



**MARIN OPERATIONAL AREA
DISASTER & CITIZEN CORPS COUNCIL**

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**Marin Operational Area
Disaster and Citizen Corps Council Minutes
March 13, 2014**

The Regular meeting of the Marin Operational Area Disaster and Citizen Corps Council (DC3) was held Thursday, March 13, 2014.

Council Members Present: Susan Adams, Frank Cox, Steve Tulsy, Reva Saper, Anne Sands, Ed Schulze, Bill Tyler, Heather Ravani, Eric Steger, David Weinsoff, Jason Weber, Angel Bernal, Carol Freedman, Luke McCann, Miles Julihn, Garry Lion, Amy Van Doren, Henry La Roche.

Council Members Excused: Judy Arnold, Rob Braulik

1. CALL TO ORDER

In memory of **Phil Shepard**, **Supervisor Susan Adams (“Chair”)** called the meeting to order at 3:04 p.m. in the Marin County Emergency Operations Center, Room 266, located in the Marin County Civic Center Hall of Justice. A quorum was present. The Chair asked for introductions around the room and then introduced new DC3 Members, **Anne Sands (District 4)**, **Frank Cox (District 1)**, **Ed Schulze (District 5)**, and **David Weinsoff (Marin Mayors and Council Members)**.

The Chair also gave a special tribute to the longest serving member of the Disaster Council, **Reva Saper**, from District 3. This will be Reva’s last council meeting representing Supervisor Sears’ District #3. Reva is stepping down after over seventeen years of service.

The Chair reminded council members that it is a requirement that they view the 19-minute Boards & Commissions Training Video, which is now posted on the County’s YouTube channel: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1P13qth-veo>. Amongst their handouts is a form they should sign declaring they have viewed the video and return to either Eva or Patrice.

2. APPROVAL OF December 12, 2013 MINUTES

*The Chair asked for a Motion to Approve the December 12, 2013 minutes as submitted to the Council with one correction: Strike Henry La Roche’s name from “Excused” under Role Call.
Motion: Schulze / Second: Lion. Proposed and passed.*

3. CHANGES TO AGENDA

*The Chair made one change to the agenda, specifically to add an item under New Business that **Ursula Hanks** will give an update on Tsunami Week activities.*

4. PRESENTATIONS

Update on Mill Valley's Essential Business Disaster Resiliency Pilot Program – Jeff Davidson, Garry Lion

Mill Valley Fire Chief Jeff Davidson and Marin Economic Forum Representative Garry Lion reported on the City of Mill Valley's Essential Business Disaster Resilience (EBDR) pilot project, which resulted from DC3 collaboration with the Marin Economic Forum (MEF). The project's team included Garry Lion, Jeff Davidson, Maggie Lang, and Ron Vidal. The team selected the American Red Cross (ARC) Ready Rating tool for the project and 22 out of 26 businesses enrolled. Initial assessment was completed as well as improvements identified. This was followed up by workshops and classes, including First Aid classes for businesses taught by firefighters. Jeff described some of the lessons learned from this pilot program:

- While initial enthusiasm was strong, it was challenging to maintain management's focus amongst the mix of local businesses and chains (managers had to go through their corporate).
- Difficult to include larger chain businesses in the program.
- Ready Rating, which is an off-the-shelf and pre-built Red Cross product, has pros and cons.
- Program needs to be self-sustaining. Toolkit requires significant facilitation along with much handholding on Maggie's part.
- Countywide template for business resiliency toolkit needs to be broad enough so that other cities can adapt theirs easily from it.
- Businesses that participate need to be recognized (one idea given was a *Ready Business* sticker in their store windows).
- Additional presentations would be fitting by the Chamber of Commerce or other partners such as the Rotary.
- Continue to work with Ready.gov for public education and templates.
- Additional Get Ready and CERT training also needed.

Jeff said that one of the next steps is to develop the countywide template for the business continuity plan. Ed Schulze suggested that the plan add a part about the looting of businesses that can occur after emergencies. Jeff said that at some point they can bring law enforcement in to address issues such as these. Bill Tyler stressed the importance of providing incentives for the businesses to participate and for reduced fees and discounts. Carol Freedman added that the MIDC is planning a June conference, and she will look into the possibility of spotlighting this effort. The Chair reminded the council that there must be pre-disaster contracts in place for reimbursement by the cities and towns for such items as food and pharmacy items from supermarkets. Small business grant requests (with a line item in the county budget for "community disaster preparedness") can go through Supervisor Adam's office; she will pass them on to the County Administrator.

