

1 **MUIR BEACH COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT**
2 Minutes of the Board of Directors' meeting held on
3 Friday, February 27, 2026
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5 **OFFICIAL MINUTES ONLY UPON APPROVAL**
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7 Prior to approval of these minutes by the Board of Directors in a public meeting, these minutes are
8 draft only and subject to change. Upon approval by the Board, these minutes become the Official
9 Minutes of the meeting.

10
11 **Item 1: Call to Order** at 18:02pm

12 Board: Steve Shaffer (Board President), Nikola Tede (Board Vice President), Leighton Hills (Director),
13 Christine Lam (Director), David Taylor (Director)
14 Staff: Mary Halley (District Manager), Chris Gove (Fire Chief)
15

16 **Item 2: Approval of Agenda**

17 Item(s) not included in this agenda: None.
18

19 MOTION: To approve the agenda
20 Moved: Lam, seconded by Tede
21 Vote: AYES: Unanimous.
22

23 **Item 3: Approval of Argument in Favor of Fire Tax Ballot Measure**

24 At the Muir Beach Community Services District Board's ("Board") last regular meeting on January 21,
25 2026, the Board voted unanimously to place a ballot measure on the June 2026 ballot imposing a
26 special tax for the purpose of supporting fire protection services ("Ballot Measure"), Resolution No.
27 2026-1.
28

29 The California Elections Code governs what argument will appear first on the County voters' guide
30 based on who has submitted the argument. Arguments submitted by the governmental body receive
31 priority and will appear first.
32

33 California Elections Code section 9282(b) requires that when a governmental body submits an
34 argument for or against a ballot measure, the argument must be authorized by the board. Upon such
35 authorization, the argument will be submitted to the County Election's Office.
36

37 The Fire Tax Committee members Director Taylor and Director Lam recommend that the Board
38 approve the draft argument in favor of the Ballot Measure on behalf of the Board, that will be
39 accompanied by up to four (4) additional printed names and signatures of persons joining in support,
40 and then cause its submittal to the Marin County Elections Office, as follows:
41

42 *The Muir Beach Volunteer Fire Department (MBVFD) has been supported by a voter approved parcel*
43 *tax since 2016. Measure L expired after 10 years. The Muir Beach CSD, which oversees MBVFD,*
44 *resolved to place (this parcel tax) [Measure __] before the voters based on a careful analysis of fire*
45 *department finances. That analysis showed that without this parcel tax renewal the department will*
46 *not be able to operate safely or effectively in the future. A community survey indicated majority*
47 *support for the idea. This 10-year parcel tax renewal on the ballot is \$386—an increase of 35%. Annual*
48 *increases will be pegged to changes in San Francisco–Bay Area Consumer Price Index to keep up*
49 *with future inflation. The fire department is also supported by generous donations from the Muir Beach*

1 *Volunteer Fire Association and by the Measure W transient occupancy tax as well as grants. MBVFD*
2 *cannot base future operations on donations and grants alone as those are not predictable income*
3 *sources. Through thrift the department has saved enough funds to start building this year, after 30*
4 *years of effort, a new firehouse. Firehouse construction expenses will exhaust all MBVFD reserve*
5 *funds, and it will be in deficit by year's end. MBVFD uses outdated equipment that is carefully*
6 *maintained and kept in service. The firefighters must have safer, more modern protective equipment.*
7 *MBVFD engines will need expensive maintenance before the department can afford to replace them.*
8 *MBVFD needs to outfit its new firehouse and anticipate further volunteer recruitment. For about a*
9 *dollar a day we can protect the health and safety of our volunteers and provide rapid emergency*
10 *response to our tiny, isolated community.*

11
12 MOTION: To approve the Fire Tax Ballot language as submitted.
13 Moved: Hills, seconded by Taylor
14 Vote: AYES: Unanimous.

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17 **Item 4: Next Meeting Date and Adjournment**
18 Next Board Meeting Date: Wednesday, March 25, 2026.

19
20 There being no further business to come before the board, the meeting is adjourned.
21 Meeting adjourned at 18:05 pm.