

MORONGO VALLEY COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS
11207 OCOTILLO STREET. MORONGO VALLEY, CA 92256

REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES

6:00 p.m. Regular Business

January 17, 2024

Covington Park – MPR
11165 Vale Drive
Morongo Valley, CA 92256

<https://morongocsd.specialdistrict.org/>

This Board Meeting will take place in person at the Covington Park MPR, located at the address above. As a convenience to the public, the meeting will be livestreamed for those who wish to observe remotely. Please note that due to the in-person meeting format and technical limitations, members of the public will only be able to provide public comment in person. Please also note that in the event of technical issues that disrupt the meeting livestream, the meeting will continue.

Meeting Livestream VIA Zoom ID: 506 966 7982 Passcode: 629875

The Morongo Valley Community Services District complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. If you require special assistance to attend or participate in this meeting, please call (760) 363-6454. Materials related to any items on this agenda submitted to the Board after distribution of the agenda packet are available for public inspection during normal business hours at the CSD Main Office, 11207 Ocotillo Street, Morongo Valley, CA 92256.

A. CALL TO ORDER

The Regular Board Meeting of January 17, 2024, was called to order at 6:00 p.m.

B. ROLL CALL

1. Christina Gorke, President, Present
2. Lynn Watts, Vice President, Present
3. Johnny Tolbert, Director, Present
4. Lance Fisher, Director, Present
5. Steve Hayden, Director, Present

C. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

D. PUBLIC COMMENTS

The Board of Directors now takes time to consider your comments on items which are on the agenda. The acting Chairperson will recognize you at the appropriate time to assist in the orderly and timely conduct of the meeting. When called upon to speak, please state your name and residence. Comments will be limited to three (3) minutes or less for both agenda items and non-agenda items. If you wish to comment on an agenda item or non-agenda item during Public Comment or raise your hand. In addition, members of the public may submit comments electronically prior to the meeting using the form on the District's website. The acting Chairperson will recognize all electronic comments submitted at least 48 hours prior to the meeting either by reading the comment(s) at the meeting or noting on the record that comments were received and provided to the Board at or before the meeting.

Buddy Stogner
Linda Christianson

E. ADDITIONS TO, AND/OR REORDER OF, THE AGENDA

The Board generally considers items in the order listed on the agenda. However, items may be considered in any order as established by the direction of the Board. Under certain circumstances, new agenda items may be added by unanimous vote of the Board. [Gov. Code Sec. 54954.2(b)(2)]

1. Agenda for the Regular Board Meeting of January 17, 2024.

MOTION: Direct Tolbert motioned to accept the agenda for the Regular Board Meeting of January 17, 2024, as presented.

SECOND: President Gorke

RESULT: Motion passes with a 5/0 vote

F. AGENCY REPORTS

1. Sheriff's Report – San Bernardino County Sheriff's Representative

The San Bernardino County Sheriff's representative reported the upcoming KOH starting in Lucerne Valley. Stating that historically we've had 100,000 people traveling through. The Fire Department will be bus. On January 6, 2024, there was an unfortunate incident. A gentleman from outside our area decided to commit suicide by cop. We tried to talk him down, but it turned out the way it did. There's not much more he could say about the incident. Deputies are staying on the OHV; 12 additional deputies have been trained for these circumstances.

2. General Manager/Fire Chief Report – James Brakebill

Chief Brakebill reported 47 calls of various natures. Stating that our dispatch center is upgrading our CAD center. It will start automatically recording times like dispatched, arrival, our captains are going to get training done for this new system. Our staff is currently going through training for EF Recovery. On the CSD side of the house the office remodel is about 90 percent complete. We've been working with FEMA very closely to get this grant completed.

Director Watts requested to view resident vs nonresident call reports.

3. Cash / Check Disbursements & Credit Card Purchases for December – Director Tolbert

Director Tolbert reported that in the month of December the total spending for the CSD was \$410,470.68. That is \$272,986.53 greater than the previous month. Meaning that in December our normal bills came to \$121,502.41. He notated that we should keep in mind that there were three pay periods during this month. As of December 31, 2023, there was \$194,932.61 in the Districts bank account.

4. General Manager Ad Hoc Committee – Directors Watts and Fisher

A Special meeting was scheduled for February 3, 2024, at 9:00 a.m. pending if the candidates can make it.

G. CONSENT CALENDAR

Items on the consent calendar are routine matters or formal documents covering previous District Board instruction. Items may be acted on by one motion of the Board unless a Board Member requests a separate discussion and/or action on an item.

1. Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of December 20, 2023.
2. Minutes of the Special Board Meeting of December 27, 2023.
3. Minutes of the Special Board Town Hall Meeting of January 10, 2024.

