

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE MCKINLEYVILLE COMMUNITY
FOREST COMMITTEE (MCFC) HELD ON TUESDAY, MARCH 17, 2026 at 5:30 P.M.
IN PERSON AT AZALEA HALL – 1620 PICKETT ROAD, MCKINLEYVILLE, CALIFORNIA**

and

TELECONFERENCE Via ZOOM & TELEPHONE:

**ZOOM MEETING ID: 848 9634 6527 (<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84896346527>) or DIAL IN TOLL FREE:
1-888-788-0099**

NOTE: Items are listed in the order in which they were considered.

1 Call To Order

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m. by Gregory Orsini.

Roll Call

The following Committee Members were in attendance in person at Azalea Hall.

Gregory Orsini, Chair, MCSD Board Director (Non-Voting Member)
James Biteman, MCSD Board Director (Non-Voting Member)
Patrick Kaspari, MCSD General Manager
James Henry, MCSD Operations Director
Jens Andersen, MCSD Recreation Coordinator
Jennifer Ortega, PARC Appointee Member
Joel Rink, Forester/RPF Member
Desiree Early Dorvall, Natural Resources/Biologist Member
Michele Stephens, McKinleyville Resident Member
Kevin Creed, At-Large Member
Christopher Collier, Alternate Natural Resources Agency Member
Nicole West, Alternate Natural Resources/Biologist Member

The following Committee Members were Absent.

Kirsten Messmer, MCSD Parks and Recreation Director
Maya Conrad, MMAC Appointee Member
Tyler Brown, Natural Resources Services Agency

The following Staff Members were in attendance in person at Azalea Hall.

Jess Elm, MCSD Environmental Programs Coordinator

2 Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Jens Andersen.

3 Additions or Changes to the Agenda

There were no additions or changes to the agenda.

4 Seating of Alternates

Christopher Collier was seated as a voting member in the absence of Tyler Brown.
Nicole West was seated as a voting member in the absence of Kirsten Messmer.

5 Approval of Agenda

Motion: It was moved to approve the agenda.

Motion by: Kevin Creed **Second:** Michele Stephens

Roll Call: Ayes: Patrick Kaspari, James Henry, Jens Andersen, Jennifer Ortega, Joel Rink, Desiree Early Dorvall, Michele Stephens, Kevin Creed, Christopher Collier, Nicole West

Nays: None

Absent: Kirsten Messmer, Maya Conrad, Tyler Brown

Motion Summary: Motion passed.

6 Public Comment and Written Communications

There was no public comment.

7 Consider Approval of Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the McKinleyville Community Forest Committee on February 17, 2026

Motion: It was moved to approve the February 17, 2026 meeting minutes.

Motion by: Patrick Kaspari **Second:** Kevin Creed

Roll Call: Ayes: Patrick Kaspari, James Henry, Jens Andersen, Jennifer Ortega, Joel Rink, Desiree Early Dorvall, Michele Stephens, Kevin Creed, Christopher Collier, Nicole West

Nays: None

Absent: Kirsten Messmer, Maya Conrad, Tyler Brown

Motion Summary: Motion passed.

8 Trails, Infrastructure, Clean-Ups, & Security (TICS) Subcommittee Report

Michele Stephens, Chair of the Trails, Infrastructure, Clean-Ups, & Security Subcommittee, reviewed the item. She described how the Subcommittee began by taking public comment from the Disc Golf user group. She explained how there were forty-five written public comments submitted to McKinleyville Community Services District and eleven people in person for the TICS meeting who made public comment, all in favor of a disc golf course being included in the McKinleyville Community Forest. The Subcommittee members spent the remainder of the meeting reviewing the Draft Trail Plan, comparing the goals listed in the Draft Trail Plan to the goals written in the Draft Forest Management Plan.

There were no questions or comments from the Committee.

There was no public comment.

This was an information only item. No action was taken.

9 Forest Management Plan and Funding/Budget (FMPFB) Subcommittee Report

Kevin Creed, Chair of the Forest Management Plan and Funding/Budget Subcommittee, presented the item. He explained that the main focus of the meeting was spent editing the Draft Forest Management Plan (FMP) document in real time. The FMPFB completed their final review and edits to the FMP document which was then sent to the full McKinleyville Community Forest Committee (MCFC) for their individual review. Any comments on the FMP are due back to Jess by March 27, 2026. The FMPFB will

then review the comments at their April 7, 2026 meeting, in hopes for the MCFC to finalize the Draft FMP at their April 21, 2026 meeting. Following the review, they will consider recommending the document to the MCSD Board for final approval. With the FMP completed, the FMPFB Subcommittee will begin the work to potentially establish a Memorial Grove Program for the MCF.

