



**Public Disaster Education and Preparedness (PDE+P) Committee  
of the Marin Operational Area Disaster & Citizens Corps Council  
(DC3) Committee Meeting**

**PDE&P Meeting Minutes for September 13, 2021**

*Draft approved at PDEP Meeting 10-4-2021*

Members Present:

Catherine Way	Co-Chair, DC3, City of Larkspur Councilmember, MCCMC
Adriana Rabkin	CoChair, DC3 Member, Director Marin VOAD
Anne Carta	Marin Medical Reserve Corps
Jay Hubert	DC3, ACS/RACES, FireWise Community, Red Cross
Maggie Lang	Mill Valley Fire, Emergency Prep Coordinator
Vincent Valenzuela	Red Cross Marin / Solano Disaster Program Manager
Garry Lion	DC3 member, Marin Economic Forum

Members Excused or Absent:

Quinn Gardner	San Rafael FD Emergency Manager
Tom Cromwell	Marin Medical Reserve Corps etc.
Jim Wickham	PG&E Safety & Preparedness Specialist, MV Mayor
Amber Davis	HHS Public Health Preparedness Manager

Members Public Present

Frank Cox	Former PDEP Co Chair/DC3 Member <a href="mailto:frnkcox5@gmail.com">frnkcox5@gmail.com</a>
Sara Robinson	Marin Aging & Adult Services, <a href="mailto:SRobinson@marincounty.org">SRobinson@marincounty.org</a>
Jody Timms	Age Friendly Marin Network <a href="mailto:jodytimms@comcast.net">jodytimms@comcast.net</a>
Rob Ireson	RACES/ACS, <a href="mailto:rob@aqmconsulting.com">rob@aqmconsulting.com</a>
Paula Doubleday	ReadyMarin.org, <a href="mailto:paula.double@gmail.com">paula.double@gmail.com</a>
Jennifer Ancona	Marin HHS Care & Shelter, <a href="mailto:JAncona@marincounty.org">JAncona@marincounty.org</a>
Rachel Kertz	Central Marin NRG Coordinator, <a href="mailto:coordinator@nrgmarin.org">coordinator@nrgmarin.org</a>
Lori Schifrin	CERT, MMRC <a href="mailto:lori.sch@att.net">lori.sch@att.net</a>
Amy Glenn	Central Marin NRG Advisory Comm, <a href="mailto:aglennstyle@gmail.com">aglennstyle@gmail.com</a>

The following documents were emailed to PDEP in advance:

**PDEP\_Agenda 2021-9-13a.pdf**

**PDEP\_Minutes 2021-8-2a.pdf (Draft to be approved)**

**I. Welcome, Introductions, Review of Minutes**

- Catherine Way welcomed attendees. Draft PDEP Minutes 8/2/2021 were reviewed. No changes were made. Minutes were approved.
- Jennifer Ancona introduced herself. She is the Care and Shelter lead in the EOC and focuses on disaster preparedness for County HHS working alongside Anne Carta and Amber Davis. Has worked for HHS for the past 8 years. The County has given funding to the care and shelter position for 2 years. She plans to provide lens of equity and focus on AFN population. Will focus on planning and response.
- Frank shared an article in the Marin IJ from the New York Times about evacuations in fires for AFN individuals<sup>1</sup>.
- Catherine provided a brief update on the 9/9/21 DC3 meeting: Jennifer Ancona spoke; Chief Weber gave an update on state wildfires; Dr. Santora provided a Covid update; there was an update on the Challenger shipwreck in Pt Reyes. The Disaster Coordinator position will live in Southern Marin FD. Jason Weber is going to the City Managers later in September to shore up funding and support. He expects to post the position in January 2022. We hope the PDEP focus areas will be the foundation for the coordinator position.

<sup>1</sup> <https://enewspaper.marinij.com?selDate=20210928&goTo=A01&artid=3>



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- The County is hiring Matrix contractor to do a review of OES. The Supervisors may have been encouraged to look at efficiencies.
- PDEP expects to provide a large presentation at the DC3 December meeting and share all that we have discussed this entire year.
- Supervisor Rodoni has interviews scheduled for 9/16 to fill the regional DC3 open Representative positions. There are supposed to be 5 district reps and one at large.
- DC3 put together a handbook for all DC3 members; this will be provided to new members as they join the Board. There seems to be an interest in making the Board more of a working body; possibly bring members together to discuss what we are all doing, expectations and objectives. As it stands now, members do not provide public updates at the meetings.

