

**MARIN MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT  
E-BIKES COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES**

Minutes of the E-Bikes Community Advisory Committee Meeting held on Tuesday, February 11, 2020 at 220 Nellen Ave., Corte Madera, California.

Members present: Bill Albright, Debbie Rafael, Gail MacMillan, Jonathan Frieman, Ellie Cohen, Nona Dennis, Robert Eichstaedt, Robert Mittelstaedt, Peter Whittlesey, and Sierra Salin

Members absent: None

This meeting was noticed as a special meeting to allow three or more Board members to attend. In attendance were Board members Larry Bragman and Cynthia Koehler and the following staff members: General Manager Ben Horenstein, Watershed Resources Manager Shaun Horne, Facilities and Watershed Division Manager Crystal Yezman, and Park Ranger Brett Pedisich.

**Welcome**

General Manager Ben Horenstein called the meeting to order at 6:02pm and made opening remarks. Mr. Horenstein started by thanking the committee for their participation in the committee. He reminded the committee to conduct themselves in alignment with the committee charter.

**Meeting Introduction and Overview**

Sam Magill, Senior Facilitator at the Consensus and Collaboration Program at Sacramento State University, introduced himself and reminded staff that there was limited time left for the E-Bikes Community Advisory Committee (CAC) and advised members to use their time thoughtfully. He reviewed the agenda for the meeting which included a presentation on MMWD watershed enforcement data which the members had requested.

Mr. Magill called upon the members to do brief self-introductions.

**Presentation: Watershed Regulations and Enforcement**

Watershed Resources Manager Shaun Horne reviewed a PowerPoint presentation, offering an overview of the watershed and including topics pertaining to impacts of bikes and e-bikes on the watershed and illegal bike trail usage.

Park Ranger Brett Pedisich then discussed (from the same PowerPoint) watershed protection staff and watershed enforcement and regulations at MMWD. Mr. Pedisich went into more detail explaining what specific warnings and citations are issued by the rangers on the watershed (and how many are given), "Call's for Service," and also Medical aid.

A brief question and answer period with the committee followed.

**Presentation: Recommendations Process and CAC Member Responses**

Mr. Magill reviewed a summary of E-bikes CAC member recommendations with a potential range of alternative solutions (referring to a few final slides in Mr. Horne and Mr. Pedisich PowerPoint).

Mr. Magill reported that support and opposition for E-bikes on the watershed is about equally divided among the CAC members (slightly more in favor), and that the recommendations from the CAC were generally similar to MMWD's December 2018 e-bikes public workshop. Mr. Magill also confirmed that impacts of e-bikes versus bikes on the watershed are inconclusive.

General Manager Ben Horenstein made a comment on why a limited trial period is not an option for the committee. He doubted a pilot program would ultimately produce meaningful information that would substantially clarify or contribute to the current conversations.

A brief question and answer period with the committee followed.

### **Discussion: CAC Member Discussion of Recommendations**

A comment period followed where all members spoke. A few members commented that the discussion seemed to be diverting from the original question that the CAC was tasked with answering – Should e-bikes be allowed on natural surface fire roads on the watershed? – to a more general discussion on bikes on the watershed. There was some voiced support of a pilot program and of educational opportunities for bikers on the watershed.

General Horenstein again addressed the notion of a trial period and also clarified that the question of ADA access would be addressed outside the CAC by legal experts.

Mr. Magill said he would continue to reach out to the CAC for more detailed input. He mentioned the next meeting date and that an e-bike demo ride was still in process of being scheduled for the CAC.

### **Public Comment**

There were twelve public comments made by Larry Minikes, Dan Jeffris, John Slivka, Laura Chariton with the Watershed Alliance of Marin, Michael Kelley, Saul Leikien from Specialized Bicycle Components, Linda Novy with the Marin Conservation League, Matt Adams with Mike's Bikes, Ross resident Jeff Knaus, Bill Rosenberg, John Boeschen, and Daniel Cressman.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the meeting of February 11, 2020 was adjourned at 8:24 p.m.