



**Public Disaster Education and Preparedness (PDE+P) Committee of  
the Marin Operational Area Disaster & Citizens Corps Council (DC3)  
Committee Meeting – Monday January 11, 2016**

**PDE+P Meeting Minutes for January 11, 2016**

*Approved at Feb 1, 2016 PDEP meeting*

**Attendance:**

Members Present:

Frank Cox	CoChair, DC3 Member, OES Auxiliary, OES trainer
Catherine Way	Mayor, City of Larkspur, Alt member, MCCMC
David Peery	MMWD Safety & Risk Manager
Garry Lion	DC3 member, Marin Economic Forum
James Wickham	PG&E Safety + Preparedness Specialist
John Bruckbauer	San Rafael Emergency Management Coordinator
Maggie Lang	CERT Coordinator, Get Ready / Southern Marin
Philippa Lockwood	ARC Disaster Program Specialist / MIDC contact
Terry Scussel,	AFN communities: Marin Ventures, IHSS etc.

Members Excused or absent:

Bill Tyler	CoChair, DC3 Member, Batt. Chief Novato Fire, Fire Marshal
Barbara Coler	MCCMC rep, City Council Fairfax, CA.

Members of Public Present

Lori Schifrin	MMRC training officer, CERT, etc. / <a href="mailto:lori.sch@att.net">lori.sch@att.net</a>
Henry Warren	San Pedro Road Coalition <a href="mailto:hwarren2006@gmail.com">hwarren2006@gmail.com</a>
Milt Davis	CERT San Pedro Coalition <a href="mailto:sales@dscsigns.com">sales@dscsigns.com</a>

Handouts distributed:

- Agenda, PDEP Monday 1-11-2016 version a
- Draft Minutes of PDE+P meeting of Dec. 7, 2015 version b
- Draft MCSO / OES outline of DSW training proposal, circa Yr 2013
- 2015 Marin CERT activity report spreadsheet
- Draft Marin County CERT Annual Report (not yet finalized)
- CERT calendar Aug 2015 – Aug 2016, from [www.ReadyMarin.org](http://www.ReadyMarin.org)
- PDE+P Members Contact Sheet 12-10-2015

**I. Welcome, Introductions,**

- Frank Cox called meeting to order at Central Marin Police Community room est 1305 hr.
- Amendment to the Agenda: Item V will include an update on the M'BER project
- A description of the handouts was summarized by Frank.

**Review Minutes**

- M/ Maggie and Catherine 2nd: Draft Minutes of Dec 7, 2015 version (b) were approved.

**II CERT review 2015, plans for 2016 / Neighborhood Teams and more**

- Maggie Lang outlined elements she will put into the Marin CERT Annual Report.
- Marin County CERT began in year 2011, combining 6 local CERT programs, and supported by modest State Homeland Security Grant Program (SHSGP) grants that support the Coordinator position at 28 hrs / week, and some promotional expenses.
- After several adjustments, the class time has been set at 18 hours, the student registration fee at \$45, and scholarships / refreshers are offered at no cost. Most students use PayPal when paying for the classes.
- In 2015, 240 students graduated CERT training offered in 13 classes in 7 locations. 23 of those students were from out of county (Sonoma County has stopped training CERTs).
- Since February 2011, Marin has graduated 978 CERTs, referring them to local agencies, typically fire departments.
- The average age of CERTs in Marin is 52 years, with a range of 13-91 years, with a bit more than 57% women, about 43% men, including a small number with apparent



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disabilities. Class sites are wheelchair accessible, with the exception of SRFD Station 52 (near Montecito) that is being upgraded over the next two years.

