



MINUTES

Board of Directors Meeting

January 6, 2025, at 5:00 PM

Meeting Location: Palomares House, 1815 Stagecoach Lane, Fallbrook, CA

1 Call to Order and Roll Call (by observation):

Directors: T. Harrington ☑, P. Meehan ☑, B. Weber ☐, J. Roskos ☑, C. Leighton ☐

Officer: Treasurer G. Harrington ☑

Incoming newly elected MHCSD Directors: Kerry Fisherkeller ☑, Jeff Walker ☑

Community Attendees: Cindy Lee, Patty Carlson, David Carlson, John Hayward, Barbara Leo Romeo, Jerry Sarnataro, and Tim Cooke

Director Harrington called the meeting to order at 5:04 pm

2 Additions/Amendments to the Agenda (Government Code §54954)

Director Harrington made corrections to the list of Directors adding the new members and added the Tree and Landscaping topic to the Road Matters portion on the agenda. Then Director Harrington asked if any additional modifications were requested. Hearing none, the agenda was moved on.

3 Open Forum for Public to Address Board

Director Roskos informed all present that the meeting was being recorded to utilize AI software (Zoom/Read) to generate a first draft of the meeting minutes. A request was made to all speakers to identify themselves to train the AI software to assign names to each of the comments and any motions made or seconded.

Note: Due to a technical issue the meeting recording did not begin until 5:17 pm

Director Harrington informed the Board that the District had received two concerns via the District's website. The first was From Ms. Patty Carlson about the tree that had fallen in Morro Hills Road near the Olive Hill intersection. This was the reason for adding Tree and Landscaping to the Road Matters of the agenda and would be discussed at that portion of the agenda.

The second concern was From Mr. Phil Koogan who was concerned about traffic traveling at unsafe speeds on Conejo Road. He stated that young children play in the road and elderly walkers walk on the road regularly. He requested the speed limit be painted on the road near the intersection with Sleep Indian to try and slow traffic.

Hearing no further comments Mr. Harrington moved the agenda on.

4 Consent Calendar

[The consent calendar items are non-controversial matters voted on together by a single motion unless separate action is requested by a Board member or a member of the public.]

- a. Approval of Minutes – September 30, 2024
- b. Banking Account Report - fiscal year to date.
- c. Introduce new board.

Director Harrington presented the Consent Calendar, supplied copies of the Minutes and went over the banking activity report. He asked if there were any concerns with the Minutes, there were no concerns. Director Harrington informed the board that there was approximately \$100,000 in the account. Next the new board members were introduced: Kerry Fisherkeller (2-year term), Pat (2-year term), Tom Harrington (4-year term, Jeanine Roskos (4-year term) and Jeff Walker (4-year term).

Director Harrington **motioned** to approve the Consent Calendar, Director Roskos seconded, and the motion was unanimously approved by the new board.

5 Elect Board Positions

Director Harrington announced four management positions were open for assignment- President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasury Officer, and Road Managers.

5.1 President:

Director Roskos motioned that Tom Harrington continue role of President; Director Meehan seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous yes.

5.2 Vice-President:

Director Harrington made a motion to elect Director Patrick Meehan to the role of Vice-President; Director Fisherkeller seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous yes.

5.3 Secretary:

Director Harrington made a motion to elect Director Kerry Fisherkeller to the role of Secretary; Director Roskos seconded, and the vote was unanimous yes.

5.4 Treasury Officer:

Director Harrington made a motion to retain current Treasury Officer Gloria Harrington in the role of Treasurer. Director Roskos seconded, and the vote was unanimously approved.

5.5 Road Manager:

Director Harrington made a motion to elect Director Jeff Walker to the role of Road Manager. Director Meehan seconded the motion, and the vote was unanimously approved.

5.6 Liaison for Community and Government Affairs:

Director Harrington suggested Director Roskos's valuable, exhaustive, and much appreciated ongoing interactions with LAFCO and District community members be officially recognized with title of: Liaison for Community and Government Affairs.

