Minutes of the December 8, 2016 Meeting

The Regular meeting of the Marin Operational Area Disaster and Citizen Corps Council (DC3) was held Thursday, December 8, 2016.

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

1. CALL TO ORDER

Marin County Supervisor Judy Arnold ("Chair") called the meeting to order at 3:09 p.m. The meeting was held in the Assembly Room of the Marin County Sheriff’s Department, located at the County's Emergency Operations Facility, 1600 Los Gamos Drive, San Rafael, California. A quorum was present.

2. APPROVAL OF September 8, 2016 MINUTES

The Chair asked for a Motion to Approve the September 8, 2016 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: None submitted.

4. PRESENTATIONS:

Mosquito & Vector Control District’s Equipment & Capabilities

Phil Smith, District Manager for the Marin/Sonoma Mosquito & Vector Control District, presented to the council about the District’s equipment and capabilities that could be resourced for disaster response. The district has been in existence since 1915 and is headquartered in Cotati. Its mission is to protect the health and welfare of the Marin and Sonoma communities from mosquitoes and vector-borne diseases by utilizing cost-effective, environmentally responsible integrated vector management practices. There are 24 trustees on the board. They have many talented people in their organization that could come out to help in the aftermath of a disaster. There are 35 full time employees, 20 field, and three biologists, and two mechanics. District staff members are trained as disaster service workers, and also in CPR, SEMS, and ICS 100.

The District owns all-terrain vehicles and boats that can access remote areas, including the Argo amphibious vehicle and trailer that can traverse through mud and water zones. They also have a forklift, airboat, a trailer-able low ground pressure vehicle when other vehicles get stuck, a buggy, mowers, ditchers, excavators, spray/field equipment, and maintenance vehicles. In addition, the District has welding and fabrication capability. The District uses walkie-talkies, and is not on the MERA system.
Anyone can ask the District for help. Last year they responded to 3000 complaints of mosquitoes, yellow jackets, rodents, fleas, and ticks. They give away mosquito fish (Gambusia affinis), as part of their mosquito control program, which are one of the most effective ways of controlling mosquitoes without the use of chemical insecticides. They work closely with the California Department of Public Health (especially about Lyme disease). They have a lab/surveillance program to survey vectors and conduct disease testing, and also conduct field research and laboratory studies.

More information about the Marin/Sonoma Mosquito & Vector Control District can be found on their homepage, msmosquito.com/.

5. NEW BUSINESS

Motion to Request Approval of Marin County CERT 2017 Training Schedule; and Discussion re Disaster Service Worker Registration (handouts)

Marin County CERT Coordinator, Maggie Lang, gave a brief history of CERT in Marin, and said that CERT is now a 501c.3. CERT is taught by mostly local fire instructors and some CERT volunteer instructors, and is divided into five zones: Novato, San Rafael, West Marin, Central Marin and Southern Marin. A County Steering Committee meets quarterly and is made up of a fire agency representative and CERT member from each zone. In 2016 the Basic CERT program graduated 274 individuals (52% female) with an average age of 52 (14-85 spread). All CERTs are asked to participate in at least one safety-related event/training per year. There were six Advanced CERT classes that graduated over 200 people. Recertification is every four years. CERT has modules for team organization and Leadership (including ICS), medical operations, search and rescue, and emergency preparedness, disaster psychology, wildland fire, and terrorism. CERT students practice things like cribbing, and also go through simulation exercises.

All CERT students are sworn as disaster service workers before class begins by deputized administrators, and are covered by workers compensation. Students do not need to be U.S. citizens. The local city or county clerk’s office keeps copies of their registrations. All CERTs are invited to at least one Advanced class per year. Refreshers are offered gratis; otherwise, the tuition is $45.00 and comes with a back pack of personal protective equipment and supplies.

Maggie said that she is requesting that the council approve the 2017 class calendar, which was shared as a handout.

The Chair asked for a Motion to Approve the 2017 CERT Class Calendar.

Please email OES at oes@marinsheriff.org for a copy of Maggie Lang’s handouts, which were shared with the council at this meeting.