- Class evaluations on a 5 point scale have been 'awesome – very good' and typically in the 4 or 5 scale range. Many have made positive suggestions, volunteered additional time to help CERT, or gone on to take advanced training, including 157 CERTs in 2015.
- Year 2015 advanced CERT training covered CERT Leadership (27 attendees in Mill Valley), First Aid with MMRC help (38 attendees in SR), the Annual disaster simulation drill (42 attendees in SR), and Communications workshop (50 attendees in C. Madera).
- Re-Certification for CERTs every 4 years, with photo ID cards issued, is encouraged.
- In addition to official CERT classes, additional classes held in 2015 included a First Aid in Disaster Response (FADR) class in San Geronimo, Radio check drills in West Marin, a Storm Ready workshop in Mill Valley, and three San Rafael meetings including presentations on traffic control, PG&E, and SMART train safety.
- County CERT has helped local city CERT teams organize and train:
  - San Rafael: 3 meetings, maps, neighborhoods, leadership groups,
  - Mill Valley: updating the database, storm ready, FADR, steering committee quarterly.<sup>1</sup>
  - Fairfax: Meeting with ~50 CERTs, FADR training, database, GReady class
  - San Anselmo / Larkspur: next in planned CERT organizational updating.
  - Non-Emergency Roles: MV and SR CERTs have participated in public events.
- Promotion: CERT has placed advertising in the Marin IJ, Marinscope, MyMapbooks, and postings at the Larkspur Ferry Building. Funds have supported CERT brochures, street banners, flyers, promotional pens & flashlights, and postings on [www.ReadyMarin.org](http://www.ReadyMarin.org).
- In 2015 about \$7,000 was available for promotions. This year, funds available for promotions are about \$3000.
- CERT Goals for 2016 include:
  - 200 CERT graduates/year with all classes full (20 students).
  - Work with officials to develop CERT communication plan, including use of the Everbridge notification system for MV CERTs.<sup>2</sup>
  - Explore new promotion strategies. An Emergency Preparedness guide in the local paper is under consideration.
  - Explore ways to keep CERTs engaged in each community, including public education and non-emergency roles.
  - Continue work with local CERT organizations/database update around the county.
  - Sustainability of program- source of funding, 501(c)(3) nonprofit status.<sup>3</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> The Marin County CERT Steering Committee includes the following members:

**So. Marin**

Michael St. John, MV Fire, Cristin McDaniel, MV CERT

**Central Marin**

Helene Drumm, Ross Valley Fire, Skip Fedanzo, Corte Madera CERT

**San Rafael**

John Bruckbauer, Emergency Management, Paula Doubleday, SR CERT

**Novato**

Sandy Wargo, Novato Fire, Serena Fisher, Novato CERT

**West Marin**

Anne Sands, WM Disaster Council Coordinator & CERT

<sup>2</sup> Everbridge mass notification is a highly customizable method of reaching registered responders in local or regional databases via texting, telephone, email etc.. See <http://www.everbridge.com/products/>



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- Update the CERT Manual, with a focus on digital rather than paper distribution.
- The [www.ReadyMarin.org](http://www.ReadyMarin.org) website will be updated, with new photos and expanded content including more on neighborhoods, businesses, disaster councils and preparedness groups, CERT recertification, and more.
- Conduct the Annual Spring CERT Drill possibly with a West Marin focus, and/or set up a 'CERT GAMES' training exercise.<sup>4</sup>
- Conduct advanced CERT trainings, initially including the January 30, 2016 training to be held at the Humane Society in Novato.
- A CERT Train the Trainer will be held 2/18/2016 in San Rafael.

### III M'BER public rollout – updates and more

- Garry Lion reported that the Marin Economic Forum met Friday, January 8<sup>th</sup>, and the Issues Committee is recommending that the Forum's Executive Committee approve a grant of \$10,000 seed money to support the Marin Business Emergency Readiness (M'BER) business resilience and preparedness program.
- Additional sources of funds, perhaps from insurance company associations, and/or PG&E, will be sought.
- An initial M'BER business preparedness module, including a business template, scorecard, reference sheets and other materials will be available on [www.ReadyMarin.org](http://www.ReadyMarin.org) in a matter of weeks. If sufficient funding is acquired in February, the public rollout of M'BER could be expected in March.
- It was suggested that a presentation on M'BER might be made to the Marin County Police Chiefs Association, The Marin County fire chiefs association (MCFCA, and/or the Marin County Emergency Manager's Association.

