

**MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF THE MCKINLEYVILLE COMMUNITY SERVICES  
DISTRICT HELD ON WEDNESDAY, APRIL 26, 2017 AT 6:30 PM  
AZALEA HALL, 1620 PICKETT ROAD, MCKINLEYVILLE, CA**

**AGENDA ITEM A. CALL TO ORDER**

**A.1 Roll Call:** The special session of the Board of Directors of McKinleyville Community Services District convened at 6:32 pm with the following Directors and staff in attendance:

Dennis Mayo, President  
Mary Burke, Director  
David Couch, Director  
John Corbett, Director  
George Wheeler, Director

Gregory Orsini, General Manager  
Emily Abfalter, Board Secretary

President Mayo called for Additions to the Agenda and Approval of the Agenda prior to the Pledge of Allegiance.

**A.3 Additions to the Agenda:** There were no additions to the agenda.

**A.4 Approval of the Agenda:**

**Motion:** It was moved to adopt the agenda.

**Motion By:** Director Corbett; Second: Director Couch

There were no comments from the Board or Public.

**Roll Call:** Ayes: Burke, Corbett, Couch, Mayo and Wheeler Nays: None Absent: None

**Motion Summary:** Motion Passed

**A.2 Pledge of Allegiance:** The Pledge of Allegiance was led by President Mayo.

**AGENDA ITEM B. PUBLIC COMMENT AND WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS:** President Mayo opened the public comment portion of the meeting. There were no public comments.

President Mayo commented on written communications and thanked General Manager Orsini for writing and sending in letters of opposition to AB 1668, Water Management Planning, and AB 1669, Urban Water Conservation Standards. President Mayo noted that he wrote a letter on behalf of the Association for California Water Agencies and touched on a few different subjects. Director Corbett commented that the letters were well written.

**AGENDA ITEM C. CONTINUED AND NEW BUSINESS:**

**C.1 Discuss Proposed Amendments to the Humboldt County Code Regulating Commercial Cannabis Activities as Presented in the Notice of Preparation of a Draft Environmental Impact Report.** President Mayo introduced the item, thanked the audience for attending and explained why a special meeting was called for this item. General Manager Orsini reviewed the staff note. President Mayo opened for Board discussion and asked each Director for their thoughts.

Director Corbett noted that the County code should have very clear language, pertaining to special districts and/or other governmental agencies, that it is not meant to restrict their authority and that all rights are reserved as necessary to regulate. Director Corbett continued that it will be hard to predict what the problems will be, if any at all and recommended that all agriculture be treated equally. The District will not be directly regulating cannabis cultivation but will regulate the effects of water usage in various structures and the effects on our system.

Director Couch commented on the importance in monitoring pretreatment standards and that the new treatment plant should be able to treat the heavier load but those with heavier discharge should have to

pay more for the treatment. Director Couch also noted that within the District's cross connection program, the most stringent requirements should be followed.

Director Burke was curious about how this will affect our community in general. While working at the Arcata Marsh, trying to assess changes in nutrient loads posed an interesting dilemma. Director Burke questioned how we will be able to find the source of heavy discharge?

Director Wheeler commented that some of the chemistries used are impossible to remove and stated the need to be careful about what is dumped into the rivers, as it will eventually flow to our water source.

President Mayo commented that zero discharge is ideal, however, the District should think about a management plan to handle discharge of nutrients and perhaps narrow down timing to be prepared for heavier loads. President Mayo also noted his concern related to distance of activities to parks in an effort to preserve our natural resources.

Director Wheeler suggested that the District look into how Sun Valley Bulb Farm is handled in relation to their nutrient use.

President Mayo introduced and thanked, Supervisor Ryan Sundberg, Ben Shepherd and Barbara Georgianna of the MMAC, and Sgt. McCall of the Sheriff's Department for attending the meeting. President Mayo then opened for public comment and the following members of the public spoke, Paul Hagen, Supervisor Ryan Sundberg, Barbara Georgianna, Steve Gieder, Terra Carver, Chad Sefcik, Ben Shepherd, and Miles Raymer, with varying levels of involvement in the cannabis industry and discussion.

Director Couch suggested differentiating water for cannabis culture (Ag use) from domestic use water when handling conservation requirements and tracking. In closing, President Mayo noted that the District, wants to be neither obstructionists nor proponents of this activity but as a District, we want to protect the District's ability to continue to provide quality, cost effective and environmentally safe services to our rate payers in the community while we honor both the County's policies and our obligation to Federal regulations. The Board thanked those who attended the meeting and for providing valuable input.

#### **AGENDA ITEM D. REPORTS**

**D.1 PRESIDENT'S REPORT:** Nothing reported.

**D.2 BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS, ANNOUNCEMENTS, REPORTS AND AGENDA ITEM REQUESTS:** Nothing reported.

#### **AGENDA ITEM G. ADJOURNMENT: 8:12pm**

Motion to adjourn made by Director Corbett; Second: Director Couch.



Emily Abfalter, Board Secretary