Minutes of the September 14, 2017 Meeting

The Regular meeting of the Marin Operational Area Disaster and Citizen Corps Council (DC3) was held Thursday, September 14, 2017.

Council Members Present: Judy Arnold, Frank Cox, Steve Tulsky, Keith Kennedy, Anne Sands, Bill Tyler, Heather Ravani, Eric Steger, Joe Chinn, Mike Grant, Miles Juihn, Mohamed Osman, and Peter Mendoza. Council Members Excused: Katie Rice, Ed Schulze, Catherine Way, Jason Weber, Denis O’Leary, Garry Lion, and Debbie Yee.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Marin County Supervisor Judy Arnold (“Chair”) called the meeting to order at 3:05 p.m. The meeting was held on the Main Floor of the County’s Emergency Operations Center, located in the Marin County Sheriff’s Headquarters, 1600 Los Gamos Drive, Suite 301, Third Floor, San Rafael, California. A quorum was present. The Chair welcomed two new council members, Mohamed Osman, representing Marin Transit, and Peter Mendoza, representing the Access and Functional Needs Community. She shared what special meaning this Disaster Council holds today in light of the hurricanes occurring in Texas and Florida.

2. APPROVAL OF June 8, 2017 MINUTES

The Chair asked for a Motion to Approve the June 8, 2017 minutes. As submitted to the Council, with no corrections or additions, the Minutes were adopted.

Motion: Sands / Second: Kennedy

AYES: ALL

3. CHANGES TO AGENDA: None submitted.

4. PRESENTATIONS: None

5. NEW BUSINESS

California Wildfires 2017

Fire Chief Tom Welch (Mill Valley Fire Department). Reported that, to date, there have been roughly 250,000 acres burned throughout our State this fire season. This is about 50,000 acres ahead of this time last year. There were 5,142 “starts” in the State, which represents an increase of 1,300 over last year. At the peak, 97 personnel from Marin were deployed to the fires. Welch described the four E’s of Community Risk Reduction, which are at play in Marin: 
These Minutes were approved as presented on December 14, 2017 by the Disaster Council.

- **Education.** Firewise education classes; recent class in Southern Marin was attended by over 70 community members. FIRESafe Marin continues to sponsor various educational opportunities. Also many neighborhoods in county are working together with their fire agencies to take steps necessary to become officially recognized as “Firewise.” [Firewise USA is a NFPA program, which empowers neighbors to work together to reduce their wildfire risk, since 2002].
- **Enforcement.** As required by state law, fire agencies do inspections of parcels pursuant to Public Resources Code (PRC) Section 4291 – “Clearance Around Structures.”
- **Engineering.** Wide Area / Ridge Top Fuel Breaks in the wildland areas, ongoing throughout the year using crews from Marin Fire.
- **Emergency Response.** We maintain a robust emergency response capability throughout the county at all times.

**Marin County Disaster Preparedness Month (September 2017)**

Chris Reilly, Marin OES Manager, said that nationally the month of September is known as “Preparedness Month.” The Marin Board of Supervisors has adopted a resolution proclaiming September as Marin County Disaster Preparedness Month. This year County Fire (CERT) and County Health & Human Resources and Emergency Medical Services (MMRC) partnered with OES in the planning process.

Reilly said that OES is doing a big push this month to increase AlertMarin registrations using social media and more traditional methods. So far AlertMarin has about 27,000 registrations, which is pretty good compared to statistics from other counties. However, OES wants even better numbers. AlertMarin is a product of the company known as Everbridge. Later this year, UASI will sponsor a public alert and warning regional workshop for other counties using Everbridge; they will discuss best practices. Heather Ravani shared that in September County H&HS, which has over 700 employees, is training staff on a different preparedness topic each week. H&HS has also been going out to child care centers, day care and family providers to talk about preparedness.

6. **OLD BUSINESS**

**Status of Grants Administered by Marin County OES**

Please email OES at oes@marinsheriff.org for a copy of the grants report, which was shared at this meeting by Chris Reilly, OES Manager.

**PDE&P’s Ad Hoc Subcommittee Strategic Planning Update**

Chris Reilly reported that this Ad Hoc Subcommittee met twice and was chaired by Jason Weber. Members who attended were Reilly and Weber, plus Frank Cox, Lori Schifrin, Mike Grant, and Tom Cromwell. The goal of this committee is to come up with recommendations by the end of the year pertaining to two primary initiatives identified by PDEP. Disaster Service Worker refresher training and a disaster preparedness coordinator position.

