to provide comment. 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. President Riffle described the process and protocols for the meeting.

**1. PUBLIC EMPLOYEE PERFORMANCE EVALUATION. Government Code Section 54957(b)(1)**

Title of Employee: Controller  
General Counsel  
General Manager

Public comment opened at 5:00 p.m.

District Clerk Jennifer Woodworth reported no comments were submitted for the special meeting.

Public comment closed at 5:01 p.m.

The Board convened into closed session at 5:01 p.m.

Director Kishimoto joined the meeting at 5:04 p.m.

Director Siemens joined the meeting at 5:09 p.m.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

President Riffle continued the special meeting of the Board of Directors of the Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District to the close of the regular meeting at 7:01 p.m.

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

President Riffle called the regular meeting of the Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District to order at 7:05 p.m.

### **ROLL CALL**

Members Present: Zoe Kersteen-Tucker, Yoriko Kishimoto, Curt Riffle, and Pete Siemens

Members Absent: Jed Cyr, Larry Hassett, and Karen Holman

Staff Present: General Manager Ana Ruiz, General Counsel Hilary Stevenson, Assistant General Manager Brian Malone, Assistant General Manager Susanna Chan, Chief Executive Officer/Director of Administrative Services Stefan Jaskulak, District Clerk/Assistant to the General Manager Jennifer Woodworth, Public Affairs Manager Kori Skinner, Public Affairs Specialist II Cydney Bieber, Human Resources Manager Candice Basnight, Senior Planner Tina Hugg

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Director Hassett joined the meeting at 7:07 p.m.

Directors Cyr and Holman joined the meeting at 7:09 p.m.

## **ORAL COMMUNICATIONS**

District Clerk Jennifer Woodworth read the submitted comments into the record.

Brian Harley provided comments supporting class 1 electric bikes on multi-use recreational trails where other types of bicycles are allowed.

## **ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

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

**ROLL CALL VOTE: 7-0-0**

## **SPECIAL ORDER OF THE DAY**

- Introduction of Staff
  - Rafaela Duran, Budget & Analysis Manager
  - Sasha Hnatkovich, Public Affairs Specialist II
  - Christine Llobregat, Public Affairs Specialist II

## **CONSENT CALENDAR**

Public comment opened at 7:17 p.m.

Ms. Woodworth reported no public comments were submitted for this item.

Public comment closed at 7:17 p.m.

**Motion:** Director Cyr moved, and Director Kersteen-Tucker seconded the motion to approve the Consent Calendar.

**ROLL CALL VOTE: 7-0-0**

1. **Approve the March 24, 2021 Board meeting minutes**
2. **Claims Report**
3. **Report from the Bond Oversight Committee to the Board of Directors for the review period from July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2020 (R-21-48)**

Committee Recommendation: The Bond Oversight Committee recommends that the Board of Directors accept this report.

## **BOARD BUSINESS**

4. **Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Transition Plan Implementation Update (R-21-49)**

Assistant General Manager Susanna Chan provided the staff report describing the project prioritization criteria, target schedule for preserves and facilities, 5-year work plan, and implementation progress for the ADA Transition Plan. Implemented projects are in several preserves and include stile improvements at Monte Bello and the Rhus Ridge parking area, resurfaced Permanente Trail in Rancho San Antonio, upgraded restrooms and accessible parking at Russian Ridge, and Levee Trail enhancements at Ravenswood. Other areas of the ADA program were also updated, such as enhanced website accessibility, coordination of public inquiries, and public meeting accommodations.

The Board thanked staff for their work to implement the ADA Transition Plan quickly and the benefits it offers to preserve visitors.

Public comment opened at 7:45 p.m.

Ms. Woodworth reported no comments were submitted for this item.

Public comment closed at 7:45 p.m.

No Board action required.

## **5. Oral Update on Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**

Public Affairs Manager Kori Skinner provided the staff presentation reviewing the Board's direction to date and provided an update on consultant selection and initial project scope. Ms. Skinner reviewed the previously approved project priorities and requested Board feedback on the priorities to align the project scope to the budget.

