



Midpeninsula Regional  
Open Space District

## **PLANNING AND NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE**

Administrative Office  
330 Distel Circle  
Los Altos, CA 94022

**October 9, 2018**

### **DRAFT MINUTES**

#### **CALL TO ORDER**

Director Harris called the meeting of the Planning and Natural Resources Committee to order at to order at 2:02 p.m.

#### **ROLL CALL**

**Members Present:** Cecily Harris and Pete Siemens

**Members Absent:** Larry Hassett

**Staff Present:** General Manager Ana Ruiz, General Counsel Hilary Stevenson, Acting Assistant General Manager Brian Malone, Acting Assistant General Manager Kirk Lenington, District Clerk/Assistant to the General Manager Jennifer Woodworth, Acting Natural Resources Manager Coty Sifuentes-Winter, Integrated Pest Management Coordinator Tom Reyes

#### **ORAL COMMUNICATIONS**

No speakers present.

#### **ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

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

**VOTE: 2-0-0** (Director Hassett absent)

#### **COMMITTEE BUSINESS**

##### **1. Approve the June 5, 2018 Planning and Natural Resources Committee Minutes**

**Motion:** Director Siemens moved, and Director Harris seconded the motion to approve the minutes for the June 5, 2018 Planning and Natural Resources Committee meeting.

**VOTE: 2-0-0** (Director Hassett absent)

## 2. Integrated Pest Management Program – Glyphosate Review (R-18-112)

Integrated Pest Management Coordinator Tom Reyes provided the staff presentation describing glyphosate's chemical mechanisms, glyphosate's environmental characteristics, and the relative toxicity of glyphosate. Glyphosate is the active ingredient in Roundup. Mr. Reyes outlined glyphosate's carcinogenicity as classified by various government agencies. In the recent *Johnson v. Monsanto* legal case, a jury determined Monsanto was liable for negligently failing to warn a Roundup user that the product was a probable carcinogen. Another recent court case in the U.S. District Court determined California cannot require Monsanto to include a Prop 65 warning (warning regarding exposure to carcinogens) on the label.

Mr. Reyes described glyphosate use at the District and current best management practices to minimize glyphosate exposure for District staff and preserve visitors and to mitigate environmental impacts. Finally, Mr. Reyes outlined various recommendations for the integrated pest management program, including increased staff training, inclusion of two herbicides to the list of approved pesticides (Garlon 4 and Capstone), additional best management practices to further reduce visitor exposure to pesticides, and an annual pesticide literature review to keep staff updated on any new information related to District-approved pesticides.

Director Siemens inquired regarding current best management practices.

Mr. Reyes described the current personal protective equipment used by District employees, including coveralls, chemical-resistant gloves, optional Tyvek suits, and eye protection.

Director Harris inquired regarding research being completed by other agencies related to glyphosate.

Public comment opened at 2:37 p.m.

Mike Liebhold spoke regarding the potential impact of glyphosate on wildlife. Mr. Liebhold provided a copy of a recent article related to the impact of glyphosate on bees and requested the District study the impact of glyphosate on wildlife. Mr. Liebhold also spoke regarding the potential negative impact of Garlon 4 on the environment.

Mr. Sifuentes-Winter reported staff has been researching Garlon 4 for approximately a year and a half, and the results of the research will be presented to the Board in November.

Richard Youatt thanked the staff for conducting research on herbicides. Mr. Youatt spoke against the use of herbicides at the District and encouraged the District to stop its use of herbicides completely.

Public comment closed at 2:44 p.m.

Director Siemens requested an executive summary of the information being presented.

Acting Assistant General Manager Kirk Lenington described the current approach staff has taken regarding glyphosate and other herbicides to manage the uncertain risks related to these chemicals, including best management practices to minimize exposure.

Director Siemens suggested soliciting grant proposals from outside agencies to study herbicide toxicity.

**Motion:** Director Siemens moved, and Director Harris seconded the motion to forward to the Board of Directors the additional best management practices for the Integrated Pest Management Program, as described in the staff report, to further enhance public and staff safety, and reduce reliance of glyphosate. This item will be brought to the Board following a completed environmental evaluation.

**VOTE: 2-0-0** (Director Hassett absent)

**ADJOURNMENT**

Director Harris adjourned the meeting of the Planning and Natural Resources Committee of Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District at 2:53 p.m.

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Jennifer Woodworth, MMC  
District Clerk