### IV. Updates from PDEP members

#### - MCCMC Marin County Council Mayors + City Councilmembers

- Catherine advised she will place the M'BER topic on a MCCMC agenda in early 2016.<sup>5</sup>
- The Central Marin Police Authority Police Council met recently, and has approved the recommended staff preparedness position in support of the Neighborhood Response Group (NRG) program.
- The Central Marin Police Authority (CMPA) also hired Margo Rorbacher, a veteran San Rafael Police Public Information Officer (PIO) to serve as a PIO for CMPA.<sup>6</sup>

#### - West Marin

- Anne Sands, the West Marin Disaster Council Coordinator, advised by email that the next WMDC will be held Thursday, February 4, Point Reyes Fire Station, at a time to be determined.

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<sup>3</sup> Marin CERT may work with MarinLink to acquire nonprofit status, which could expand CERT's ability to receive grant and individual donation funding. See <http://marinlink.org/>

<sup>4</sup> CERT Game ideas. See: <https://www.pinterest.com/anaheimcert/cert-exercise-ideas/>

<sup>5</sup> The Marin County Council of Mayors and Councilmembers (MCCMC) calendar and related materials are online at: <http://mccmc.org/>

<sup>6</sup> CMPA hires PIO: [http://www.marinscope.com/twin\\_cities\\_times/news/central-marin-police-add-new-voice/article\\_f54df5bc-ba22-11e5-84a5-e7f6741ebaed.html](http://www.marinscope.com/twin_cities_times/news/central-marin-police-add-new-voice/article_f54df5bc-ba22-11e5-84a5-e7f6741ebaed.html)



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### - Emergency Managers Group, other Public Preparedness

- John Bruckbauer advised that the Emergency Manager's group is scheduled for the next Quarterly meeting at Marin OES on Wednesday, Jan. 13<sup>th</sup>.
- John recommends that we take a look at the Emergency and Disaster Management Digest, a newly published online newsletter at <http://edmdigest.com/> for relevant free daily articles.
- Yet another Marin business, 'Toys for Bob' a software and game manufacturer in Novato,<sup>7</sup> will has requested a CERT class for employees.
- A Spanish speaking member of SRFD is assisting with modular CERT-like training (fire suppression, first aid, etc.) in the Canal, where some residents were reluctant to attend regular CERT classes or other 'official' government registered events.
- California OES is planning on requiring in the near future Certification for all Emergency Operations Center (EOC) staff, primarily through the California Specialized Training Institute (CSTI).<sup>8</sup>
- John anticipates attending CSTI training in February that will allow him to teach OES Certified classes for EOC staff.
- John believes the Marin Emergency Managers Group, in light of evolving OES Certification requirements, may support the PDEP / DC3 Disaster Service Worker (DSW) proposals for all government employees now under consideration in the County.

### - MIDC and Red Cross Events:

- Philippa reported that the Marin Interagency Disaster Coalition (MIDC) meets next on January 19<sup>th</sup>. There is interest in selecting an executive officer and/or group to better represent and lead the organization.
- The American Red Cross (ARC) is meeting with Sonoma County officials to develop a Disaster Service Worker (DSW) training module.
- The Marin chapter of ARC purged about 100 names for their volunteer directory, with 1 very dedicated volunteer doing most of that work. With approximately 40 remaining Marin ARC volunteers, many of whom are limited in their involvement, it is essential that more ARC volunteers be recruited and trained.
- ARC continues to provide 1 hour disaster training for 3<sup>rd</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup> graders under the Disney sponsored 'Pillowcase Project'. However, more volunteers are needed for these classes.
- About a year ago, National Red Cross reduced staff by about a third, due to severe budget shortfalls. Trainings, including shelters, care work, feeding, etc. and promotional and instructional materials were cut back.
- ARC is stabilizing in response to the budget cuts, and may improve. Both MIDC and ARC will continue to respond as needed if there is an EOC activation.
- Philippa will speak with Maggie Lang about having Red Cross links and/or materials available on [www.ReadyMarin.org](http://www.ReadyMarin.org).

### - Southern Marin / Business Community

- In addition to Garry's report on M'BER (above), it is hoped that M'BER may qualify for , 501(c)(3) nonprofit status through the Marin Economic Forum.

