

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE MCKINLEYVILLE COMMUNITY  
FOREST COMMITTEE (MCFC) HELD ON TUESDAY, MAY 19, 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)  
Patrick Kaspari, MCSD General Manager  
James Henry, MCSD Operations Director  
Kirsten Messmer, MCSD Parks and Recreation Director  
Jens Andersen, MCSD Recreation Coordinator  
Maya Conrad, MMAC Appointee Member (arrived at 5:32 p.m.)  
Jennifer Ortega, PARC Appointee Member  
Joel Rink, Forester/RPF Member  
Desiree Early Dorvall, Natural Resources/Biologist Member  
Michele Stephens, McKinleyville Resident Member  
Christopher Collier, At-Large Member  
Kevin Creed, At-Large Member  
Nicole West, Alternate Natural Resources/Biologist Member

The following Committee Members were Absent.

James Biteman, MCSD Board Director (Non-Voting 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 Kirsten Messmer.

Maya Conrad arrived approximately 5:32 p.m.

**3 Additions or Changes to the Agenda**

There were no additions or changes to the agenda.

#### 4 Seating of Alternates

Nicole West was seated as a voting member in the absence of Tyler Brown.

#### 5 Approval of Agenda

**Motion:** It was moved to approve the agenda.

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

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

Nays: None

**Absent:** 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 April 21, 2026

**Motion:** It was moved to approve the April 21, 2026 meeting minutes.

**Motion by:** Michele Stephens **Second:** Kirsten Messmer

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

Nays: None

**Absent:** 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 with Public comment from Joann Kerns, the Conservation Chair for the North Coast Chapter of the California Native Plant Society, discussing a conservation opportunity in the McKinleyville Community Forest (MCF). There was also Public comment from Angeline Holtski, a volunteer member of the Active Transportation Subcommittee for the McKinleyville Municipal Advisory Committee about trail connectivity for the future Town Center and the MCF. The TICS members spent the remainder of the meeting distributing assignments for the Subcommittee members to complete outside of the TICS regularly scheduled meeting times. Members reviewed the proposed remaining steps to completing the Trail Plan and discussed a trail classification matrix for the MCF.

There were questions and 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 FMPFB spent the meeting continuing their discussions on a potential Memorial Grove Program (MGP) for the MCF. Subcommittee members reviewed documents for guidance in discussions and logistics for a MGP. The FMP Subcommittee requested Staff create a rough draft of what a MGP would look like for the MCF and bring back to the next FMP Subcommittee to review. Upon FMP approval, the rough draft will be taken to the McKinleyville Community Forest Committee (MCFC) for review prior to the development of a Draft MGP.

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 Lindsay Creek Easement Presentation**

Jess Elm, MCSD Environmental Programs Coordinator, presented the item. A representative from the Northcoast Regional Land Trust and a representative from Green Diamond were invited to present information on the Lindsay Creek Conservation Easement to provide clarity on the transition and address questions. Dan Ehresman, from Northcoast Regional Land Trust and Matt Nannizzi, from Green Diamond, gave an overview of their organizations, explained the purpose and function of a conservation easement, and discussed the objectives of the Lindsay Creek Conservation Easement.

The Committee commented, discussed, and asked clarifying questions.

There was no public comment.

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

## **11 Discussion for Rules and Regulations Additions Approved by MCSD Board**

Patrick Kaspari, General Manager, presented the item. He explained how the McKinleyville Community Services District (MCSD) Board members approved the changes made to the Rules and Regulations, Regulation 46 via Ordinance at their May 6, 2026 meeting. Key changes made included two (2) additional seats being added to the MCFC, including one (1) voting seat appointed by a local Tribal Council or local Tribal Government and adding one (1) additional At-Large voting seat for a local Tribal member who is a resident of the MCSD. Other key changes include, having two (2) Alternate seats on the MCFC, an updated absences policy, and the seat on the MCFC held by the MCSD's Operations Director being changed to being held by MCSD's Environmental Programs Coordinator. Applications for the two additional Tribal representation seats and the Alternative seat opened on May 7, 2026 and close on June 5, 2026.

Committee members discussed and asked clarifying questions.

There was no public comment.

**Motion:** It was moved to approve Staff's recommended process for the implementation of the open seats for the MCFC.

**Motion by:** Patrick Kaspari **Second:** Desiree Early Dorvall

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

Nays: None

**Absent:** Tyler Brown

**Motion Summary:** Motion passed.

## 12 Committee Chair Report

Gregory Orsini, MCFC Chair, reported that the MCSD Board approved the Rules and Regulations changes made by Staff and the MCFC. Gregory Orsini also reported on the most recent information regarding the One Million Dollar grant for the MCF.

## 13 Committee Member Announcements and Future Agenda Items

- Humboldt Trails Summit May 30<sup>th</sup> hosted by Humboldt Trails Council
- Update on Fire Prevention Grant Murray Rd. Kirsten Messmer, Parks and Recreation Director, let the Committee know this would likely cause road closures.
- Next FMP Subcommittee Meeting: June 2, 2026 at 4:30 p.m. at the MCSD Office (1656 Sutter Rd)
- Next MCF Committee Meeting: June 16, 2026 at 5:30 p.m.
- Next TICS Subcommittee Meeting: May 26, 2026 at 5:15 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)
- MCF budget will be included in the July MCFC meeting Agenda

## 14 Adjournment

Meeting Adjourned at 6:39 p.m.

  
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Jess Elm, Environmental Programs Coordinator