### II. Focus Area #3: Disaster Preparedness Communications, Part II

- Catherine Way: We are continuing our conversation on Focus Area 3 on disaster preparedness communications.
- Last PDEP meeting recap: We spoke about having 6 boxes on each County/city disaster website with the landing pages for the key disaster preparedness and response websites including the OES Emergency Portal, FireSafe Marin, Ready Marin, and NRGs. We discussed this at the recent DC3 meeting.
- Adriana Rabkin: During the recent Lassen fire in Lucas Valley, the Fire Department Twitter feeds were up-to-date and provided current and reliable information. The OES Emergency portal was not current and in fact still showed evacuations when the order had been lifted. At the recent DC3 meeting, we mentioned the need to imbed the Fire Department Twitter feeds on the OES emergency portal:  
<https://emergency.marincounty.org/>.
- Catherine Way: Today's meeting can revisit the idea of commissioning a study to gather information, and then develop communications plan. Maybe we could propose a countywide survey of how people get information.
- Frank Cox: An outside consultant would take 18 months. The product will be put on a shelf and will not ultimately be useful. Perhaps we can gain information using LAFCO<sup>2</sup>, Local Agency Formation Commission, which coordinates among 58 cities, towns, and special districts in Marin County. Sashi McIntee, the former MV Mayor and former Vice Chair of Mill Valley Emergency Preparedness Commission, is the LAFCO Chair and is dynamite. Perhaps the Board of Supervisors would approve seeking funding for a survey and staff time for LAFCO (they have paid ED and staff):
  - OES/Preparedness grants
  - Marin Community Foundation
  - County funding
  - MWPA – Marin Wildfire Prevention Authority
  - Funding as part of the County LHMP Hazard Mitigation
- LAFCO has the responsibility to know how citizens get their information. LAFCO could coordinate how citizens get their information and preparedness; could make recommendations, and could initiate implementation and coordination of different disaster preparedness efforts (County coordinator, local coordinators, MPWA, other preparedness efforts). This effort would get active engagement from community groups and would look

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<sup>2</sup> <https://www.marinflaco.org/how-lafcos-work> LAFCOs “regularly prepare studies – titled municipal service reviews – to independently evaluate the availability, need, and performance of local governmental services relative to current and future community needs”



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at preparedness and response tools. It is critical to get the funding upfront. Catherine will reach out to Sashi McIntee.

- Jay Hubert: Limit the focus to communication, rather than have it be all embracing. It is important to pare it down to a few recommendations. Enlist supporters for something specific.
- Jody Timms: Surveys need to be tied into creating a subsequent Strategic Plan, with accountability delineated.
- Maggie Lang: Amy Callis, a consultant for HHS, gave a presentation to DC3 presentation on how Canal residents receive communication, how they rely on social media. Sara Robinson: She improved vaccinations using public vaccine messages on buses and other tools. This was a good example identifying the gaps and what has been an effective way to address them.
- Jay Hubert: There must be delivery of the messaging from all sorts of organizations such as coaches and referees of sports team; One organization cannot push the information to all residents. We need to use all tools and use all sorts of constituencies to deliver messages.
- Sara Robinson: In 2019 County did a community survey that included residents, CBOs and departments. This created the Age Forward Age Friendly plan.
- Catherine Way: If we are going to suggest a survey, it has to be owned by someone. Maybe CAO, OES, or PIO. The County Administrator hired a consultant who worked with the Canal. This would be an extension of that work. The CAO has ability to get funding and staff.
- Rachel Kertz: We can probably find some research in neighboring communities. We are not that unique. San Rafael is doing some research on how neighbors receive information. We can leverage a lot of work that has already been done.
- Adriana Rabkin: FireSafe Marin is developing a County wide disaster prep campaign, They are also taking an all hazards approach and are open to the idea of sharing important landing pages on each website. They want to see consistent messaging across the county with disaster preparedness even for things like go bags. Money from the JWPA went to FireSafe Marin because they were set up and ready to implement work. PDEP can ensure that FireSafe Marin is coordinated with other efforts and we can help all relevant partners and organizations collaborate.
- Catherine Way: The County wide coordinator must make sure to coordinate with everyone. We are developing a handbook for this role and will ensure the Coordinator involves everyone and watches for overlap. We should also make sure to share this with DC3 in December.
- Frank Cox: PDEP should invite a MWPA rep to speak with us and they should be asked to agree with coordination among parties and an all hazards approach to disaster preparedness.
- Upcoming PDEP meetings: We will hear from Elaine Tokolahi with CVNL about their work with CERT coordinators in Napa and Solano and Sara Robinson will discuss the Listos program and bringing it to Marin. We will also invite new DC3 members to PDEP discussions.

