



Midpeninsula Regional  
Open Space District

February 5, 2014  
Board Meeting 14-05

**SPECIAL MEETING  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
MIDPENINSULA REGIONAL OPEN SPACE DISTRICT**  
Administrative Office  
330 Distel Circle, Los Altos, CA 94022

**Wednesday, February 5, 2014**

**APPROVED MINUTES\***

**CLOSED SESSION**

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

President Harris called the Special Meeting of the Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District Board of Directors to order at 6:10 p.m.

**II. ROLL CALL**

Members Present: Jed Cyr, Cecily Harris, Yoriko Kishimoto, Curt Riffle, and Pete Siemens

Members Absent: Nonette Hanko and Larry Hassett

Staff Present: General Manager Steve Abbors

**III. CLOSED SESSION: PUBLIC EMPLOYEE PERFORMANCE EVALUATION –  
Government Code Section 54957(b)(1)  
Title of Employee: General Manager**

**IV. ADJOURNMENT**

President Harris adjourned the Special Meeting of the Board of Directors of the Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District at 6:00 p.m.

**SPECIAL MEETING**

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

President Harris called the Special meeting of the Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District Board of Directors to order at 6:05 p.m.

President Harris noted that there were no actions to report out of closed session.

\*Approved by the Board of Directors on February 12, 2014

## II. ROLL CALL

Members Present: Jed Cyr, Cecily Harris, Yoriko Kishimoto, Curt Riffle, and Pete Siemens

Members Absent: Nonette Hanko and Larry Hassett

Staff Present: General Manager Steve Abbors, Assistant General Manager Ana Ruiz, Assistant General Manager Kevin Woodhouse, General Counsel Sheryl Schaffner, Real Property Specialist Elaina Cuzick, and District Clerk Jennifer Woodworth

## III. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

No speakers present.

## IV. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

**Motion:** Director Cyr moved, and Director Siemens seconded the motion to adopt the agenda as amended.

VOTE: 5-0-0 (Directors Hanko and Hassett absent)

## V. BOARD BUSINESS

### **Agenda Item #1 Presentation of Strategy Research Institute's Second Public Opinion Tracking Poll and Authorization to Prepare Ballot Documents to Place a Bond Measure on the June 3, 2014 Ballot (R-14-29)**

General Manager Steve Abbors provided comments on the history of the District's mission and a brief summary of the Strategic Plan. Mr. Abbors commented that through the District's Vision Plan process has shown members of the public have grown more interested in public access to the District's preserves rather than the District's historic mission of preservation through land acquisition.

Director Hanko arrived at 6:08 p.m.

Walter Moore, President of the Peninsula Open Space Trust (POST), provided comments related to the history of POST and the District working together and pledged POST's support for the potential funding measure.

Marc Landgraff, Director of External Affairs for POST, introduced Dr. Gary Manross of the Strategy Research Institute.

The Board received an informational presentation from Dr. Manross summarizing the polls his organization conducted on behalf of and POST related to the feasibility of placing a potential funding measure on the June 3, 2014 ballot. He described the methods used to determine the likelihood of potential support of voters for a funding measure, including the impact of potential arguments for and against a measure, the various pros and cons of a June or November election,

and the ability of a potential funding measure to be in line with the core values of potential voters.

The Board members asked various questions related to factors that could affect voter turnout. Discussion ensued.

Mr. Abbors suggested the following change to the ballot question: “To improve access to hiking, ~~and~~ biking, and equestrian opportunities, protect and preserve redwood forests, natural open spaces, the scenic beauty of our region and coastline, critical wildlife habitat, restore creeks to protect water quality, and reduce forest fire risk ~~of forest fires~~; shall Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District be authorized to issue up to \$300 million in bonds, at a tax rate not to exceed \$3.18 per \$100,000 of assessed value of property owned, with expenditures verified by independent citizen oversight committee?”

Public hearing opened at 7:23 p.m.

No speakers were present.

Public hearing closed at 7:23 p.m.

**Motion:** Director Hanko moved, and Director Siemens seconded the motion to authorize General Manager to direct District staff to prepare ballot documents for placing a bond measure on the June 3, 2014 ballot with the addition suggested by General Manager Abbors.

VOTE: 6-0-0 (Director Hassett absent)

### **Agenda Item #2 – Review Draft Ordinance for Placement of a Bond Measure on the June 3, 2014 Ballot (R-14-30)**

Real Property Specialist and Capital Finance Program Lead Elaina Cuzick provided the staff presentation. Ms. Cuzick provided an overview of the ballot documents, the timeline for approval of documents before submittal to the county Registrars, a description of the components contained in the ordinance, and an explanation of the Expenditure Plan and Tax Rate statement.

Director Riffle requested clarification related to the estimated costs for individual projects.

General Counsel Sheryl Schaffner explained that there is clarifying language included in the expenditure explaining that the estimates are in 2014 dollars and that they are estimates only, and the actual costs may change in implementation.

Public hearing opened at 7:47 p.m.

Tom Lockard spoke in support of the type funding being sought in the funding measure stating that it is an extremely low cost type of funding.

Alex Anderson a member of Silicon Valley Mountain Bikers and the Community Advisory Committee voiced his support for the funding measure and asked about the limits on the use of the general obligation bond funds.

Mr. Abbors explained that any funds received from a successful funding measure must be used for the projects listed in the Expenditure Plan. The District's funds that are separate from the general obligation bonds will be used to complete additional Vision Plan projects not included in the expenditure plan.

Public hearing closed at 7:52 p.m.

Director Kishimoto expressed her support of the funding measure being placed on the June 3, 2014 ballot.

**VI. ADJOURNMENT**

President Harris adjourned the Special Meeting of the Board of Directors of the Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District at 7:58 p.m.

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Jennifer Woodworth, CMC  
District Clerk