6 San Diego LAFCO Meeting Attendance: Report

Four members of the Morro Hills CSD Board attended a regular Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO) meeting on December 2, 2024, at 8:15 am at the San Diego County Administration Center, 1600 Pacific Highway, Room 302, San Diego, California. MHCS D representatives included two existing directors; J. Roskos and T. Harrington, and two elect Directors; K. Fisherkeller and J. Walker. The purpose of attendance was to represent Morro Hills CSD on a LAFCO meeting agenda item (6A) discussing a LAFCO proposed Special Study area for expansion of the MHCS D Sphere of Influence (SOI). LAFCO regularly performs these studies as part of their charter of Municipal Service Reviews (MSRs). The LAFCO chair asked Director Harrington for input regarding the study from MHCS D and express any concerns. Director Harrington took to the podium and emphasized that MHCS D had to date virtually no interaction with LAFCO on the study to date and described several areas of concern including issues with increased liability, addition of commercial property that could be sold to a developer and transferring a county-maintained road section to MHCS D. Director Harrington expressed our opposition to the expansion. LAFCO members discussed our response.

The MHCS D board meeting continued with Director Harrington addressing several community concerns regarding district expansion and road safety. Specifically raised issues about the financial implications of maintaining new roads and potential liabilities from accidents, while Director Harrington highlighted the importance of community input in opposing the expansion. A local nursery owner reinforced the opposition, leading to tabling the proposal by LAFCO. The board's actions demonstrated a commitment to addressing community concerns, with LAFCO Supervisor Jim Desmond's involvement noted as significant in closing the discussion. Based on Director Harrington's input, Supervisor Desmond made a motion to the LAFCO Board to "remove the Special Study, MSR, Agenda Item 6A, for the Morro Hills CSD. Motion was Seconded by Commissioner Anderson. A vote was taken to approve Item 6A with an exception to remove the study, result was unanimous 12 votes in agreement and the motion passed.

A video recording of the meeting is available (with the motion to remove the MHCS D Special Study at 27:03) at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nXkQvITSZaE>

Director Roskos pointed out that this special study may emerge again in 2027 as LAFCO is required to revisit CSDs SOIs every five years.

LAFCO topic closed out with Director Roskos's requests to De Luz Community Services District (CSD) members regarding their police support from the Highway Patrol and certification challenges faced by De Luz CSD. Director Roskos stated inquiries to De Luz CSD have not been returned.

Director Roskos shared insights on Assembly Bill 43, which allows local authorities to set speed limits independently. Current speed data indicated changes in traffic behavior following the installation of speed signs, prompting plans for further research and outreach to local authorities regarding road certification and speed limit regulations.

7 Road Matters

a. Report on Ad-Hoc Committee Report and Recommendations

Community member and Ad Hoc Committee member Jerry Sarnataro asked if there have been any challenges to the new 35 mph posted speed limits yet. Director Harrington said no negative feedback had been received via the MHCSD website or from email.

b. Paving and Speed Tables

Director Harrington reported he had filled several potholes. The group discussed the need for better signage and updates on ongoing construction projects, including North River Road. The plan is to provide previously discussed delineators on the sides of two of the speed tables. Additional safety measures include road painting to highlight the upcoming speed tables using a series of narrowing chevrons or similar shapes as suggested by the road painting company. The balance between adequate warning signage and driver overload was debated with input from community member Tim Cooke. The board consensus was painting leading stripes on each of the speed tables would enhance vehicle safety, particularly in tree shaded areas. Director Harrington made a motion to obtain quotes for this entry road painting and indicated that a motion is not required to obtain quotes.

c. Drainage

Director Harrington addressed drainage issues, noting that debris potentially clogging a spillway near 4711 Sleeping Indian Road was removed by Director Harrington to improve road water drainage.

