



**Public Disaster Education and Preparedness (PDEP) Committee  
of the Marin Operational Area Disaster Council  
Committee Meeting**

**PDE&P Meeting Minutes for February 7, 2022**  
*Draft approved at 3-7-22 PDEP Meeting*

Members Present:

Catherine Way	Co-Chair, DC3, City of Larkspur Councilmember, MCCMC
Adriana Rabkin	Co-Chair, DC3 Member, Director Marin VOAD
Tom Cromwell	Marin Medical Reserve Corps
Garry Lion	DC3 Member, Marin Economic Forum
Maggie Lang	Mill Valley Fire, Emergency Prep Coordinator
Raed Al-Zaher	SRFD Disaster Preparedness Coordinator (for Quinn Gardner)
Susan Yeres	Red Cross, <a href="mailto:sue.yeres2@redcross.org">sue.yeres2@redcross.org</a> (for Vincent Valenzuela)
Rob Ireson	Interim Chief, RACES/ACS

Members Excused or Absent:

Anne Carta	Marin Medical Reserve Corps, County HHS
Amber Davis	HHS Public Health Preparedness Manager
Steve Marcotte	DC3 Member, West Marin Disaster Council

Public Attendees:

Chief Tom Welch	Mill Valley Fire Department, <a href="mailto:Twelch@cityofmillvalley.org">Twelch@cityofmillvalley.org</a>
Frank Cox	Former PDEP Co Chair/DC3 Member <a href="mailto:frnkcox7@gmail.com">frnkcox7@gmail.com</a>
Eli Gelardin	Marin Center for Independent Living, <a href="mailto:eli@marincil.org">eli@marincil.org</a>
Julia Hales	Marin Center for Independent Living, <a href="mailto:julia@marincil.org">julia@marincil.org</a>
Jay Hubert	Former DC3, ACS/RACES, FireWise, <a href="mailto:jayhubert@comcast.net">jayhubert@comcast.net</a>
Jody Timms	Age Friendly Marin Network, <a href="mailto:jodytimms@comcast.net">jodytimms@comcast.net</a>
Sara Robinson	Marin Aging & Adult Services, <a href="mailto:SRobinson@marincounty.org">SRobinson@marincounty.org</a>
Marco Berger	Multicultural Center of Marin, <a href="mailto:mberger@multiculturalmarin.org">mberger@multiculturalmarin.org</a>
Amy Glenn	Central Marin NRG Advisory Comm, <a href="mailto:aglennstyle@gmail.com">aglennstyle@gmail.com</a>
Rachel Kertz	Central Marin NRG Coordinator, <a href="mailto:coordinator@nrgmarin.org">coordinator@nrgmarin.org</a>
Lori Schifrin	CERT, MMRC, Red Cross <a href="mailto:lori.sch@att.net">lori.sch@att.net</a>
Paula Doubleday	ReadyMarin.org, <a href="mailto:paula.double@gmail.com">paula.double@gmail.com</a>

The following documents were emailed to PDEP in advance:

- PDEP\_Agenda 2022-2-7.pdf**
- PDEP\_Minutes 2022-1-10a.pdf (Draft to be approved)**

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

- Catherine Way welcomed attendees. Draft PDEP Minutes 1/10/2022 were approved as submitted.
- Catherine and Adriana plan to reach out to Disaster Council (DC) representatives to invite them to the PDEP meetings and are waiting for a current list of DC members. We also have a standing quarterly meeting with Supervisor Rodoni and will be meeting with him at the end of February to talk about DC and PDEP objectives.

**II. PDEP Organizational Planning 2022 Part 2**

- Adriana provided a recap from last month's PDEP meeting and reviewed the Disaster Council mission and objectives:

DC Mission: to lead ongoing efforts to improve disaster preparedness countywide.

DC Objectives:

- Review and evaluate disaster preparedness progress in the public and private sectors;
- Promote disaster preparedness through communication and education;



