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MCE BOARD MEETING MINUTES
Thursday, September 17, 2026
6:30 P.M.

Present:

Liz Alessio, County of Napa and Four Napa Cities/Town (American Canyon, Calistoga, St. Helena, and Yountville)
Stephanie Andre, City of Larkspur, joined at 6:34 p.m.
Dion Bailey, City of Hercules, joined at 7:15 p.m.
Eli Beckman, Town of Corte Madera, joined at 6:35 p.m.
Mark Belotz, Town of Danville
Kari Birdseye, City of Benicia
Monica Brown, County of Solano, left at 8:32 p.m.
Barbara Coler, Town of Fairfax
Craig DeVinney, Alternate, City of Walnut Creek, left at 10:20 p.m.
Arlene Kobata, City of Pittsburg, joined at 7:21 p.m.
Kevin Jacobs, City of Novato
Maika Llorens Gulati, City of San Rafael
Eduardo Martinez, City of Richmond
John McCormick, City of Lafayette
Aaron Meadows, City of Oakley, joined at 6:45 p.m.
Laura Nakamura, City of Concord
Beth Painter, City of Napa, left at 10:28 p.m.
Charles Palmares, City of Vallejo
Max Perrey, City of Mill Valley, joined at 6:38 p.m.
Jack Ryan, Alternate, Town of Tiburon
Mary Sackett, County of Marin
Mathew Salter, Alternate, Town of Ross
Shanelle Scales-Preston, County of Contra Costa, Chair
Amanda Szakats, City of Pleasant Hill
Holli Thier, Town of Tiburon, left at 8:36 p.m.
Sridhar Verose, City of San Ramon
Chantel Walker, Town of San Anselmo
Sally Wilkinson, City of Belvedere
Brianne Zorn, City of Martinez

Absent:

Jill Hoffman, City of Sausalito
Devin Murphy, City of Pinole
Patricia Ponce, City of San Pablo
Manveer Sandhu, City of Fairfield
Graham Thiel, Town of Moraga
Carolyn Wysinger, City of El Cerrito

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Staff & Others: Jared Blanton, VP of Public Affairs
Karin Bloomer, Leading Resources, Inc.
Jesica Brooks, Lead Board Clerk and Executive Assistant
Eric Douglas, Leading Resources, Inc.
Alice Havenar-Daughton, VP of Customer Programs
Alcides Hernandez, Director of Rates
Vicken Kasarjian, Interim CEO & COO
Shaheen Khan, VP of Human Resources, Diversity, and Inclusion
Tanya Lomas, Board Clerk
Linda Lye, Senior Legal Counsel
Lindsay Meehan, Director of Human Resources
Catalina Murphy, General Counsel
Efren Oxlaj, Manager of Finance
Justine Parmelee, VP of Internal Operations
Mike Rodriguez-Vargas, Internal Operations Coordinator
Enyonam Senyo-Mensah, Manager of Internal Operations
Bill Slaton, Leading Resources, Inc.
Maira Strauss, Chief Financial Officer
Son Tran, Internal Operations Assistant
Jamie Tuckey, Chief Customer Officer

1. Roll Call

(Video 0:00:00)

Chair Scales-Preston called the regular meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. with quorum established by roll call.

Action: It was M/S/C (Alessio/Coler) to **Extend the meeting past the 10 p.m. stop time.** Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote. (Absent: Bailey, Hoffman, Kobata, Meadows, Murphy, Perrey, Ponce, Sandhu, Thiel, and Wysinger).

2. Public Open Time on Closed Session Matters

(Video 0:06:56)

Chair Scales-Preston opened the public comment period and there were no comments.

Begin Closed Session Chair Scales-Preston opened the closed session at 6:38 p.m.

3. Roll Call/Quorum

(Video 0:08:04)

Chair Scales-Preston returned the meeting to open session at 8:36 p.m. and quorum was established by roll call.

Docusign Envelope ID: 226CD197-EF8E-87BD-81BF-775272FBCC61

Closed Session 2.A.

Action 1: It was M/S/C (Coler/Llorens Gulati) **to Reject the Government Claim Dated August 14, 2026, and Authorize Staff to Defend MCE in Any Legal Action Brought Based on The Issues Raised in That Claim. In addition, direction was provided by the Board.** Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote. (Absent: Hoffman, Murphy, Ponce, Sandhu, Thiel, and Wysinger).

Closed Session 2.B.

Action 2: It was M/S/C (Coler/Beckman) **to Reject the Government Claim Dated August 18, 2026, and Authorize Staff to Defend MCE in Any Legal Action Brought Based on The Issues Raised in That Claim. In addition, direction was provided by the Board.** Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote. (Absent: Hoffman, Murphy, Ponce, Sandhu, Thiel, and Wysinger).