### - CERT and GReady 5th

- See the above discussion of CERT & Get Ready 5<sup>th</sup> Grade.
- GR5th has been offered in all MV & SR schools, and there are still opportunities for additional classes to be held.

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<sup>7</sup> Toys for Bob site: <http://www.toysforbob.com/>

<sup>8</sup> Training for Emergency Management, Homeland Security, and Public Safety Professionals California Specialized Training Institute (CSTI) See: <http://www.caloes.ca.gov/cal-oes-divisions/california-specialized-training-institute/training-support-compliance/professional-certification-programs>



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### - Access + Functional Needs communities (AFN):

- Terry advised that multiple AFN communities continue to have unmet transportation service needs following the Fall 2015 closure of taxicab services for persons with AFN issues. About 20 regular routes were eliminated. Whistlestop was able to cover some, but not all, of these transportation routes.
- Reduction of State funding for these services, while maintaining minimum quality standards for vehicles, has exacerbated the problem of doing more, with less money, and less staff. Some AFN suppliers and services have gone out of business.
- Again, most of the AFN caregivers cannot afford to live in Marin, and commuting to work raise questions of cost and availability should there be a regional disaster.
- Multiple agencies and services, including County H&HS, Marin Transit, multiple nonprofits and paid service providers and others combine to serve the AFN populations in Marin.
- Most of the Paratransit drivers for various agencies need basic first responder type training: first aid, CPR, and so forth.
- Terry will, at Frank's suggestion, help put together some key speakers who can update us at our next PDEP meeting on the needs and expected resources available to the AFN communities in the event of a major disaster.
- Terry has stepped aside from his professional association with Whistlestop, but continues as President of Marin Ventures<sup>9</sup>, Vice Chair of In-Home Supportive Services Public Authority of Marin (IHSS PA)<sup>10</sup>, and the Golden Gate Regional Center Advisory Committee.<sup>11</sup>

### - Utilities + MMWD

- Dave Peery advised that between 85-95% of MMWD employees live outside of the County – some as far away as North of Sacramento, or on the Peninsula. This could be a major problem if a regional event disaster struck.
- MMWD will participate in staffing SuperBowl events (February 7<sup>th</sup>). Hence, the planned Phoenix Lake and Bon Tempe Reservoir exercises have been moved to February 29<sup>th</sup>. About 70 to 80 personnel will participate in the exercise, built on a theoretical rupture of dam walls. Local, State, and Federal agencies, including law, fire, DHS and others have been invited.
- Maggie asked if MMWD had received inquiry about a proposal to create large water cisterns in Central Marin for fire suppression and potable water. Some parts of the County, such as Tiburon, have very large tanks to serve their needs. These questions may raise substantial technical, political, safety, and financial discussions.
- Catherine recalled Los Angeles experienced a massive dam failure that failed in 1928 considered to be one of the worst American civil engineering disasters of the 20<sup>th</sup> century.<sup>12</sup> The construction of very large cisterns or tanks in Marin County would raise similar questions of safety.
- Jim Wickham advised that PG&E will offer a community pipeline safety program that may include vegetation management over underground gas lines.

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<sup>9</sup> Marin Ventures, <http://www.marinventures.org/board-of-directors/>

<sup>10</sup> In-Home Supportive Services Public Authority of Marin (IHSS PA) <http://www.pamarin.org/governing-board/>

<sup>11</sup> Golden Gate Regional Center: <http://www.ggrc.org/about-us/management-a-governance#MAC>

<sup>12</sup> The St. Francis Dam failure of 1928. See: [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/St.\\_Francis\\_Dam](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/St._Francis_Dam)



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- About six industrial size gas shut off valves may be added to the Marin gas system to hasten control of prospective gas leaks in the event of earthquakes.
- Jim was a few questions about Southern California Gas Company's Porter Ranch-area gas leak that has forced the evacuation of thousands, and dumped massive quantities of toxic methane into the environment.<sup>13</sup>
- PG&E does not manage most of the underground gas fields in California, Jim noted. PG&E purchases flammable gas from many sources, some as far away as Canada.

