

RESOLUTION NO. 22-09-846

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF MOJAVE AIR AND SPACE PORT PROCLAIMING A LOCAL EMERGENCY, RATIFYING THE PROCLAMATION OF A STATE OF EMERGENCY, AND AUTHORIZING REMOTE TELECONFERENCE MEETINGS FOR THE MONTH OF SEPTEMBER 2022

WHEREAS, Mojave Air and Space Port (the "District") is committed to encouraging and preserving public access and participation in meetings of the Board of Directors; and

WHEREAS, Government Code section 54953, as amended by AB 361, makes provisions for remote teleconferencing participation in meetings by members of a legislative body, without compliance with the requirements of Government Code section 54953, subject to the existence of certain conditions; and

WHEREAS, a required condition is that there is a proclaimed state of emergency, and state or local officials have imposed or recommended measures to promote social distancing; and

WHEREAS, Governor Newsom declared a State-wide state of emergency due to the Covid-19 pandemic on March 4, 2020, which declaration is still in effect, and state and local health officials continue to recommend social distancing; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Directors does hereby find that the resurgence of the Covid-19 pandemic, particularly through the Delta variant, has caused, and will continue to cause, conditions of peril to the safety of persons within the District that are likely to be beyond the control of services, personnel, equipment, and facilities of the District, and desires to proclaim a local emergency and ratify both the proclamation of state of emergency by the Governor of the State of California and the Kern County Health Department guidance regarding social distancing; and

WHEREAS, based on the above the Board of Directors of the District finds that in-person public meetings of the Board would further increase the risk of exposure to the Covid-19 virus to the residents of the District, staff, and Directors; and

WHEREAS, as a consequence of the local emergency, the Board of Directors does hereby find that it shall conduct Board meetings without compliance with paragraph (3) of subdivision (b) of Government Code section 54953, as authorized by subdivision (e) of section 54953, in compliance with the requirements to provide the public with access to the meetings as prescribed in paragraph (2) of subdivision (e) of section 54953; and

WHEREAS, all meetings of Board of Directors will be available to the public for participation and comments through virtual measures, which shall be fully explained on each posted agenda.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF MOJAVE AIR AND SPACE PORT DOES HEREBY RESOLVE AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. Recitals. The Recitals set forth above are true and correct and are incorporated into this Resolution by this reference.

Section 2. Proclamation of Local Emergency. The Board hereby proclaims that a local emergency now exists throughout the District, as set forth in the recitals.

Section 3. Ratification of Governor's Proclamation of a State of Emergency. The Board hereby ratifies the Governor's Proclamation of State of Emergency, effective as of its issuance date of March 4, 2021.

Section 4. Remote Teleconference Meetings. The General Manager, staff, and Board of Directors are hereby authorized and directed to take all actions necessary to carry out the intent and purpose of this Resolution including conducting open and public meetings in accordance with Government Code section 54953(e) and other applicable provisions of the Brown Act.

Section 5. Effective Date of Resolution. This Resolution shall take effect on September 19, 2022 and shall be effective until the earlier of (i) October 18, 2022, or such time the Board of Directors adopts a subsequent resolution in accordance with Government Code section 54953(e)(3) to extend the time during which the legislative bodies of WBMWD may continue to teleconference without compliance with paragraph (3) of subdivision (b) of section 54953.

Section 6. Termination of this Resolution. This Resolution will automatically terminate on the day that both the Governor's Declaration of Emergency and any local agency guideline for social distancing are no longer in effect.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Directors of Mojave Air and Space Port, this 19TH day of September 2022, by the following vote:

AYES: 3
NOES: 0
ABSENT: 1
ABSTAIN: 0


Jimmy R. Balentine, Secretary


Diane Barney, President

MOJAVE
AIR AND SPACE PORT
STAFF MEMORANDUM

TO: Board of Directors
FROM: Scott Nave
SUBJECT: AB 361 Remote Meeting Resolution

MEETING DATE: September 19, 2022

Background:

The Governor's executive order suspending certain requirements of the Brown Act regarding board meetings has expired, but the proclamation of a state of emergency is still in place. The Legislature has amended Govt Code 54953 to include provisions allowing remote meetings during a state of emergency under certain conditions. The attached resolution allows the Board to continue meeting remotely until the state of emergency is lifted and social distancing is no longer recommended or required. If the Board adopts the resolution, it will have to renew the resolution every 30 days.

Impacts:

Fiscal: None

Environmental: This action does not constitute a project and is not subject to CEQA

Legal: None

Recommended Action:

The Board has two options:

1. The Board may adopt the resolution and continue with remote meetings during the month of September through, October 18, 2022, or until the state of emergency is lifted; or
2. The Board may not adopt the resolution and resume holding meetings in compliance with the requirements of the Brown Act.