


**Joint Meeting of the  
McKinleyville Community Services District (MCSD) Board of Directors  
and the McKinleyville Municipal Advisory Committee (MMAC)**

In person at  
McKinleyville Middle School Conference Room  
2285 Central Avenue, McKinleyville, CA  
And ZOOM PLATFORM - ONLINE MEETING  
October 22, 2025 6:00 pm

**MINUTES**

**(Approved by MCSD Board at December 3, 2025 Regular Meeting)**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
**Joey Blaine, CMC, MCSD Board Secretary**

**A. CALL TO ORDER**

A.1 Roll Call-

MCSD Board of Directors Members Present:

David Couch, Dennis Mayo, Scott Binder, Greg Orsini.

MCSD Board Members Absent: James Biteman

MMAC Members Present:

Mary Burke, Maya Conrad, Lisa Dugan, Kevin Jenkins, Pat Kaspari, Twila Sanchez, Bonnie Oliver (and Scott Binder).

A.2 Pledge of Allegiance

A.3 Land Acknowledgement

A.4 Additions or Changes to the Agenda: None

A.5 Approval of Agenda:

Greg Orsini moved to approve the Agenda and Kevin Jenkins seconded the motion.

**B. PUBLIC COMMENT AND WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS (on non-agenda items)**

Community members made comments on non-agenda items including questions about the possibility of lowering the speed limit on Central Avenue as an alternative to a road diet, about the possibility of a future off and on ramp at I-101 and Hiller Road, and thanks for good service received from a MCSD staff member. Supervisor Madrone thanked the MCSD Board and the MMAC for their care for the community.

**C. CONTINUED AND NEW BUSINESS**

**C.1 Emergency Preparedness & Disaster Response** – Maya Conrad introduced the topic stressing the challenges of coordinating emergency services in an unincorporated area and the importance of disaster planning.

a. Presentation from Humboldt County Sherriff William Honsal:

Sherriff Honsal gave a power point presentation on their Operational Emergency Services (OES) and how they are implemented throughout the County.

Topics discussed included:

- Hazard Risk Ranking for the County Operational Area
- OES Responsibilities and Duties in Response
- Earthquake / Tsunami Preparedness
- Countywide Evacuation Maps and a link to the maps
- Humboldt Alert System
- Evacuation Warnings and Orders
- Family Emergency Preparedness including personal emergency plans
- Ways to contact OES and access their resources online.

b. Presentation from Humboldt County Sherriff Deputy Ralieg Willoughby:

Deputy Willoughby, Search and Rescue Manager for the Sherriff's Department gave a power point presentation on:

- How to prevent getting lost (including telling someone where you are hiking, GPS apps and understanding directions in the forest)
- What to do if it happens (including think "stop")
- How Search and Rescue finds you (including via text)
- Resources available to Search and Rescue

He used hiking and getting lost in the McKinleyville Community Forest as an example scenario to explain these topics. He also stressed that you do not have to wait 24 hours before you can report someone as missing.

c. Presentation from California Highway Patrol Public Information Officer Paul Craft:  
Cancelled.

d. Presentation from McKinleyville Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) Team Leader Cliff Van Cott:

CERT Team Leader Van Cott gave a power point presentation on the role and training of local CERT Teams and how they are often the "help before help arrives" in an emergency. Topics discussed included:

- What is CERT? (FEMA program of volunteers trained for disaster response)
- CERT Basic Course (~23 hours of free formal training)
- Additional Training Available (First aid, crowd & traffic management et al)
- McKinleyville's CERT (First meeting was May 2019)
- Website links and local radio stations that broadcast Humboldt Alerts
- How to make a disaster household kit and "go bag"
- Making an emergency plan and being informed (be ready to help yourself)
- Earthquake is the #1 emergency we need to improve our preparedness for.

Cliff also brought a number of handout resources for meeting participants to take home including “Living on Shakey Ground” and “Living with Wildfire”.

e. Question and Answer Session with Presenters:

MMAC and MCSD Board Members thanked the presenters, shared information on the topic and asked questions including:

- Lisa Dugan thanked Ginger Campbell of the Sheriff’s Department who is the McKinleyville Community Watch Coordinator and was present.
- Kevin Jenkins shared some guidelines for safely running a generator in an emergency and some suggestions for what to include in go-bags (e.g. Doritos are a calorie source and good fire starters).
- Mary Burke asked about communication when cell phone service is down. It was recommended that you have a radio with batteries (C. Crane radio tuned to KMUD or KINS).
- Greg Orsini reminded community members to be patient when contacting emergency service providers, and to try texting first as they are more apt to work than a phone call in many cases.
- Dennis Mayo explained how MCSD is part of the County’s OES and has done a lot of work on water system resilience. He also asked about whether false notifications of tsunamis from a national noticing system out of Alaska are likely to continue. (likely)
- Twila Sanchez asked about a registry for elder and disabled persons needing electrically powered medical equipment during an outage. Presenters said PG&E does have a registry for this.
- Scott Binder, also a McKinleyville CERT team member, encouraged the community to know the needs of your neighbors and be ready to help them, after you have secured your own home, in an emergency.
- David Couch shared that MCSD’s water automatically shuts off during an earthquake and MCSD has water storage for McKinleyville for a week.
- Maya asked presenters to share what “keeps them up at night”. Answers included the Cascadia Subduction Zone and residents not being prepared.

Community members also shared questions and comments including:

- Will FEMA disaster relief funding be available in our area? What other resources may be available? (Earthquake / Homeowners insurance, government loans).
- There are additional organizations in our community working on emergency operation plans including faith-based organizations and Blue Lake Rancheria who provide emergency preparedness workshops.
- Clarification on what to do if someone goes missing or is overdue. (Call Sheriff’s office or 911 if an injury is involved.)
- Are there special considerations for working with people on the autism spectrum in an emergency? Sheriff’s Dept. has a partnership with Behavioral Health’s Mobile Intervention & Services Team (MIST) who can

be called in to help. Also, you can submit a form and picture to the Sheriff's Dept. database to alert them to special or specific needs.

- Marine rescue may also be required in a large earthquake when 101 is flooded and overpasses have failed.

#### **D. BOARD / COMMITTEE MEMBER COMMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Scott Binder announced that there would be a McKinleyville Trash Bash on Saturday, October 25, 9:00 – 10:30 am, rain or shine. Twila Sanchez announced that there will be a Community Workshop hosted by HCAOG on the Humboldt Multimodal and Vibrant Neighborhoods Planning Project, with guest national experts, on Wednesday, December 3, 2025, 5:30 – 8:30 pm at the Wharfinger Building in Eureka. Also, there is a community survey at the HCAOG website for input on the topic, which closes on Oct. 24. Mary Burke announced that MMAC members Lisa Dugan, Twila Sanchez and Bonnie Oliver will be “retiring” from the MMAC at the end of their current terms on Oct. 25, 2025, and that the next MMAC meeting will be a Special Meeting on Dec. 10, 2025.

#### **E. ADJOURNMENT**

MMAC Chair Mary Burke adjourned the meeting at 7:52 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Bonnie Oliver