7. **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Public Disaster Education & Preparedness (PDE&P) - Handouts**

Committee Co-Chair, Bill Tyler, addressed the council and said that since June 8, 2017, the PDE&P Committee met twice. Some membership news: Terry Scusse resigned; and Peter Mendoza (MCIL) and Debbie Yee (ARC) joined the committee. At one of their meetings, Rich Shortall (Sleepy Hollow
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Fire Protection District) and Todd Lando (FIRESafe Marin) shared the results of the recent Sleepy Hollow community evacuation drill. The drill was a great success due to several factors: they used modern fire technology / modeling to make the drill realistic; they did advanced outreach months ahead, including postcards, the use of social media, and having a float in the parade; and they used AlertMarin to call out residents on the day of the drill. Around two hundred residents self-evacuated, which was very inspiring to other neighborhoods. At another PDE&P meeting, Corinne Bartshire from UASI spoke about the Yellow Command regional exercise, the focus of which was on the Care & Shelter function. Each participating agency (12 areas) created a tool to assess their Care & Shelter approach. Bill Tyler requested that at a future Disaster Council meeting there be a presentation on the takeaways from Yellow Command. Minutes from PDE&P meetings are posted online on the marinsheriff.org website.

For more information about this committee’s activities and copies of the handouts, please email OES at oes@marinsheriff.org.

8. ANNOUNCEMENTS / COUNCIL MEMBER ITEMS / PUBLIC COMMENTS

Steve Tulsky (American Red Cross). Said six Bay Area Red Cross volunteers were deployed to hurricane disasters in Texas, Florida, and U.S. Virgin Islands. The Red Cross held a few back due to the California wildfires. Steve referenced a September 8, 2017 press release (handout) from the Red Cross (Northern California Coastal Region) which seeks people interested in volunteering through the Red Cross and who meet certain conditions, to apply to become volunteers, complete background and take required online trainings. The Press Release states that “completing the process, which takes an average seven days, enables people to volunteer for large-scale disasters like Hurricane Harvey and Irma, but also be available when smaller disasters like home fires occur closer to home in their local communities.” Steve added that this was the first time in twenty years he has seen this kind of request for volunteers!

Maggie Lang (CERT). Will offer five CERT classes in October 2017 to finish up the year (18 hours of training over two days). There will also be radio training offered in October.

Mike Grant (Schools). Said that the School Superintendent appreciates the support of county government during the recent heatwave (EMS / Public Health). Today at the School Preparedness Council Maggie Lang presented on the Get Ready Marin Fifth Grade program. Marin Schools will participate in the October 19th Great Shakeout drill for the fifth year in a row and will have 35,000 participants registered.

Anne Sands (Consumer Rep. Dist. 4) - Handouts.
Anne described the many activities in West Marin since the last council meeting.

- Point Reyes National Seashore (PRNS) and CERT are planning joint disaster response training in November.
- Debbie Yee, American Red Cross, is conducting fire alarm installation program in Inverness.
- CERT class in Nicasio on October 14 and 21, using additional help from Dillon Beach Emergency Response Team (DBERT) and Tomales Disaster Council (DC) volunteers for search and rescue training.
- Supervisor Dennis Rodoni assigned aide, Rhonda Kutter, to represent his District #4 on the West Marin Disaster Council (WMDC). Plans underway to inventory all nine DC disaster supplies, storage units, trailers, equipment, and personnel.
- WMDC / KWMR communications van now equipped to send emails via high band radio system to areas outside of any immediate area of impact. Radio repeaters continue to be upgraded and relocated for better transmission and reception. More HAM radio operators are being trained.
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- Point Reyes Area DC conducted table top shelter training. Joint field hospital exercise is planned with County H&HS.
- DBERT and Tomales DC collaborated on a community wide disaster response simulation including search and rescue, medical stations, and transportation of victims from Dillon Beach to County Fire Station at Tomales.
- Tomales DC equipped a new disaster supply shed and is outreaching to ranches in region.
- San Geronimo Valley Emergency Response Group (VERG) equipped a second disaster supply trailer and opened a Cooling Center during recent heat wave, using guidelines from OES.

Please email OES at oes@marinsheriff.org for copies of handouts provided by Ms. Sands to the council at this meeting.

9. ADJOURN

Being no further business, the Chair asked for a Motion to Adjourn the Meeting at 3:43 PM. Motion: Grant / Second: Sands. Proposed and passed.

Next meeting: Thursday, December 14, 2017, 3:00 – 5:00 p.m., 3501 Civic Center Drive, Room 329, Third Floor, San Rafael, California, in the Chambers of the Marin County Board of Supervisors. Chambers are located in the County Administration Building, Third Floor.

10. CERTIFICATE

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the minutes of the Marin Operational Area Disaster and Citizen Corps Council meeting, held on September 14, 2017.

Eva Denegri Baker, Sheriff’s Office of Emergency Services                      December 14, 2017
Date