Minutes of the March 10, 2016 Meeting

The Regular meeting of the Marin Operational Area Disaster and Citizen Corps Council (DC3) was held Thursday, March 10, 2016.

Council Members Present: Judy Arnold, Frank Cox, Steve Tulsky, Keith Kennedy, Jr., Anne Sands, Ed Schulze, Bill Tyler, Eric Steger, Catherine Way, Jason Weber, Angel Bernal, Denis O’Leary, Mike Grant, and Amy Van Doren. Council Members Excused: Katie Rice, Heather Ravani, Joe Chinn, Miles Julihn, Garry Lion, Crystal Silva, and Henry LaRoche.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Marin County Supervisor Judy Arnold (“Chair”) called the meeting to order at 3:03 p.m. The meeting was held in the Community Room located at the Central Marin Police Authority, 250 Doherty Drive, Larkspur, California. A quorum was present. The Chair welcomed new members to the council, Catherine Way, representing the Marin County Council of Mayors & Councilmembers, and Denis O’Leary, Marin Interagency Disaster Coalition.

2. APPROVAL OF December 10, 2015 MINUTES

The Chair asked for a Motion to Approve the December 10, 2015 minutes. As submitted to the Council, with no corrections or additions, the Minutes were adopted.

Motion: Schulze / Second: Sands
AYES: ALL

3. CHANGES TO AGENDA: Ursula Hanks will give an update on the Marin Interagency Disaster Coalition (MIDC) during Old Business.

4. PRESENTATIONS: None submitted.

5. NEW BUSINESS

Tsunami Preparedness Week

OES’ Ursula Hanks told the council that the Marin County Board of Supervisors passed a Resolution to observe the week of March 20th as Tsunami Preparedness Week. This is in connection with a promotion by the National Tsunami Hazard Mitigation Program. This nationwide event (“know your zone”) hopes to raise awareness about tsunami safety, especially for those coastal communities in the tsunami zone, particularly in the Pacific. Ursula said that the State and National Weather Service are planning communications exercises. Also Marin OES has partnered with Marin Public Works, Cal OES, the National Weather Service, and California Geological Survey to host a community workshop in Stinson Beach to be held on Tuesday, March 29, 2016. Presenters will speak about tsunami hazards, alerts &
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warnings, and evacuation. Ursula reminded the council that although tsunamis are among Earth’s most infrequent hazards, they remain a major threat to coastal communities.

**Advanced Trainings for CERTS in West Marin 2015**

Anne Sands, District 4 Consumer Representative, gave the Council a run-down of the advanced trainings that took place in 2015 in the eight Disaster Council communities of West Marin, including the following:

- Daily, weekly and/or monthly radio drills and trainings with iCom radios (part of the West Marin Disaster Council Radio system) and FSR radios in all 8 DCs
- A combined drill with neighborhood Disaster Council members, CERTs and Volunteer Firefighters that incorporated an Incident Command, radio communication and medical scenarios (Muir Beach)
- Neighborhood surveys and mapping to locate utility shut-offs and educate neighbors about disaster preparedness plus monthly educational presentations on specific techniques such as water rescue (Stinson)
- Two disaster scenario trainings with radio reports and regular offerings of re-CERTification classes focused on triage and medical operations (Bolinas)
- Red Cross shelter training (Point Reyes Area)
- An annual DC and CERT recognition awards dinner combined with sidewalk CPR training; simulated disaster with set up of emergency shelter (Nicasio)
- FADR (First Aid in Disaster Response) taught by Marin Medical Reserve Corps, live fire suppression practice with extinguishers, and wound management (San Geronimo Valley Emergency Response Group)
- Incident Command Post drills combined with managing emergency supply sheds and radio communications including licensed Ham radio operators (Dillon Beach Emergency Response Team)

Anne concluded that without volunteers, West Marin “would be in trouble.”

6. **OLD BUSINESS**

**Update on Marin Interagency Disaster Coalition (MIDC)**

Ursula Hanks told the council that the coalition continues to meet regularly, and has retained a secretary to manage the contact data and keep the group connected. John Bruckbauer (San Rafael Emergency Services) is currently collecting information about all member agencies for the MIDC database. Four members are currently taking the lead to keep the coalition on track, including Ursula and John. She will speak further with John about other options, such as creating chair/co-chair position(s). MIDC is a verified California VOAD (Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster) member and structured similarly to other VOADs in the country.