### III. **Updates from PDEP members** MCCMC Marin County Council Mayors + City Councilmembers



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- Catherine Way: No update. We do not meet during the summer; next meeting is end of September. There was an article in Western City about our JPA<sup>3</sup> and they are doing a great job.

### Marin VOAD

- Adriana Rabkin: As September is National Preparedness Month we spent our last meeting helping Marin VOAD organizations and members take some steps to get themselves personally prepared. We led a virtual scavenger hunt and had people find a flashlight, sturdy shoes, and a radio. This made them aware of problems with their go bags such as dead batteries in the flashlights, expired medications and more. We talked about where to keep go bags (work, home and the car), best practices and lessons learned like backup hard disks die, items in a fire safe do not withstand extreme heat, and always prepare as if your evacuation warning is an order and you have to evacuate in 5 minutes. We decided that scheduling disaster preparedness behavior along with the two daylight savings time changes might help people get prepared. The expectation is that VOAD members take what they learn from our meetings and bring it to their staff, clients and residents.

### West Marin

- Steve Marcotte was not present. No update. Adriana spoke with Steve. He works on Mondays but will try to find a West Marin Disaster Council to regularly attend the PDEP meetings.

### Red Cross

- Vincent Valenzuela: We are deploying people to various fires. They are learning new skills, new leadership roles and our Marin team gets stronger from deployments like this.
- Sound the Alarm smoke installation program is happening on an individual basis or small events like 20 homes (via scheduled appointments). Catherine: FireSafe Marin was going to launch a project for mobile home parks. I will pass it along to you. Adriana: Does Red Cross have the bandwidth to reach senior housing sites? Vincent: We have a Marin smoke alarm coordinator who arranges all of this. He will get back to Novato housing site residents next.
- Be Red Cross Ready presentations: 45 minutes on personal preparedness.
- School based programming also available.

### Southern Marin / Business Community

- Garry Lion: As mentioned at the DC3 meeting and as reported in a Monday Marin Independent Journal article (<https://www.marinij.com/2021/09/05/marin-office-occupancy-in-flux-as-covid-drags-on/>), the return of employees to their former offices is a "fluid situation" according to Mike Blakely, the CEO of Marin Economic Forum (MEF). Haden Ongaro featured in the article is the President of MEF. Another similar article was published the following week: <https://enewspaper.marinij.com?selDate=20210906&goTo=A01&artid=0>.
- The Marin Economic Forum board meeting is this coming Friday with 20-30 business owners to hear their updates on what is happening in the business community.
- The next MEF Briefings is Sept 20. These are bimonthly updates from the CEO and Chief Economist and provide a comprehensive evaluation of the current business situation and forecasts. Register in advance for this webinar: [https://SonomaState.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_hFIWDPWIRm2voi2CdqQ9NQ](https://SonomaState.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_hFIWDPWIRm2voi2CdqQ9NQ)

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<sup>3</sup> <https://www.westerncity.com/article/how-marin-county-changing-wildfire-prevention-paradigm>



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### Mill Valley Preparedness, community efforts

- Maggie Lang: Southern Marin NRG Coordinator position was posted this week. Will help coordinate NRGs in Mill Valley (+ unincorporated), Sausalito and Marin City.
- Orientations and continuing education for block captains started this week. We are also holding ongoing drills.
- Received \$1,000 from CERT steering committee to buy supplies for 2 command posts. CERT are helping with Sept 25 car evacuation drill with traffic management. 200+ cars will travel on East Blithedale to the middle school where they will information on preparedness. Google will be observing as they have been working on traffic management and timing.
- Monthly meetings with CERT leadership group will include trainings like working in a Red Cross shelter; EVC; missing person training by Michael St John and PSPS, and cooling/warming center training.
- Ongoing hybrid CERT training continues. Current problem is finding a venue.
- CERT continue to work at EOC through October and with vaccine pods for the immunocompromised and pediatric vaccines.

