

**From:** [Christine Heinrichs](#)  
**To:** [Harry Farmer](#); [Donn Howell](#); [BoardComment](#)  
**Subject:** Public comment on agenda items  
**Date:** Thursday, October 20, 2022 11:10:13 AM

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Item 5D:

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

In Mr. Dienzo's Utilities Report, he shows a permit approved for another interior remodel with a bathroom addition. Further detail as to what is proposed here is not available, but two permits his department approved recently are now going through the county and Coastal Commission process, where they will most likely be denied. When the permits came before the County Planning Department, the Coastal Commission submitted documentation as to why the permits should not be approved. In line with the county's rubber stamp policy, they were. The permits have now been appealed to the Board of Supervisors.

This is exactly what the Coastal Commission has asked Cambra repeatedly to stop doing. It misleads the applicants, resulting in disappointment and in some cases lawsuits. It wastes Coastal Commission staff time and money. I ask the board to direct General Manager Weigold and Utilities Manager Dienzo to comply with the Coastal Commission's directive and stop approving these permits. Thank you.

Item 6E:

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Thank you for pulling Item 6E. General Manager Weigold has made his decision on the new fire chief, but the board and the public should ring in on this important community position. While the decision is technically and legally his to make, Cambria is a small town and the public should be heard. The agenda includes the contract and the job description, but no information on Dr. Vincent. The board should require his qualifications and his proposals for Cambria be made public. The board's top Strategic Plan goal was to increase and improve communication with the public. Concealing this candidate from the public directly contravenes that goal. Please, take a step back and invite Dr. Vincent to meet with the community and the board before extending an offer to him. Thank you.

Item 7A:

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Mr. Dienzo indicates, with a check mark, that he has completed the investigation into brine waste solutions, made a report to the board, and tentatively scheduled a pilot program for 2023. I missed that report, but I'd like to see it. Disposal of brine waste is a significant obstacle to operating the EWS/SWF/WRF. If he's got new information, the board and the public should be informed. Thank you.

Item 7C:

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Please accept this lot. It's surrounded by other lots, generally inaccessible, has ecological value, and will help the district meet its goals in the Transfer Development Credits program. This program can help the district by giving lot owners who are unable to develop their lots an avenue to resolving ownership. Maintenance costs are minimal, if not actually zero. Accepting the lot also indicates good faith to the district's partner, The Land Conservancy. Please accept it. Thank you.

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Christine Heinrichs

**From:** [Robert Reid](#)  
**To:** [BoardComment](#)  
**Subject:** Item 6E ) Oct 20, 2022 meeting  
**Date:** Tuesday, October 18, 2022 10:03:57 AM

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Dear CCSD Board of Directors and General Manager Weigold,

Regarding Item 6E- New Fire Chief, I have no comments regarding the final candidate however I would repeat my concern as previously expressed to General Manager Weigold that a clear responsibility and objective, if not priority, of the new Fire Chief should be oversight and assistance in fire evacuation planning, training, testing and implementation.

In reading the job description this is not clearly articulated and is perhaps implied (thus minimized) in the category of "disaster planning". Cambria faces severe threats to life, safety and property and has struggled for years to generate improved and more effective fire evacuation strategies, and in fact has relied mostly upon its good citizens, as volunteers, to lead this effort.

This is an opportunity to make fire evacuation an accountability of the new Fire Chief, and as a trained fire safety professional, an opportunity to advance improved evacuation strategies.

I ask the board to amend the job description and/or employment agreement to reflect "fire evacuation planning and implementation" as an objective of the position.

Thank you for your service to the community.

Robert Reid  
Cambria Resident

**From:** [Michael Thomas](#)  
**To:** [BoardComment](#)  
**Subject:** Comments for Today - 10/20/2022 CCSD Board Meeting  
**Date:** Thursday, October 20, 2022 12:22:54 PM

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#### 4. PUBLIC COMMENT:

I respectfully request the board to remove item 6E, approval of selection of the new Fire Chief, from the consent agenda. This is a topic of significant interest to the community, in the community at the very least deserves to hear discussion from their Board regarding the selection process and the new Fire Chief qualifications.

#### 7E: E. Consideration of adoption of Resolution 68-2022 approving an **Employment Agreement for New Fire Chief**, Justin Vincent,

Under Contract Item 3. Devotion to District Business and Hours of Work, While I support the concept of staff teaching relevant subjects to maintain their subject matter expertise in some cases, we are not given the nature of Dr. Vincent coursework. Continuation of this should be subject to board approval. Please revise the last sentence to read, "It is also understood and agreed that Employee is authorized to teach an existing online course until completion of the current year academic calendar. Continuation of this external activity beyond the current academic calendar must be brought to the Board for consideration."

Contract Item 5D "Employer shall provide up to \$8,500 reimbursement for relocation and temporary housing." should be revised to read "Employer shall provide up to \$8,500 reimbursement for relocation and temporary housing if employee resides within CCSD boundaries." CCSD needs to stop rewarding people for living outside district boundaries, which increases cost to CCSD rate payers, reduces the response time which is the justification for providing a CCSD vehicle, and increases miles driven on the highway, thereby increasing greenhouse gas emissions. CCSD should seek to minimize cost and greenhouse gas emissions in every decision.

Thank you!

*Michael Thomas*

Mobile [REDACTED]  
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**From:** [Elizabeth Bettenhausen](#)  
**To:** [Donn Howell](#); [kadean \[REDACTED\]](#); [Harry Farmer](#); [Cindy Steidel](#); [Tom Gray](#)  
**Cc:** [John F. Weigold IV](#); [Leah Reedall](#); [board@cambricsd.org](#)  
**Subject:** Re: "6. CONSENT AGENDA ... E. Consideration of Adoption of Resolution 68-2022 Approving an Employment Agreement for New Fire Chief"  
**Date:** Thursday, October 20, 2022 10:37:23 AM

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Dear CCSD Board of Directors:

Please pull from the Oct. 20, 2022, Consent Agenda Item 6.E. for discussion and separate action.