**Local Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Planning**

OES’ Tom Jordan updated the Council about current Local Hazard Mitigation Plan (LHMP) planning efforts. The County is leading an effort to develop a new, multi-jurisdictional approach towards Hazard Mitigation Planning. This effort will produce a Marin County Multi-jurisdictional Local Hazard Mitigation Plan (MCM LHMP) to include the 11 municipalities and many special districts in the County. Consulting fees for a single jurisdiction/special district LHMP would normally cost over $100,000; however, because
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this work is being coordinated as part of the city and town MOUs with Sheriff’s OES, that expense will not be necessary.

On March 24th an MCM LHMP kick-off meeting will occur to introduce the County planning team to their counterparts from the municipalities and to review a proposed project roadmap. The MCM LHMP process is slated to be completed by spring 2017 (with a subsequent five-year effective period). The 2017 plan will require FEMA Region IX approval, and resolutions adopting it from the County and each municipal and special district partner. Municipalities and special districts will then be synchronized to the five-year cycle, and subsequent MCM LHMP work can be scheduled with maximum efficiency and effectiveness.

Status of OES Grants

Email OES at oes@marinsheriff.org for a copy of Margaret Speaker Yuan’s report, which was shared with the council by Chris Reilly during his presentation.

7. COMMITTEE REPORTS

Public Disaster Education & Preparedness (PDE&P)

PDE&P Committee Co-Chair, Bill Tyler, told the council that the committee met three times since the December 2015 DC3 meeting. He shared copies of the minutes of their December through February meetings and said that PDE&P benefited from several excellent presentations on subjects such as these:

- Transportation issues for persons with Access and Functional Needs (AFN) – presented by Terry Scussel (formerly with Whistlestop)
- Review of 2015 Marin CERT, and plans for the 2016 neighborhood teams – Maggie Lang
- Update on M’MBER public rollout – Garry Lion
- Model Plan developed by the Twin Cities Disaster Preparedness Committee (TCDPC), called, Neighborhood Response Group (NRG) Program, for the communities of Corte Madera, Larkspur, and Greenbrae – John and Lee Howard

PDE&P Committee also held a 2016 goal planning session and met to discuss further the DSW and Coordinator proposals.

8. ANNOUNCEMENTS / COUNCIL MEMBER ITEMS / PUBLIC COMMENTS

Eric Stegar (County Public Works). Reported that the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) completed a Flood Insurance Study for the Marin County coastline and FEMA will be presenting the study results on the evening of March 29th at Stinson Beach and at Marshall on March 31st. A Stinson Beach Tsunami Workshop is also being held at Stinson Beach during the day on March 29th. Also due to the current flooding situation in Marin, DPW’s Department Operations Center (DOC) will be activated at 1600 hours today until 0400 hours tomorrow. Chris Reilly from OES added that OES has contacted the locals about the flooding but has not yet activated the Marin Op Area Emergency Operations Center (EOC). OES is on Duty Officer status and can be reached 24/7 by calling the Sheriff’s Communications Division.

Anne Sands (West Marin). Workshop this evening for Pt. Reyes Village Association on earthquake, tsunami, flood, and other hazards. Encouraged council members to review the February 4, 2016 minutes she provided of the West Marin Disaster Council Quarterly meeting.
CERT training in West Marin is scheduled for two Saturdays in May at the Nicasio Corp Yard (May 14 and 21). Register at www.ReadyMarin.org

**Amy Van Doren (Marin Transit).** Thanked Ursula Hanks from OES for coordinating the first table top exercise for transportation issues in Marin, which will be held on April 14th. The earthquake scenario will address large evacuation and transportation issues. AFN transportation will be factored in.

**Mike Grant (Schools).** Said that a huge part of school emergency planning also includes transportation/evacuation. Also reported that the school radio system is not functioning -- last week’s test revealed that 12 out of 19 school districts cannot communicate. The Superintendent has requested that MERA provide a link.

**Angel Bernal (Police Chiefs).** Due to the current flooding (at time of this meeting), Chief Bernal said that the Mill Valley EOC is ready to be activated, if needed.

**Maggie Lang (Marin CERT).** Announced that Mill Valley will be holding its eighth annual community evacuation drill on May 21st in the Warner Canyon. This area of 800 homes has access and egress problems due to steep terrain and narrow roads. The CERT members will go door to door as part of this drill. Also participating in the drill are the American Red Cross, Marin Humane Society, Marin Medical Reserve Corps, and FIRESafe Marin.

9. **ADJOURN**

   *Being no further business, the Chair asked for a Motion to Adjourn the Meeting at 3:54 PM.  
   Motion: Tulsky/ Second: Schulze. Proposed and passed.*

   
   Next meeting: Thursday, June 9, 2016, 3:00 – 5:00 p.m., 1600 Los Gamos Drive, Suite 200, San Rafael, California, in the Sheriff’s Assembly Room at the County Public Safety Building.*