



The voice of our community

**Board Meeting**  
**December 10, 2024 – 4:00 PM**  
**MINUTES**

**In-Person at the Montecito Community Hall/Library**  
**And Virtually Via Zoom**

**I. Call to Order 4:02 PM by 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President Lundgren, Roll Call and Establishment of Quorum**

**Present:** Bollay, Duran, Gerlach, Kemp, Lundgren, Macfadyen, A. Miller, M. Miller, Newquist, Pennino, Serrani, Trosky, Wittman

**Absent:** Babbitt, Black, Denson

**Approval of November 12, 2024 Board Meeting Minutes**

Duran/Gerlach  
Motion Approved

**II. Public Comment for Items not on the Agenda-**Supervisor-Elect Roy Lee introduced staff, community liaison.

**III. Community Reports**

**Montecito Fire Department-Chief Neels-**Update given. The Franklin Fire started around 10:15 pm, December 9. Resources from MFD responded with one engine and one battalion chief. Chief reminded all that a small shift in wind can create fire. Season of Hope Campaign will be broadcast live on KSBY. The MFD is accepting donations.

**Montecito Sanitary District-John Weigold-**Reported on the manhole project. They will be lining the sewer system and ninety-three manholes. Many manholes are in easements behind homes and will need to notify homeowners. The cost is \$1.5M to do the work.

**Montecito Union School- Anthony Ranii** Safety update given. MUS accomplished thirteen different safety measures like cameras and fences. He thanked Mindy Denson for work on the safety sub-committee. The school is having challenges filling roles, many of which are entry level instructional assistants. They also have a physical education teacher retiring. Ranii welcomes referrals. Multi-level areas of instruction are being used for literacy. Jacqueline Duran is leaving the board after twelve years of service. MUS is collaborating with the Montecito Journal for a story on all their construction projects.

**Cold Spring School-Amy Alzina** Reported that they are hosting a holiday showcase on the weekend and students will be selling products for school enhancements. They are doing two holiday showcases on Tuesday and Thursday. She thanked Westmont College for their support.

**Sheriff Report-Rich Brittingham** Recap of the month included: A man under the influence at Channel Drive. More patrols are being carried out at Channel Drive. There was a domestic violence incident and arrest, also a panhandler near offramp and in possession of methamphetamine and coke and he was arrested. Another domestic violence incident in a vehicle at knifepoint, individual was arrested. There was a residential burglary with no suspect, there was possession of drug paraphernalia, a break-in interrupted, a recovered stolen vehicle and a subject throwing rocks who was arrested and caused \$75k damage to vehicle.

#### IV. Conference Agenda

**i. 101 Project Update – Kirsten Ayars** Presented presentation. Highlights include Carpinteria is complete, there are four projects in production currently and they are doing well. Grinding is taking place, putting grooves in the 101 pavement for noise reduction which offsets the lane increase. North bound lanes will open in a few days. Summerland landscaping continues with new trees and will finish next month. Next week, they are going to present at the Montecito Planning Commission (MPC), due to a design change after approval-when flood water will go through the barriers to maintain plantings. In the creek area of Romero, Oak and San Ysidro, FEMA restricts movement of water from one watershed to another watershed area. The profile of the freeway needs to be raised to keep the water in its watersheds and change the safety barrier on the outside edge of the freeway to an open concrete barrier so that flood waters can flow through it. Work on the original median area of the highway in Montecito continues through the spring and summer of 2025. Butterfly lane is closed until December 23 due to an open grate in the ceiling.

**V. Executive Director Report-** Houghton Hyatt updated about the holiday parade that included about thirty cars, thanked the sponsors and there will be a sip and shop starting at 3:30pm before the parade. An email was sent to expired members, and sixty renewals came in at approximately \$10k.

**VI. Treasurer's Report-**Financials are looking better, if there are any issues with renewals, contact us and we will resolve them.

#### VII. Committee Reports

- a. Land Use / Transportation-Land Use meeting hosted the Music Academy of the West and heard their presentation. There was a longer discussion after about the LUC function and that it used to be the first stop and now it is not.
- b. Events-Parade planned for the week.
- c. History-Trish Davis reported that Montecito's architecture will be featured in Town & Country Magazine. MERAG had its last meeting and disbanded.
- d. Outreach-Hand in hand with safety. The goal is to have more sheriff presence in Montecito, talked with different entities and are working on logistics of response times. A community drill was discussed and making a space in Montecito for the sheriffs.
- e. Groundwater Sustainability-No update
- f. Hands Across Montecito-Union Pacific (UPR) and Caltrans do not have the ability to do cleanouts and have difficulty reaching them. They requested support of UPR and requested assistance from the community for contacts to reach someone there that would be helpful. We only have contacts for Caltrans and would like them to attend our meetings.

**IX. Old Business:** After discussion, Motion made for MA Board to send a letter to CBOS Supervisors requesting information to clarify path liability and responsibility. **Bollay/Duran** Motion approved.

**X. New Business-** Restoration Hardware is opening this weekend and there is a lot of private security.

Adjourned 5:20 pm