MOTION: Director Tolbert motioned to approve the consent calendar as presented

SECOND: President Gorke seconds

RESULT: Motion passes with a 5/0 vote

H. CLOSED SESSION

The Special Closed Session of the Board of Directors of January 17, 2024, was called to order by President Gorke at 6:27 PM, with Vice-President Watts, Director Tolbert, Director Fisher, Director Hayden and Chief Brakebill present.

1. Public Employee Performance Evaluation
(Government Code Section 54957)
Title: General Manager/Fire Chief
2. Public Employment
(Government Code Section 54957)
Title: Fire Chief
3. Public Employment
(Government Code Section 54957)
Title: General Manager
4. Conference with Labor Negotiator
(Government Code Section 54957.6)
Designated District Representative: Steven M. Kennedy, General Counsel
Unrepresented Employee: Fire Chief
5. Conference with Labor Negotiator
(Government Code Section 54957.6)
Designated District Representative: Steven M. Kennedy, General Counsel
Unrepresented Employee: General Manager

I. CLOSED SESSION REPORT

The Special Meeting of the Board of Directors of January 17, 2024, reconvened and was called to order by President Gorke at 7:57 p.m. President Gorke reported that the Board of Directors did not take any reportable action.

J. NEW BUSINESS

1. FIRE CHIEF JOB DESCRIPTION
It was notated to bring back at next meeting with amendments.

2. FIRE CHIEF CONTRACT
Tabled until the next meeting.

3. GENERAL MANAGER CONTRACT

MOTION: President Gorke motioned to accept the interim contract with Brittany Chavez with the following changes: scheduled to expire at the next meeting, remove her requirements to live in Morongo Basin, pay rate at 25, and bring her back to her original position with her original pay if another General Manager were to get brought in.

SECOND: Director Tolbert

RESULT: Motion passes with a 5/0 vote.

4. SMITH MARION & CO AUDIT DRAFT

The Board of Directors did not receive the audit draft from Smith Marion & CO in a timely manner prior to this meeting. Tabled until next regular Board Meeting.

5. INTERNET BID FOR THE MVCSD OFFICE

The Board of Directors discussed and reviewed the bids from Westech and Justin Brakebill.

MOTION: President Gorke motioned to approve the bid from Westech.

No second

MOTION: Director Tolbert motioned to accept Justin Brakebill's bid

SECOND: Director Hayden

RESULT: Motion passes with a 3-1-1 vote, with President Gorke voting nay and Director Watts abstaining.

6. MORONGO VALLEY CSD SUPPORTER PROGRAM

The Board of Directors further discussed, reviewed, and approved moving forward with this program.

MOTION: Director Watts motioned to move forward with the CSD supporter program.

SECOND: Director Tolbert

RESULT: Motion passes with a 5/0 vote.

7. MID YEAR REVIEW

The Board of Directors discussed, reviewed, and agreed there were going to be no changes to the budget at this time.

MOTION: Director Tolbert motioned to accept the mid-year as presented there will be no transferred at this time.

SECOND: Director Hayden

RESULT: Motion passes with a 5/0 vote.

8. MVCSD POLICY HANDBOOK

Tabled until next meeting.

9. 2023 CHUCK OSBORNE AWARD NOMINEES

**The Board reviewed and discussed the Chuck Osborne award nominees.
President Gorke nominated Steve Hayden due to his support in the community.
Lynn nominated Tammy Stogner.**

MOTION: Director Tolbert motioned to make Christina Gorke volunteer of the year.

SECOND: Director Hayden

RESULT: Motion passes with a 5/0 vote.

10. SENDING UNPAID BILLS FROM EF RECOVERY TO COLLECTIONS

The Board of Directors discussed, reviewed, and approved EF Recovery to send unpaid non-resident bills to collections.

MOTION: President Gorke Motion to send unpaid bills for nonresidents go to collections.

SECOND: Director Tolbert

RESULT: Motion passes with a 5/0 vote.

K. INDIVIDUAL DIRECTOR REPORTS

1. President Gorke - appreciate everyone staying out, look forward to seeing how the community decides to support the district.
2. Vice President Watts – nothing to report.
3. Director Tolbert – thank you to the men and women of the Morongo Valley Fire Department thank you Chief and Brittany. I've been here for 13 years I've heard a lot of people say they can do it better than I can. Well, here's your chance I will not be going out for reelection this year. To whoever is at okka.org you are a coward, do not take the time to send an email without putting your name to it. I will talk to anyone but do not send trash like this to me or my family.
4. Director Fisher - thanks everybody for sticking there.
5. Director Hayden – some nice volunteers put some gates in the park that we think the sheriff knocked down. We look like a real park now. They are such good gates.

L. ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. Next Regular Board Meeting February 21, 2024

M. ADJOURNMENT

The Board of Directors motioned to adjourn the Regular Board Meeting of January 17, 2024, at 9:07 p.m.

Moved: President Gorke Second: Director Tolbert Vote: 5/0