

# Marin County Special Districts Association

*An Organization to propose and advocate constructive means for the improvement and functioning of Special Districts within the County of Marin, State of California, and to assist such Special Districts and their governing bodies to provide a more effective and efficient government at the closest level to the citizens of Marin County that will result in benefit to the public.*

## MCSDA Executive Officers Meeting Minutes

**DATE/TIME:** February 9<sup>th</sup>, 2023, 2:30PM

**LOCATION:** Via Zoom Recording available [HERE](#) or at: <https://marinsda.specialdistrict.org/>

**PRESENT:** Officers: President Bill Hansell, District Manager, Alto Sanitary District  
Vice-President Lew Kious, Board Director, Almonte Sanitary District  
Treasurer Crystal Yezman, Las Gallinas Valley Sanitary District  
Secretary, Garrett Toy (absent)  
(Past President/Officer-At-Large seat not filled)

Speakers: Marin County Supervisor Mary Sackett, District 1  
Marin County Dept of Public Works Director Rosemarie Gaglione  
Rick Brandis and Nicki Tallman, Brandis Tallman  
Jason Fried, LAFCo Executive Officer  
Colleen Haley, CSDA Public Affairs Field Officer

Others: Marin County Special District Managers and Board Directors

### 1. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL (Video Time Stamp 00:00:09):

Hansell called the meeting to order at 2:30PM.

Kious/Hansell/Yezman present.

### 2. ADOPTION OF CONSENT CALENDAR (Time Stamp 00:02:25):

Bill Hansell gave a brief overview of the 11/10/23 meeting mentioning that Supervisor Moulton-Peters was a guest speaker. Motion to approve the 11/10/23 meeting minutes.

**M/S:** Kious/Yezman, Ayes: 3 Nays: 0

### 3. UPDATES/PRESENTATIONS (Time Stamp 00:04:32):

#### 3a. Marin County Supervisor Mary Sackett, District 1 –

Supervisor Sackett discussed her new role with the County and her desire to learn how to best collaborate and to efficiently communicate with the many special districts regarding projects and issues of mutual interest (e.g., street paving). Various District Managers spoke and indicated they appreciated the ability to contact her or her aides directly if they could not resolve issues with County staff or if County staff is non-responsive. Similarly, the Supervisor and District Managers agreed that the preferred approach is for the Supervisor to contact the District Managers directly regarding any issues that has been brought to the County's attention regarding a district. If district staff is non-responsive, then it would be ok for the County to contact Board members, but it most likely would not get to that point.

Supervisor Sackett also shared her priorities which are meeting state housing mandates, ensuring new developments are more environmentally conscious such as all-electric and use of recycled water (purple pipe), and addressing climate change/sea level rise. She indicated she would provide her as well as her aides contact info to Bill.

**3b. Marin County Director of Public Works Rosemarie Gaglione** (Time Stamp 00:29:07)- County DPW Director Gaglione expressed a desire to have open lines of communication between County staff and the special districts which regard to projects that overlap such as sewer line replacement/repair and County road projects. District Managers said relationships with DPW staff has been better lately, but we need more certainty when it comes to road repair requirements and more flexibility with regard to sewer line repair and road moratoriums. Director Gaglione agreed that the County should not change the pavement requirements after discussions with the Districts, especially after projects have gone to bid. However, she did indicate that weather and unforeseen field conditions are mitigating factors that could necessitate changes to pavement requirements. That being said, she indicated that she would like to create a “utility coordination group” that would meet periodically to discuss overlapping projects to address these issues and enhance lines of communication between the districts and County staff. She also suggested that if there is a last-minute change to County paving requirements affecting a special district, it would be helpful to know the “who, when and why” so she can better understand and address the issue. This is not intended to “throw anyone under the bus.” The district managers thought the “utility coordination group” was a good idea.

**3c. Rick Brandis & Nicki Tallman w/Brandis Tallman, a Div. of Oppenheimer & Co** (Time Stamp 00:52:16)- They provide financing services to CSDA members as an affiliate to CSDA and run the California public finance division of Oppenheimer. They are one of the financial consultants to the CSDA Finance Corporation. They are also the bond underwriter and placement agent for the CSDA Finance Corporation. They provide full-service financing services for equipment, vehicles, facilities, and/or infrastructure needs for special districts. If we are interested, they are willing to host a luncheon to discuss their services in more detail.

#### 4. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:

**4a. LAFCo Update by Jason Fried** (Time Stamp 01:09:28): Jason indicated that nominations are being accepted for the special district seat on LAFCo. Jason indicated that your respective Board must nominate you for LAFCo. L. Kious indicated he wanted to continue as the regular Special District representative on LAFCo. Jason also indicated that comments were due on the Golden Gate Municipal Service Review (MSR) by the end of the month.

**4b. CSDA Update on Legislation Opportunities by Colleen Haley** (Time Stamp n/a): Colleen Haley provided a brief update under 3c. She discussed SB557 which was the one-bill CSDA was sponsoring this year. SB 557 would extend the ability of Special Districts to continue with remote meetings by declaring state of emergencies every 45 days. She also requested that Districts consider sending in letters/resolutions opposing the proposed Business Roundtable Initiative which would limit the amount of taxes/fees

Special Districts could collect for its services.

- 4c. Chapter Officer Selection** (Time Stamp 01:14:37):  
L. Kious and B. Hansell indicated they were willing to continue in their roles as Vice-President and President, respectively. No one in attendance expressed a desire to serve in those roles, so they will continue in those roles for the next fiscal year. The other Board positions will be discussed at the next meeting.
- 4d. Member Round Robin/Networking** (Time Stamp n/a):  
Due to the shortness of time, we did not do the roundtable.
- 5. Board Requests – Future Meeting Dates** (Time Stamp 01:17:24):  
There was a discussion regarding the purpose of Executive Officer meetings and general meetings. Both meetings are open to all district managers and their Board members. However, it can be confusing who should attend, but the overall goal is to expand membership and attendance. We will discuss it more at a future meeting. Colleen stated that some Chapters have Executive Committee meetings between general meetings for the discussion of the topics for the general meetings. Colleen and Bill clarified these Chapter meetings are not subject to the Brown Act. Also, so we can continue to meet remotely.
- 6. ADJOURNMENT** (Time Stamp 01:21:00):

These minutes were prepared by Garrett Toy and approved at the MCSDA Meeting of July 24<sup>th</sup>, 2023.

Attest:

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Secretary of the Board