



Midpeninsula Regional
Open Space District

Meeting 12-06

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

February 8, 2012

MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING

I. ROLL CALL

President Riffle called the Regular Meeting of the Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District Board of Directors to order at 7:00 p.m.

Members Present: Curt Riffle, Yoriko Kishimoto, Pete Siemens, Cecily Harris, Jed Cyr, Nonette Hanko, and Larry Hassett

Members Absent:

Staff Present: Acting General Manager David Sanguinetti, General Counsel Sue Schectman, Real Property Manager Mike Williams, Planning Manager Ana Ruiz, Public Affairs Manager Rudy Jurgensen, Administrative Services Manager Kate Drayson, Acting Natural Resources Department Manager Kirk Lenington, Senior Real Property Planner Sandy Sommer, and District Clerk Michelle Radcliffe

II. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

There were none.

III. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Motion: Upon motion by Director Cyr, seconded by Director Siemens, the Board adopted the agenda as amended. (Vote: 7-0-0)

IV. ADOPTION OF CONSENT CALENDAR

Motion: Upon motion by Director Hassett, seconded by Director Kishimoto, and unanimously passed, the Board approved adoption of the Consent Calendar to approve **Revised Claims No. 12-06; and the Minutes of January 11, 2012 as amended; the Written Communications to Ms. Enid Pearson and Ms. Sally Rice, and the cancellation of the February 22, 2012 Regular Board Meeting and calling of a Special Board Meeting on February 29, 2012.** (Vote: 7-0-0)

V. BOARD BUSINESS

1. **Agenda Item #5** – Approval of Proposed Purchase of the Peninsula Open Space Trust (Madonna Creek Ranch) Property located south of State Highway 92 approximately a half mile east of City of Half Moon Bay in unincorporated San Mateo County (Assessor's Parcel Number 056-450-010 and 056-450-030) as an addition to Miramontes Ridge Open Space Preserve; Adoption of the Preliminary Use and Management Plan; and Approval of a Categorical Exemption in Accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act. (R-12-10)

Senior Planner Sandy Sommer stated that the Peninsula Open Space Trust (POST) Madonna Creek property is located adjacent to the Miramontes Ridge Open Space Preserve and is in the Coastside Protection Area. She explained property has a fair market appraised value of \$3,600,000, but is being purchased by the District for \$600,000. Ms. Sommer further noted that \$500,000 of the purchase will be funded by a grant from the California Department of Parks and Recreation Habitat Conservation Fund. Ms. Sommer reported that as part of this transaction, POST will assign to the District an existing agricultural lease with Mr. Johnny Cozzolino which includes 27 acres of irrigated and dry farm row crops and a twelve-stall horse boarding facility. Discussion ensued.

Public Comment: POST Conservation Director Marc Landgraff spoke in favor of this purchase.

Motion: Upon motion by Director Hanko, seconded by Director Hassett, and unanimously passed, the Board approved the purchase of the POST Madonna Creek property as an addition to the Miramontes Ridge Open Space Preserve, adopted the preliminary Use and Management Plan, and approved a Categorical Exemption in accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act. (Vote: 7-0-0)

2. Agenda Item #6 – Award of Contract for Completion of CEQA Analysis and Documentation for the La Honda Creek Master Plan (R-12-17)

Open Space Planner Lisa Bankosh provided an overview of the La Honda Creek Master Plan Project and explained that the project includes a Public Use Option that would permit bicycle use on approximately 9.4 miles of proposed new and existing trail. Ms. Bankosh further explained that since the Board tentatively approved the project in November 2009, work on the project has been deferred due to budget and staffing constraints associated with higher priority projects. She reported that the staff recommends retaining the firm of Ascent Environmental to complete the analysis of potential environmental impacts associated with the project pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and that Ascent Environmental has extensive knowledge of District policies, practices, and environment due to its experience with Mount Umunhum. Lastly, Ms. Bankosh explained that Ascent Environmental is also a prequalified environmental consulting firm pursuant to the District's consultant selection policy. Discussion ensued.

Motion: Upon motion by Director Hassett, seconded by Director Hanko, and unanimously passed, the Board awarded the contract for completion of CEQA analysis and documentation for the La Honda Creek Master Plan. (Vote: 7-0-0)

VI. INFORMATIONAL REPORTS

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Director Siemens reported that the Administration and Budget Committee met to discuss the proposed FY2012-13 Budget and Action Plan and that it will be presented to the Board on February 29th.

STAFF REPORTS

Planning Manager Ana Ruiz reported that she and Acting Natural Resources Department Manager Kirk Lenington met with East Bay Regional Park District to discuss permitting issues with its counties. She also reported that today was the last day for any appeals to be submitted regarding the El Corte de Madera Parking Lot and that no appeals were submitted to the county.

Administrative Services Manager Kate Drayson reported that the labor negotiations team will be meeting with the Field Employees Association in February. She also provided an update on the status of the Integrated Accounting and Financial Software.

Public Affairs Rudy Jurgensen reported that he will not be in attendance at the February 29th Board meeting and that Volunteer Coordinator Paul McKowan will be presenting the department's action plan and budget.

Real Property Manager Mike Williams reported that District closed on the Peninsula Open Space Trust (Carilli) purchase and that the property clean-up was the largest clean-up project the District has been involved in.

General Counsel Sue Schectman reported that Assistant General Counsel James Atencio attended the hearing on the Gullickson matter and that the judge denied the Defendant's motion to include the District in their abatement lawsuit. She also reported that the District is currently conducting background and reference checks on the new General Counsel, that the employment agreement has been drafted, and that a press release will be distributed on February 16th.

Acting General Manager David Sanguinetti reported that on January 31st, the District hosted thirteen employees of the East Bay Regional Park District (EBRPD) to look at District trails. He explained that the EBRPD requested that District staff show them how trails are built for mountain bikers and to help with water drainage and sedimentation.

DIRECTOR REPORTS

The Board submitted their compensable forms to the District Clerk.

Director Hassett stated that he attended a South Skyline Association meeting where Senior Resource Planner Cindy Roessler gave a presentation on coyotes and commended her for the presentation.

Director Hanko requested that staff provide the Board with an update on the District's 40th Anniversary Event and Mr. Jurgensen reported that it will be discussed with the Legislative, Funding and Public Affairs Committee at a future meeting.

Director Cyr shared his hiking experiences with the Board. He then spoke about the costs of mailing Board packets and asked staff to look into alternative methods of distributing the packets.

Director Siemens inquired about using electronic mediums like tablets for Board meeting packets. President Riffle suggested that the subject be referred to the Legislative, Funding and Public Affairs Committee for discussion and consideration.

President Riffle reminded the Board to submit their Statement of Economic Interest forms to the District Clerk by March 23rd and reminded the directors to appoint a Chair as the first item of business at Committee meetings.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

President Riffle adjourned the Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors of the Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District at 8:50 p.m.

Michelle Radcliffe, CMC
District Clerk