6. OLD BUSINESS

PDE&P Committee Report on DC3 Member Fall Survey - Handout

Bill Tyler shared with the Council his PDE&P Committee’s Report and Recommendations, which were prepared from the results of the survey provided to Disaster Council members at the last DC3 meeting. Council members were invited to comment on the current state of disaster preparedness in the County, any gaps that should be filled, and suggestions for next steps. Seventeen members responded, and their comments are included in the written report. DC3 members surveyed strongly support the Get Ready and Get Ready 5th Grade programs, Ready Business templates, ReadyMarin.org website, and
CERT training. They would like to see these programs enhanced, better coordinated, and/or expanded. Regarding the helpfulness of the PDE&P Committee’s minutes and reports, the members all spoke very favorably of these written materials, but were split on whether they should be distilled, or more widely distributed, or PDE&P recommendations better funded.

Members also reported about additional disaster/preparedness efforts in place in their communities. For example, neighborhood teams and coalitions (i.e., West Marin Disaster Council [WMDC] and Ross Valley Flood District) add to preparedness efforts; however these teams are built on shifting volunteers, no funding, no coordination, and few supplies. The nine WMDCs do radio checks, train on first aid and shelters, and conduct drills. There is also the newly updated Marin County Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP) and the increasing number of neighborhoods becoming official Firewise communities. Also Marin County Public Works grew a Department Operations Center (DOC) to coordinate with the County Emergency Operations Center during floods. For a copy of the Survey with reference to countywide preparedness efforts mentioned in the survey, contact OES at oes@marinsheriff.org.

Disaster Council members almost uniformly pressed for more training, more coordination, more instructors, and better media outreach to further develop the Disaster Service Worker / EOC staff, and to engage the public further. Members also noted terms such as “public apathy” towards disaster preparedness to describe the struggle the public faces with daily demands on their time. Recommendations included funding programs and resilience efforts at many levels, from roads, training, evacuation drills, underserved populations, and fragmented governmental programs. Some members thought the County should lead these efforts.

After Bill gave the report to the council members, some asked for a possible strategic planning session, a workshop, or a facilitated retreat to develop a “long view vision” and establish priorities and a work plan. The Council then suggested that PDE&P Committee return at the next Council in March 2017 with key items to consider, including possible models for going forward. OES Manager, Chris Reilly, reminded everyone that before they come up with additional, the council already has two active initiatives - DSW training and Coordinator Position.

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

Please email OES at oes@marinsheriff.org for a copy of Margaret Speaker Yuan’s report, which was shared with the council at this meeting.

7. COMMITTEE REPORTS

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

Committee Chair, Bill Tyler, said that PDE&P added one new member, Megan Scott, from County Public Health Preparedness. At the prior PDE&P meeting, Professor Steven Newton, Geologist, from the College of Marin, presented on his paper, “The Most Dangerous Fault in America,” referring to the Hayward Fault. Newer evidence connects the Hayward to the Rodgers Creek Fault. Professor Newton walked the PDE&P through the science. Bill said that perhaps the Professor could address the general council in the future on this topic. For more information about this committee’s activities, please email OES at oes@marinsheriff.org for a copy of the minutes of the December 5, 2016 PDE&P Committee meeting, and a handout entitled, PDEP Committee Report and Recommendations on DC3 Member Survey, 12/8/2016.
8. ANNOUNCEMENTS / COUNCIL MEMBER ITEMS / PUBLIC COMMENTS

Anne Sands (Consumer Rep. Dist. 4) - Handouts.
Anne described the activities in West Marin since the last council meeting. One new CERT class was added in the town of Tomales because residents asked for a local CERT class. Tomales now has its own disaster council. Please email OES at oes@marinsheriff.org for copies of the August 25, 2016 and November 17, 2016 minutes of the West Marin Disaster Council quarterly meeting, which were shared at this meeting.

Mike Grant (Schools). MCOE recently held training on MERA for fifty staff members. This is a huge step for the schools. Also working on evacuation and shelters.

9. ADJOURN

Being no further business, the Chair asked for a Motion to Adjourn the Meeting and wished the crowd Happy Holidays at 4:20 PM. Motion: Tulsky/ Second: Schuize. Proposed and passed.

Next meeting: Thursday, March 9, 2017, 3:00 – 5:00 p.m., 1600 Los Gamos Drive, Suite 301, Third Floor, San Rafael, California, in the Emergency Operations Center’s Main Room. Enter the building through Lobby A and go to 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 December 8, 2016.

Eva Denegri Baker, Sheriff's Office of Emergency Services

March 9, 2017

Date