### Public Health Preparedness and related programs

- Amber Davis was not present. No update.

### Access & Functional Needs (AFN) communities:

- Peter Mendoza was not present. No update.

### Public Safety / Emergency Management

- Quinn Gardner was not present. No update.

### Utilities including PG&E

- Jim Wickham was not present. No update.

### Marin Medical Reserve Corps (MMRC)

- Anne Carta: MMRC supporting the vaccine branch in EOC providing clinical support. Also supporting Covid testing and facility outreach to skilled nursing facilities. On standby to support County with PSPS and wildfires.
- FADR on hold right now. We took part in County Stop the Bleed Saturday. We provided 30 volunteers for this.
- In conversation with Marin Marriage and Family Association to provide trauma response at schools when there is a suicide as well as shelter support.

### Public Preparedness Coordinator / Get Ready Marin

- There is currently no coordinator. No update.

### OES RACES Chief Radio officer, San Rafael CERT steering and Firewise

- Jay Hubert: RACES / ACS<sup>4</sup>: Getting support and making plans to set up mesh network that will enable faster digital communication for first responders to transmit lists and videos. This will replicate capabilities of cell towers when they are down.

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<sup>4</sup> Marin County Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service (RACES) and Auxiliary Communications Services (ACS) are volunteers working under the authority of the Marin County Sheriff's Office of Emergency Services (OES). <https://www.marinraces.org/wp/>



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- Radio Communications Volunteer program (RCV) along with Dept of Public Works and Marin VOAD is going well. BAUASI Golden Eagle November workshop. We are developing a component for the RCV during this.
- FireSafe Marin worked on evacuation maps. Time to put this information into public hands. Zone Haven is an important component of this as it provides more timely information than printed maps. Residents need to know their temporary evacuation points. Supervisor Connolly is concerned about the slow rollout of Zone Haven. Rob Ireson: Ready to roll out but waiting on final notice from sheriff. Frank Cox: For the 9/1/21 Lassen Fire in Lucas Valley, OES issued mandatory evacuations for all of Lucas Valley and almost all of Marinwood. Did the evacuation order get communicated to everyone? Evacuations create tremendous practical problems for seniors, homebound and others. Rotary Village in the evacuation area has over 100 seniors, bed-bound, homebound and dependent on medical devices. What about the schools and Juvenile Hall that is right next to Rotary Village?

### Public Comment/Questions

- None

#### IV. Closing Items

- Catherine Way: Next PDEP meeting is Oct. 4. The Great Shakeout is Oct. 21 at 10:21am. First 5 Marin Disaster Preparedness webinar is 9/23, 10-12pm.

**Closure:** 2:37 pm end of meeting

#### **Next Meetings: 1-3pm:**

**Dates may be flexible as circumstances require**

**PDEP Meetings Year 2021: 10/4, 11/1, 12/6/2021**

Site: PDEP conducts meetings online using ZOOM.COM during the Pandemic. We hope to return to meetings at the Central Marin Police Community Room soon.

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**DC3 Meetings: 3-5pm:**

**DC3 Year 2021: 12/9/2021**

DC3 Meetings are currently remote and are broadcast on Zoom and Facebook Live. They hope to return to Board Chambers, Civic Center, soon. Dates may be flexible.

**Online:** <https://www.marinsheriff.org/about-us/field-service-bureau/office-of-emergency-services>

**Email:** [pdepcommittee@gmail.com](mailto:pdepcommittee@gmail.com)

*PDEP\_Minutes 2020-9-13b.docx*

*APPROVED at PDEP Meeting 10-4-2021*