4. Board Announcements (Discussion)

(Video 0:11:05)

There were comments from Directors Bailey, Alessio, and Coler.

5. Public Open Time (Discussion)

(Video 0:17:45)

Chairs Scales-Preston opened the public comment period and there were comments from members of the public, Brendan Sugrue, and Kara Vernor.

6. Report from Chief Executive Officer (Discussion)

(Video 0:24:39)

Vicken Kasarjian, Acting CEO and Chief Operating Officer, introduced this item.

Chair Scales-Preston opened the public comment period and there were no comments.

7. Consent Calendar (Discussion/Action)

(Video 0:27:37)

C.1 Approval of 8.20.26 Meeting Minutes
C.2 Proposed Amendment of Policy 014: MCE's Investment Policy
C.3 Fiscal Year End 2026: Budget Results, Power Supply Variance and Ratification of Certain Line Item Variances
C.4 MCE 2025 Power Source Disclosure Attestation

Chair Scales-Preston opened the public comment period and there was a comment from member of the public, Dan Segedin.

Action 1: It was M/S/C (Martinez/Jacobs) **to Approve Consent Calendar Items C.2-C.4.** Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote. (Absent: Brown, Hoffman, Murphy, Ponce, Sandhu, Thiel, and Wysinger).

Docusign Envelope ID: 226CD197-EF8E-87BD-81BF-775272FBCC61

Action 2: It was M/S/C (Llorens Gulati/Perrey) **to Approve Consent Calendar Item C.1 with Staff's Recommended Amendments.** Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote. (Absent: Brown, Hoffman, Murphy, Ponce, Sandhu, Thiel, and Wysinger).

8. Selection of Heidrick & Struggles International, Inc. for Chief Executive Officer Search Services (Discussion/Action)

(Video 0:40:18)

Director McCormick, Chair of the Ad Hoc CEO Search Committee, introduced this item.

Chair Scales-Preston opened the public comment period and there were no comments.

Action: It was M/S/C (Wilkinson/Alessio) **Approve selection of Heidrick & Struggles International, Inc. for Chief Executive Officer Search Services for an amount not to exceed $250,000, authorize staff to support the CEO Search Committee in negotiating the specific contract terms, and authorize the Board Chair to execute the contract for the services.** Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote. (Absent: Brown, Hoffman, Murphy, Ponce, Sandhu, Thiel, and Wysinger).

9. Deliver Findings of Governance Assessment (Discussion)

(Video 0:50:38)

Karin Bloomer, Eric Douglas, and Bill Slaton of Leading Resources, Inc. introduced this item and addressed questions from Board members.

Chair Scales-Preston opened the public comment period and there was a comment from member of the public, Dan Segedin.

Action: It was M/S/C (Scales-Preston/Alessio) to **Move Forward with the Recommendations Provided by Leading Resources Inc. and to Analyze Options for a Smaller Board and Bring it Back to a Future Board Meeting for Discussion.** Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote. (Absent: Brown, DeVinney, Hoffman, Murphy, Painter, Palmares, Ponce, Sandhu, Thiel, and Wysinger).

10. Report Out on Financial Audit Fiscal Year End 2026 (Discussion)

(Video 2:18:16)

Director Alessio, Chair of the Finance Committee, introduced this item and addressed questions from Board members.

Chair Scales-Preston opened the public comment period and there were no comments.

Docusign Envelope ID: 226CD197-EF8E-87BD-81BF-775272FBCC61

No Action Required.

11. Board & Staff Matters (Discussion)

(Video 2:29:16)

There were no comments.

Re-open Closed Session Chair Scales-Preston re-opened closed session at 11:16 p.m.

Roll Call/Quorum Chair Scales-Preston returned the meeting to open session at 12:09 a.m. and quorum was established by roll call.

Closed Session 2.C.

Action: It was M/S/C (Sackett/Perrey) **to Appoint Vicken Kasarjian as Interim Chief Executive Officer and to Direct the Executive Committee to Establish the Compensation, Terms and Conditions of Employment, and Scope of Authority Associated with That Appointment; the Appointment Will Not Alter His Position as Chief Operating Officer**. Motion carried by roll call vote. 23-Yeas 5-Nos. (Nos: Bailey, Martinez, Szakats, Walker, and Zorn. Absent: Brown, DeVinney, Hoffman, Murphy, Painter, Palmares, Ponce, Sandhu, Thiel, and Wysinger).

12. Adjournment

(Video 2:35:09)

Chair Scales-Preston adjourned the meeting at 12:14 a.m. on September 18, 2026, to the next scheduled Board Meeting on October 15, 2026.

Signed by:
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Shanelle Scales-Preston, Chair

Attest:

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Justine Parmelee, Secretary