There were no questions or comments from the Committee.

There was no public comment.

This was an information only item. No action was taken.

10 Discuss the Draft Forest Management Plan Review Process

Jess Elm, MCSD Environmental Programs Coordinator, presented the item. She explained how at the FMPFB Subcommittee meeting on March 3, 2026, the members completed reviewing the Draft Forest Management Plan (FMP). Comments and suggestions are to be submitted to Jess by March 27, 2026, where they will be compiled into a master draft document that the FMP Subcommittee will review at their April 7, 2026 meeting. The MCFC will then review this final master draft at their April 21, 2026 meeting for final review. Following the review, they will consider recommending the document to the MCSD Board for final approval. The FMPFB Subcommittee also decided to recommend to the MCFC Committee to wait to hold a public workshop to review the FMP document once the Trail Plan is also completed.

The Committee commented, discussed, and asked clarifying questions.

There was no public comment.

This was an information only item. No action was taken.

11 Make Recommendation for the Appointing of the Vacant At-Large Voting Member Seat

Jess Elm, MCSD Environmental Programs Coordinator, presented the item. She explained how it is the responsibility of the MCFC to vet and select the most qualified candidate to fill the vacant position. Christopher Collier, Ben Marschke, Martha Ellen Basham, Phil Heidrick, Karen Kiemnec-Tyburczy, and Sydney Stewart submitted applications for consideration. Staff also recommended not recommending any applicates to the vacant Alternate Non-Voting Member seat until the Rules and Regulations is updated to formally include these positions.

Committee members discussed and asked clarifying questions.

There was no public comment.

Motion: It was moved to recommend Christopher Collier for the Vacant At-Large Voting Member Seat to the MCSD Board for approval.

Motion by: Patrick Kaspari **Second:** James Henry

Roll Call: Ayes: Patrick Kaspari, James Henry, Jens Andersen, Jennifer Ortega, Joel Rink, Desiree Early Dorvall, Michele Stephens, Kevin Creed, Christopher Collier, Nicole West

Nays: None

Absent: Kirsten Messmer, Maya Conrad, Tyler Brown

Motion Summary: Motion passed.

12 Consider Recommendation to the MCSD Board to Approve Changes to Regulation 46 via Ordinance

Patrick Kaspari, MCSD General Manager, presented the item. He explained that in 2024 the MCSD Board approved three (3) Alternate seats in 2024 but the Rules and Regulation were not updated to reflect this. Since the Committee is already large, Staff are suggesting to only have two (2) Alternate seats for the MCFC. The Rules and Regulations were also changed to reflect the two (2) additional voting member seats, one of the seats is to be appointed by a local Tribal Council or Tribal Government and the other seat is for a local Tribal member who is a resident of the MCSD. Staff made additional changes to Regulation 46, and during the meeting, MCFC members also made edit suggestions.

Committee members discussed and asked clarifying questions.

There was no public comment.

Motion: It was moved to have Staff make these additional changes to Regulation 46 and bring them to the MCSD Board for approval.

Motion by: Desiree Early Dorvall **Second:** Joel Rink

Roll Call: Ayes: Patrick Kaspari, James Henry, Jens Andersen, Jennifer Ortega, Joel Rink, Desiree Early Dorvall, Michele Stephens, Kevin Creed, Christopher Collier, Nicole West

Nays: None

Absent: Kirsten Messmer, Maya Conrad, Tyler Brown

Motion Summary: Motion passed.

13 Committee Chair Report

Gregory Orsini, MCFC Chair, reported that the Board continued to discuss the John Corbett Memorial Grove.

14 Committee Member Announcements and Future Agenda Items

- California Conservation Corps (CCC) in the McKinleyville Community Forest February 23rd-February 26th & March 5th
- Joel Rink gave more details on the logging on the Green Diamond property adjacent to the MCF this summer
- Lindsay Creek Conservation Easement presentation April 21st MCFC meeting
- Form 700 Reminder
- Next MCF Committee Meeting: April 21, 2026 at 5:30 p.m.
- Next TICS Subcommittee Meeting: March 24, 2026 at 5:15 p.m. at the MCSD Office (1656 Sutter Rd)
- Next FMP Subcommittee Meeting: April 7, 2026 at 4:30 p.m. at the MCSD Office (1656 Sutter Rd)
- MBTTA Workday scheduled second Saturday 10am-2pm (Weather Dependent)
- VTS Workday scheduled third Saturday from 9am-noon (Weather Dependent)

15 Adjournment

Meeting Adjourned at 6:59 p.m.



Jess Elm, Environmental Programs Coordinator