Viewing of the new www.readymarin.org website - Maggie Lang

Maggie Lang made a delightful presentation to the council by taking them through the new Ready Marin website located at www.readymarin.org, which was developed with the help of **Paula Doubleday**, and which combines information from the old CERT and Get Ready websites. The new site includes a Google Calendar so that people can sign up for events and classes, and Facebook and Twitter links. It also has a Plan and Prepare Section with info on how residents can get informed, have a plan, and make a kit. There is also a gallery of photos from CERT classes, FAQs, Resources and Links, Testimonials, News & Events, and even a section on getting prepared by using "baby steps" for those who feel

overwhelmed. The council was very pleased with the result and thanked Maggie and Paula for all their hard work.

5. NEW BUSINESS

Tsunami Week Activities – Ursula Hanks

Ursula Hanks told the council that Marin County made a Resolution that proclaims March 23-29, 2014 to be *Tsunami Preparedness Week*. March 27, 2014 will be the 50th anniversary of the 1964 Great Alaska Earthquake and Tsunami. Also on March 27th Ursula will lead a Table Top Exercise for thirty people with a tsunami scenario. County OES partnered with Muir Beach Fire to hold a drill known as the “Tsunami Walk,” which will take them on a walk of the evacuation routes. Tom Jordan will lead this drill simultaneous to the table top exercise. Also at 11:00am the Sheriff’s Civil Air Patrol will do a fly over of West Marin and bay inland areas while broadcasting and streaming video. Noise impact will be minimal, and the communities will be warned ahead of time. Ursula added that the National Weather Service has announced a wireless alert service for Tsunamis, which can send only one type of message; currently it is set to alert when there is a “tsunami *warning*.” Down the road they will add “tsunami *bulletins*” and “tsunami *advisories*.”

OES Drought Status – Chris Reilly

Chris Reilly reported the following information to the Council:

On January 17, 2014 the State declared an emergency regarding the drought. The State activated their State Operations Center and is providing assistance to the counties (e.g., low interest emergency loans). Marin OES reports to the State on a weekly basis. OES is working with the Marin Ag Commissioner, Stacy Carlsen and is reaching out to the cities and towns. On January 21, 2014 the Marin Municipal Water District (MMWD) enacted a voluntary 25% water reduction. Fire training cannot use hydrant water. The agricultural community in West Marin will be particularly affected. For example, the possibility exists that ranchers will have to cull their herds. Impacts on hay prices will be felt. West Marin is worried about the impact to their organic businesses.

Chris also said that recent storms which produced in some parts over twenty-one inches of rain, has improved the situation somewhat. MMWD has indicated that for now they are not going into mandatory restrictions. The reservoirs are at 86% of average storage for this date. Each week OES receives a California drought monitoring report. There are four categories of drought; Marin was in D3 (extreme) before the recent rain. Most of Marin is now in level D2, which is better. Other counties, such as Sonoma and Mendocino, are hurting more than Marin. The Chair said that the Marin Board of Supervisors held a drought forum on January 28, 2014 with eight water agencies presenting (including MMWD and North Marin Water District - NMWD). Also this morning, March 13, Krishna Kumar from NMWD presented to the Board. The Disaster Council continued to discuss ideas such as rain catchment, using reclaimed water for flushing toilets, and increasing Phoenix Lake storage.

Oil Spill Annex Status – Tom Jordan

Tom Jordan reported that he is currently rewriting Marin County’s Local Oil Spill Contingency Plan (annex to the Marin Emergency Operations Plan - EOP). Concurrently the U.S. Coast Guard (USCG) and the California Department of Fish and Wildlife – Office of Spill Prevention and Response (OSPR) - are jointly updating the San Francisco Bay and Delta Area Contingency Plan (ACP) for the Bay Area. The Local on Scene Coordinator (LOSC) concept is being used. In the Cosco Busan oil spill response, Marin County led the effort for Local on Scene Coordination. The Annex is a full re-write with some grant funding coming from the State. The Chair reminded the council about how programs for emergency volunteers came as a result of the Cosco Busan event. Tom concluded by saying that there will be an

important seminar held on March 28, 2014 in Marin where both plans being rewritten will be discussed and input requested. Disaster Council members are welcome to join.