I understand that it is within the authority of the CCSD General Manager to hire persons to fill CCSD staff positions. General Manager Weigold has sketched his procedure in reviewing candidates for the open position of Fire Chief.

I understand that it is within the authority of the Board of Directors to approve, disapprove, or amend the expenditures pertaining to each position.

I do not understand how you could agree to an expenditure of more than \$100,000 annually without seeing a description of the specific nature and value of what is purchased by the money. It's like saying you'll spend \$100,000 on maintaining parks annually without any description of the qualifications of those newly hired to do the work.

How will you consider the qualifications and resume of the person chosen by the General Manager to be Fire Chief? They are not in the Agenda before you today. All exercising of authority by the General Manager must be carefully overseen by the Board of Directors. Being informed of the bare steps of a search procedure is not equivalent to being informed of the qualifications of the person proposed to do the work for five years.

I make no judgement about the proposed person to fill the position of Fire Chief. Why? Because I haven't the vaguest idea who he is. I did not hear the question addressed in the General Manager's reports about the search procedure. Nothing in today's Agenda tells us anything about the man's qualifications to date.

Please do not spend hundreds of thousands of Cambria ratepayers' taxes without informing us before you begin deliberating. How you will analyze the investment before making your decision and what information do you require to do so?

Thank you for your careful and, I hope, transparent attention to my concern. Please include this email in the written public record of this meeting.

Elizabeth Bettenhausen  
full time resident and rate and tax payer since March 2002 of  
Cambria, CA



Public Comment

CCSD Board Meeting 10-20-2022

Agenda Item 7C

Good afternoon Mr. President and members of the Board. Generally, I am opposed to accepting any parcels from the Land Conservancy as the parcels are generally in need of maintenance to prevent wildfire and also come with no funds to take care of the property. While on the Board I voted against transfer of parcels from the Land Conservancy.

This parcel has some extenuating circumstances that you should be aware of before voting that may allow you to vote in favor of this transfer. The Upper Salinas Las Tablas Regional Conservation District (USLTRCD) has recently been awarded a grant to prepare Forest Management Plans for at least 5 large areas in and around the Monterey Pine forest here in Cambria. I have been in contact with the project manager for the grant and he is interested in having the Fiscalini Ranch be one of the areas. He is also interested in adding the Fern Canyon area to that property due to its proximity to the Ranch and its need of work to restore the health of that part of the forest. The CCSD should embrace this effort as a way to improve the forest health and provide a more fire-resistant forest. Several properties owned by the CCSD in Fern Canyon have conservation easements managed by the Land Conservancy. Perhaps the CCSD and Land Conservancy can join hands in getting the USLTRCD to add the Ranch and Fern Canyon properties to the forest management planning and accomplish a much-needed service for NO COST to the CCSD.

Thank you for your attention.

David Pierson

**From:** [Crosby Swartz](#)  
**To:** [BoardComment](#)  
**Cc:** [Donn Howell](#); [Karen Dean](#); [Cindy Steidel](#); [Harry Farmer](#); [Tom Gray](#)  
**Subject:** Public Comment 10-20-22 Agenda Item 7.C. Crosby Swartz  
**Date:** Wednesday, October 19, 2022 5:16:24 PM

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Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this important addition to the CCSD's Fern Canyon Preserve. This preserve is the result of many years of collaboration between the CCSD, the California Coastal Conservancy, the County of San Luis Obispo and The Land Conservancy of San Luis Obispo.

The CCSD has committed to acquiring and retiring available vacant parcels in accordance with the Buildout Reduction Program and the Transfer Development Credit (TDC) Program as part of the 2008 Water Master Plan. Support of these programs could facilitate approval of water-related Coastal Development Permits for projects such as the Water Reclamation Facility.

In addition, by providing an opportunity for property owners to sell or donate undeveloped properties, the BRP and TDC programs substantially reduce the risk of litigation by such property owners related to the issue of water connections and building permits in the future (from BRP Report page 4).

The maintenance cost of this parcel is small. The average cost for maintaining parcels on the 2021 Fire Hazard Fuel Reduction Contract List was \$270 per parcel.

Please approve this addition to the District's Fern Canyon Preserve.

Thank you for your consideration of these comments.  
Crosby Swartz

**From:** [Crosby Swartz](#)  
**To:** [BoardComment](#); [Donn Howell](#)  
**Subject:** Public Comment 10-20-22 Agenda Item 7.C. Laura Swartz  
**Date:** Wednesday, October 19, 2022 3:50:01 PM

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Fern Canyon Preserve, where this parcel is located, is a special and wonderful place. It derives its name from the impressive ferns which grow there, from small short-lived ones to four foot wonders that last year round.

Rare native Monterey Pines, Coastal Live Oaks, Toyons, Coffeeberries, Currents, Gooseberries, Wild Fuchsias and Sticky Monkey Flowers, to name a few flora, all thrive in this year round green oasis.

A rushing creek in the winter and spring months gives way to small cool pools that support its animal inhabitants in the summer until the rain returns.

Owls, foxes, Red-Shouldered Hawks, Bobcats, deer, turkeys, quail, Stellar Jays, hummingbirds, bats, Red Salamanders, even the shy Banana Slugs are seen here.

With its cooler summer temperatures and lovely shade, it is a perfect place for a short hike or to sit and enjoy the silence.

I could go on much longer, but I only have three minutes.

Please accept this parcel in the Fern Canyon Preserve. We are always in favor of good conservation efforts.

Respectfully,  
Laura J. Swartz