The Board asked clarifying questions regarding the proposed changes to the project scope.

Director Holman spoke in favor of postponing the science symposium, which will allow for additional scientific data from the Science Advisory Panel to be included. Director Holman spoke in favor of keeping the documentary as proposed.

Ms. Skinner explained the documentary topic would remain the same, but in scaling it back, the production value and distribution may not be as high as with the larger budget.

Director Siemens spoke in favor of the oral history project but suggested scaling back the video recordings of it.

Director Kersteen-Tucker spoke in favor of postponing the science symposium in order to ensure it is not lost in the other events. Director Kersteen-Tucker spoke in favor of postponing the documentary and suggested District partners, such as Doug McConnell, could support this project. Director Kersteen-Tucker spoke in favor of using the 50th anniversary events to help inform the public about the District.

Director Kishimoto spoke in favor of scaling back the project scope where necessary to stay within the project budget.

President Riffle spoke in favor of the oral history project to capture the stories those who participated in the founding and history of the District.

Ms. Skinner spoke regarding the Board's direction to postpone the science symposium and commitment to the project budget range.

Public comment opened at 8:30 p.m.

Ms. Woodworth reported no public comments were submitted for this item.

Public comment closed at 8:30 p.m.

No Board action required.

**6. Resolution Upholding Long-Standing Values of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion and Condemning Discrimination, Hate, and Bigotry in All Forms (R-21-50)**

General Manager Ana Ruiz described the proposed resolution to demonstrate the District's commitment to demonstrating its values of diversity, equity, and inclusion through actions, communications, and outreach and partnerships. The proposed resolution was developed with review and input by the District's Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion staff teams and is in response to a rise in racially targeted hate and racial discrimination that our country and the Bay Area region has experienced in the last year, including as experienced by our Black, Asian and Pacific Islander communities.

Director Kishimoto spoke regarding the diversity of the District's staff, community, and visitors and in support of the proposed resolution.

Public comment opened at 8:39 p.m.

District Clerk Jennifer Woodworth read the submitted comments into the record.

Andrew Verbrugge, on behalf of the District's Field Employees Association, provided comments in support of the proposed resolution and stated open space preserves should continue to be places that support diversity, equity, and be inclusive for all members of our community.

Public comment closed at 8:40 p.m.

**Motion:** Director Kishimoto moved, and Director Holman seconded the motion to adopt a Resolution upholding long-standing values of diversity, equity, and inclusion and condemning discrimination, hate, and bigotry in all forms.

**ROLL CALL VOTE: 7-0-0**

Human Resources Manager Candice Basnight and Senior Planner Tina Hugg, representatives from the District's Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion teams provided comments and thanked the Board for their commitment to supporting diversity, equity, and inclusion, and taking a stand against all forms of discrimination, hate, and bigotry.

**INFORMATIONAL REPORTS**

A. Committee Reports

Director Kishimoto reported the Lehigh Quarry ad hoc committee met on March 25, 2021 to discuss the next steps for the Santa Clara County project.

B. Staff Reports

Ms. Ruiz reported on recent meetings with state legislators to discuss District projects and legislation of District interest.

C. Director Reports

Director Hassett reported he and Director Kersteen-Tucker presented to the Half Moon Bay City Council on April 6, 2021.

Director Cyr reported he attended a meeting of the Santa Clara Valley Water District Water Commission on April 14, 2021

Director Kishimoto reported she attended a Santa Clara County Local Area Formation Committee.

President Riffle reported he recently met with the Santa Clara Valley Open Space Authority Board President. President Riffle reported on recent meetings with state legislators and their staff members.

**ADJOURNMENT**

President Riffle adjourned the regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District into closed session at 8:58 p.m.

**ADJOURNMENT**

President Riffle adjourned the special meeting of the Board of Directors of the Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District into closed session at 9:44 p.m.

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Jennifer Woodworth, MMC  
District Clerk