New Emergency Operations Facility Construction Status – Chris Reilly

Chris Reilly announced that the Marin County Sheriff's Office will be moving throughout the month of June to a new seismically upgraded essential services building at 1600 Los Gamos Drive in San Rafael, off the Lucas Valley Exit. All Sheriff's Operations will be moving there (not the jail or court services) as well as the County's IST group. The new county building has been given LEAD certification. Portions of the building are being leased to other businesses, which helps to pay the mortgage. OES is moving its office and the County's EOC on June 11, 2014. The new EOC will be completely set up (a concept called a "hot EOC"), which has great advantages, including the ability to activate without having to take the time to set everything up for EOC staff. The County's Alternate EOC location will remain in the Jail. The new 8,500 square foot EOC will include breakout rooms for the various functions including PIO, and offices for OES staff. The regularly scheduled June meeting of the DC3 will be moved to another date due to the timing of the move (TBD). Future DC3 meetings will be held at the new public safety building in the Sheriff's Assembly Room, Suite 200. A Ribbon Cutting ceremony and public tours is scheduled for May 10, 2014 starting at 1:30pm. All are welcome.

Chief Weber told the council that MERA (Marin Emergency Radio Authority - critical for Fire, Law and DPW) is reaching its end of life, and it takes several years to establish a new system. The County is already looking at funding and the possibility of assessing households. An initiative may be on the November ballot. An upgrade to the MERA system will take care of dead spots and most other issues and give 25 + years of life to the system.

6. OLD BUSINESS

OES Grants Update – Chris Reilly

See Handout provided by Margaret Speaker-Yuan for details. The state has not released information on the amount of funding for the 2014 State Homeland Security Grant program. We do know it will be a compressed deadline. An announcement may happen around March 18. Please begin thinking about your projects and remember three bids are required.

7. COMMITTEE REPORTS

Public Disaster Education & Preparedness (PDE&P)

Bill Tyler (Chair PDEP) asked members of the committee to stand and be recognized for meeting every month and working hard, putting initiatives into action. The PDE&P committee continues to advocate for two initiatives: Disaster Service Worker (DSW) training for government workers and a Disaster Preparedness Coordinator position. Bill said that he and co-chair, Frank Cox, met with the Marin Emergency Managers from cities, towns, special districts and County OES to discuss where the gaps are in DSW training. Government employees are required by law to be disaster service workers, and most agencies do not have training programs. The emergency managers were all in agreement about the importance of DSW training. The goal of PDE&P is to work with the County to get the DSW program up and running and then influence and help the cities, towns and districts to implement their own. County OES met with the County Administrator, and all agreed that it is time to breathe some life back into the DSW program perhaps by rolling it out in phases, including refresher training, and training those employees who were hired before the DSW course was first implemented for new employees only. Currently, Frank Cox teaches the DSW classes for newly hired county employees once every other month. The PDE&P plans to return to the Administrator's Office with a proposal in writing. The Chair said that the county is committed to this initiative but added that they will have to confer with the labor unions, too.

Bill also told the council that the PDE&P committee contributed Accomplishments and Goals to the Annual Report to the CAO that Eva wrote. PDE&P is currently recruiting for additional members.

8. ANNOUNCEMENTS / COUNCIL MEMBER ITEMS / PUBLIC COMMENTS

Garry Lion. Fire and Police did a great job responding to the recent storm in Mill Valley where it produced 4.3 inches of rain in eighteen hours on February 8-9, 2014. Only a couple businesses were affected. They monitored the creek rising, knocked on doors, and moved cars to higher ground. The storm did not actually flood any homes. County OES activated the Telephone Emergency Notification System at about 1:00am on February 9 when the creek was highest. The city received mostly praise for these warnings. Only one complaint letter was received.

Anne Sands. Next CERT classes in West Marin will be held on May 17 and May 31 in Nicasio at the Corps Yard. Anne added with a smile: "We allow people from over the hill to join."

Frank Cox. Said Eva will distribute Frank's final PDE&P minutes out to the general membership, once approved by PDE&P.

Miles Julihn. EMS community will hold its 4th annual Sidewalk CPR hands only event on June 14 at nineteen separate locations. County EMS and the healthcare community collaborate each year to hold this event.

Susan Adams. Said County Fire and County Health and Human Services will be combining forces for their annual campaign to promote hands-only CPA. Musicians will be invited to perform a version of the song, *Staying Alive*, and if selected, would participate in a public service educational video. The original song's beat is at 100 beats per minutes, which is exactly how fast a person would pump a chest when doing CPR.

Maggie Lang. Wanted to add to her earlier presentation that the new Readymarin.org website is a product of the State Homeland Security Grant.

Carol Freedman. The MIDC's annual half-day conference will be held on June 10, 2014 at a community church in Novato.

9. ADJOURN

Being no further business the *Chair asked for a Motion to Adjourn the Meeting at 4:39 pm.*
Motion: Julihn/ Second: Weber. Proposed and passed.

Next meeting: Thursday, July 10, 2014, 3:00 – 5:00 p.m., at the Sheriff's new headquarters, 1600 Los Gamos Drive, Suite 200, San Rafael, California 94903 (Enter from Lobby A and proceed to Floor Two).