d. New Speed Sign Report

Director Fisherkeller reported that the new speed signs are operational, with an added 10% difference in northbound traffic observed. There remains a question with the vehicle count calibration, and the team is considering renting a device to improve accuracy. Additionally, he discussed the placement of new signage to enhance speed regulation on Morro Hills Road and southbound Sleeping Indian Road. Director Fisherkeller advocated for maintaining current speed limits and emphasizing the positive impact of speed tables which have reduced the 85th

percentile speed to 40 mph. Director Roskos asked what distance the radar signs record the vehicle speed for data collection. Director Fisherkeller said he would research this and find out from the sign company.

e. Overall Signage

Director Harrington said he is working with Director Walker on installing new 25 mph signs on each side of Morro Hills Road and each side of the straightaway by San Jacinto Circle East. Director Walker suggested one sign by the pump station, and one headed west by the pond located on the northwest corner of the intersection of Morro Hills Road and Olive Hill Road. Also to fulfill a community request to add a not-a-thru-street sign on Del Valle Drive.

8 DIRECTOR COMMENTS/REPORTS

Trees and Landscaping were moved under road matters at the beginning of the meeting

Tree Safety

Director Harrington mentioned a recent incident involving a large eucalyptus tree that fell across Morro Hills Road, nearly hitting neighbor George Lopez. Director Harrington highlighted the tree's height and the risk of other nearby trees falling due to compromised roots. Community member Patty Carlson related the incident next to their property. The discussion touched on the ownership of the land at 8451 Olive Hill Road where the trees are located, which is outside of the Morro Hills CSD. Agreed this property has potential hazards due to trees that could impact the district road. Director Roskos proposed contacting the planning department to address the issue, while Director Harrington highlighted the importance of property insurance for the owner. The board agreed on the necessity of sending a letter to the property owner to inform them of the risks and potential liabilities. Director Harrington Thought we should contact a local attorney to help draft a letter to indicate the property owner must address the issue or MHCSD will remove questionable trees and send a bill to the property owner and follow-up with obtaining any available information from the Planning Department. Director Roskos stated that she would draft the letter and will obtain the lot ownership and lines from publicly available data.

Landscaping Concerns

Director Harrington said landscaping trimming is needed near several road signs to improve visibility and will contact the tree trimming company we used last time to perform this work. Director Harrington made a **motion** to spend \$1000 on landscape trimming and Director Roskos seconded, with unanimous vote to agree.

Discussion on Google Communication and Speed Limit Updates

Director Roskos asked if a letter to Google had been sent following their last meeting, as they had not received a response. Director Fisherkeller stated that he had submitted the speed limit updates to Google using the required Google Maps process for updates using the "Send Feedback" feature but had not yet had a response. The discussion also touched on

discrepancies in speed limit readings on different devices, with Director Roskos noting a difference in speed limit displays on South Mission Road.

The meeting concluded with discussions on requested speed control measures on Conejo Road, where a community member, Phil Kogan, requested additional measures to reduce speed to the posted limit of 15 mph. Questions regarding increased traffic from an Airbnb and construction workers have raised safety concerns. Director Roskos proposed speed bumps and painting 15-mile-per-hour speed limit signs on the road to enhance safety, which Director Harrington supported. The group acknowledged the challenges of implementing speed tables due to numerous driveways and agreed that starting with road painting signage would be a cost-effective approach.

9 Adjournment

Plans were made to schedule the next board meeting for April 7th. The meeting adjourned at 6:10 pm

10 Action Items

- 1 Director Harrington will contact the supervisor's office to discuss road certification and speed limit regulations.
- 2 Director Harrington will pursue getting bids from painting companies for road striping and signage improvements.
- 3 Director Roskos will draft a letter to the property owner regarding the hazardous tree situation.
- 4 Director Roskos will research property lines and owner information to clarify title details for the project.
- 5 Director Harrington will inform community member Phil Koogan about providing painted road striping for further evaluation.
- 6 Director Fisherkeller will submit another request to Google Maps to update their maps to our new 35 mph speed limits.
- 7 Director Fisherkeller will contact the speed radar sign manufacturer to ask at what distance the radar sign starts measuring the speeds of vehicles.