



**Report on Agenda Item 10a at KFPD Regular Meeting  
Report on the May 15, 2023 Meeting of the CC SDA  
Larry Nagel  
May 17, 2023**

The last meeting of the Contra Costa Special Districts Association (CCSDA) was held on May 15, 2023. This was a hybrid meeting live at the Contra Costa Mosquito and Vector Control District in Concord and also available on Zoom.

The meeting was called to order by President Chad Davisson at 9:40 AM.

The first agenda item was a presentation by guest speaker Kristen Connelly who is the Contra Costa County Clerk-Recorder and Election Registrar. Kristen was elected last November and noted that she has been very busy because the Presidential election cycle is just beginning and is the busiest time for Election Districts. Kristen noted the challenges of trying to keep the trust of the electorate in view of the conspiracy swirling around elections and the divisive politics everywhere in the county. Kristen noted that Contra Costa County was one of only 16 Election Divisions in the state that were selected for the Election Excellence Award which was accompanied by a \$2M grant. The Election District also was selected for a nationwide task force to establish improved election processes and procedures. Kristen noted the challenges include regaining and maintaining public trust, computer security issues including malware attacks, and running elections in nine different languages. Kristen was particularly proud of the new CEO (Certified Election Observer) program which trains volunteers on all aspects of the election process so that they may be observers at the polls.

Next was a report by Lou Ann Texeira on the LAFCO Election for a CCSDA alternate. Lou Ann noted that there were seven nominations for the position. Because there are 40 Special Districts in Contra Costa County, there have to be at least 21 ballots cast. At present, there are only 18, and the deadline is Friday, May 19, at Noon. Everyone was strongly encouraged to cast ballots and to encourage other districts as well. KFPD has cast its ballot

Next on the agenda was an overview and wrap up of the CCSDA 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Gala which was held on April 27, 2023 at the Pleasant Hill Community Center Pavilion Room. President Chad Davisson thanked everyone for the tremendous organization and participation to make this event a success. The dinner was sold out, sponsors contributed \$18,000 to defer expenses, and the Keynote Speaker was Zoe Dunning, Retired US Navy Commander and Transformational Change Agent, who gave an inspiring talk.

Next, Treasurer Bert Michalczyk presented the FY 2023-24 budget which has revenues of \$5,060 and Expenses of \$2,840 for a surplus of \$2,220. The budget passed unanimously.

Next was a discussion of content of the July 2023 Joint Meeting with the Alameda Chapter by Vice President Susan Morgan. Susan is organizing a panel discussion on the "Taxpayer Protection and Government Accountability Act," Initiative #21-0042A1 (aka #1935). If this passes, it will limit the ability of voters and state and local governments to raise revenues for government services. This initiative is a constitutional amendment. This initiative is opposed by the CSDA, many special districts, and many school boards. Not surprisingly, it is supported by businesses and taxpayer organizations.

The next agenda item was a LAFCO update by Mike McGill. The last LAFCO meeting was May 10, 2023. At that meeting, the application from the Knightsen CSD to dissolve the district due to lack of funding was accepted and is now in the process of protest submission, although no protests have been submitted as of yet. LAFCO approved their budget and work plan at this meeting and is working on a special MSR for Mountain View and Central Sanitation Districts in light of a possible consolidation.

The final agenda item was a report by Colleen Haley on CSDA Updates and Legislation in Progress. There are two items of interest:

- AB 557 which will continue the Brown Act for meeting in person but with some additional flexibility for remote participation. This bill is so limited that there was little objection.
- "Taxpayer Protection and Government Accountability Act," Initiative #21-0042A1 (aka #1935) described earlier. The CSDA is vigorously opposing the initiative and is calling on all special districts to write letters.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:50 AM by President Chad Davisson.

The next CCSDA meeting will be a joint meeting with Alameda County Association and will be held on July 17 in Dublin.

Respectively submitted,



Laurence W. Nagel  
Liaison  
Contra Costa Special District Association  
Kensington Fire Protection District