### - Fire Services + County at Large Issues:

- Bill Tyler was unable to attend the meeting. This portion of the agenda was deferred to our next meeting.

### - OES, Training and other Events:

- Frank's next EDAPR class is scheduled for February 4<sup>th</sup> 2016.
- Frank suggested to Philippa if Sonoma County officials, who are developing their own DSW class for employees, wished to attend the class, they should contact us soon.
- Frank continues in conversations with several Homeowner groups in North San Rafael: Mont Marin / San Rafael Park (MMSRP), Marinwood CERT, Lucas Valley HOA, the North San Rafael Coalition and others in an effort to encourage neighborhood preparedness planning in the area. Frank will speak briefly at the MMSRP annual meeting on January 27<sup>th</sup> about these issues.

## VII. Open Time / Public Comment

- Milt Davis and Henry Warren, Point San Pedro Road Coalition Disaster Prep Committee Co-Chairs<sup>14</sup>, recounted for us recent preparedness efforts in their areas.
- Milt organized the Villa Real HOA area, a part of the Coalition, with an identified disaster contact on every block who maintained active lists of persons with disabilities, limitations, or resources that would be important to manage in a disaster.
- Henry, a retired Contra Costa Fire Battalion Chief, noted the Coalition consisted of about 20 homeowner's groups of some 2,800 homes – about 10% of the population of San Rafael. Major access to affected areas is limited to San Pedro Road from Central San Rafael, and past the Quarry area towards China Camp. Hence, the Eastern side of San Rafael could be cut off in the event of a major quake or similar event.
- Some neighborhoods in the Coalition are well prepared, including the Dominican Black Canyon Area<sup>15</sup> coordinated by Paula Doubleday and the Ready Glenwood area, coordinated by Mary Sparks<sup>16</sup>. Still others are in the process of developing local plans.
- Several years ago the Coalition committee, then led by Bonnie Marmor and her husband Bill Gates, acquired a \$5K grant from Marin County that was used to purchase 5 disaster supply caches in the area.
- John Bruchbauer added that the City of San Rafael has just hired a vegetation management coordinator, in preparation for the coming fire season.

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<sup>13</sup> Porter Ranch Gas Leak – see, for example, the Newsweek article: <http://www.newsweek.com/porter-ranch-california-methane-gas-leak-crisis-412807>

<sup>14</sup> Point San Pedro Road Coalition - Disaster Preparedness Committee (SPRC-DPC) page: <http://sprcoalition.org/disaster-prep/disaster-prep/>

<sup>15</sup> Dominican Black Canyon Neighborhood Association. See: <http://www.dominicanarenews.com/category/disaster-preparedness/>

<sup>16</sup> READY Glenwood is a Glenwood Homeowners Association. See: <http://www.glenwood94901.org/#!ready-glenwood/cwot>





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- Catherine recalled a residence in Larkspur's Madrone Canyon was gutted by fire in December. Had the fire occurred during summer months, the fire could have easily spread to a much larger event.<sup>17</sup>
- Lori reported she attended a HAM Radio license class offered by the Marin Amateur Radio Society, and found it most helpful.<sup>18</sup>

**3:00 PM end of meeting**

- Frank Cox closed the meeting.

**Next Meetings:**

**PDEP Meetings: 1-3pm Year 2016: (subject to change):**

**2/1/2016, 3/7, 4/4, 5/2, 6/6, 7/11, 8/8, 9/12, 10/3, 11/7, 12/5/2016.**

**Dates to be confirmed**

**Site: PDEP unless otherwise posted: Central Marin Police Community Rm.**

**DC3 Meetings: 3-5pm: 3/10/16, 6/9/16, 9/8/16, 12/8/16 – at new EOF.**

*PDEP\_Minutes 2016-01-11c.doc*

*Approved at Feb 1, 2016 PDEP meeting*

*revised 2-05-2016 1320 hr. fcox*

*spelling fix 2/8/16 1418 hr fcox*

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<sup>17</sup> Madrone Canyon residential fire. See: <http://www.marinij.com/article/NO/20151228/NEWS/151229861>

<sup>18</sup> Marin Amateur Radio Society. See: <http://w6sg.net/site/>