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- Harness the power of every resident through education and outreach, training and volunteer service to make their families, homes and communities safer from natural and/or man-made disasters or emergencies; and,
  - Report annually to the Board of Supervisors. Present written document with Council's mission statement and 1-5 yrs goals outline along with oral presentation by DC3 Chair and or Vice Chair.
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- Last month's discussion about PDEP's mission was that the wording needs to be focused and specific. We also discussed PDEP's advisory status, that we have no staff or resources, and how PDEP's focus should be to call issues to the attention of DC and others. This can be through discussions as well as by bringing in subject matter experts. Adriana reminded everyone of Lorenzo Cordova's comment that the Supervisors have 17 priorities and they rely on the DC and PDEP to bring them items and issues as they related to disaster preparedness and education.
  - Sara Robinson: PDEPs focus should be on 1. improvement in disaster preparedness; 2. identifying gaps (communities that are not being reached as well as lack of resources); and 3. leveraging PDEP to share information with others. We should also bring other stakeholders into this group for gap finding. We can build on the subject matter the County has from learned lessons from other communities who have experienced emergencies. The main objective should be how we can we gather information that informs and improves.
  - Catherine Way: We can bring all local disaster councils together to share best practices and experiences. There are gaps in each neighborhood/community. Maggie Lang: Southern Marin DC is an offshoot of this. Adriana Rabkin: We can bring them in quarterly.
  - Frank Cox: PDEP in past years identified current topics and has brought in subject matter experts to talk about wildfire, etc. We have new DC members, a new County Disaster Coordinator (soon), and new DC leadership. We need to look at the current hot topics now: earthquakes<sup>1</sup>, wildfires, pandemic, water and drought. PDEPs role is to make our information public. In collaboration with VOAD, PDEP can bring in speakers to address the public and we can invite the press to help spread the messages and urgency. Catherine Way: We will bring this to the supervisor and request that we can bring this to the DC.
  - Jay Hubert: PDEP has in the past offered both organizational and subject matter experts. PDEP has a common body of information already collected and we need to share it. The major role of PDEP is to accumulate information on emergency preparedness and problems (fire, floods, etc.). We need to assemble information and we should have resources that all could share. Reaching out to the public could be part of our charter. Adriana Rabkin: Last month, Lorenzo (Supervisor Rodoni's aide) told us that the Supervisors have 16 other priorities in addition to preparedness and they are relying on the Disaster Council and PDEP to provide information on preparedness. We can ask the Supervisors to include preparedness information in their newsletters – they could have a designated section for this in each of their newsletters.
  - Sue Yeres: Providing information is not enough. We should also provide suggested action items to address gaps and identify resources that would be helpful and ways of helping. Any gap that is identified should be accompanied by a set of recommendations that come from this group.
  - Sara Robinson: How often has PDEP presented a request or recommendation of funding? Frank Cox: PDEP conducted surveys of the public and DC members. Responses often asked for paid positions or funding. PDEP recommended Disaster

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.nytimes.com/2022/02/07/us/tsunami-northwest-evacuation-towers.html?smid=em-share>



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Coordinator and County positions, supported city coordinator idea and local NRG funded positions, DSW training, grants for Get Ready programs and ReadyMarin.org and supported MBER grants, CERT, MMRC, and fire education. We cannot request money for ourselves. But we have made recommendations about county and state funding uses.

- Adriana Rabkin: We are going to Supervisor Rodoni and will talk about the DC objectives. This will help guide PDEPs objectives and what other members should participate. We will also discuss how to leverage the district reps, so that we can build more of a supportive circle by working with them.

### PDEP Membership

- Catherine Way: Who are we missing in terms of DC members? What is the role of the DC community liaisons? Who are we missing from key groups in Marin like Aging & Adult Services, MMRC, and others? Adriana Rabkin: We need a reason to bring them to the table/discussion. What is in it for them?
- Eli Gelardin: Our bandwidth and capacity to engage is very limited. It would be very helpful to see how all the spokes on the wheel connect: DC, PDEP, VOAD, NRGs, CBOs, etc. MarinCIL is interested in bringing resources and funding to the AFN community. We need to work collectively with Aging and Adult Services and others to help pursue funding for the gaps.
- Catherine Way: The time is ripe to make more connections. The last two years with Covid has strengthened our connections. FireSafe Marin is now connected to AFN communities through MCIL. We need to leverage the resources.
- Adriana Rabkin: This is how we will get people to the table: PDEP is the only committee to the Disaster Council and needs to help the Disaster Council advise the BOS on disaster issues and emergency preparedness. PDEP may be the only group identifying gaps and convening people for this important conversation.
- Sara Robinson: Bring others to this group because we have the ear of the Disaster Council and can reach out to constituents with key information. I want to know that this is more than just a dialogue and that PDEP has the support of leadership.
- Maggie Lang: County Fire has a 2<sup>nd</sup> posting for the County coordinator. One candidate so has been selected for interviewing so far.
- Catherine Way: We are in an election year for a new sheriff, new county school superintendent, new supervisor if Damon Connolly steps out. The sheriff and schools are critical.
- Adriana Rabkin: There is also the OES consulting study that hopefully will be made public soon.
- Catherine Way: We will ask the Disaster Council to hear subject matter experts. Send any suggestions our way.

### III. Updates from PDEP members

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

- MCCMC have not met. No update. Catherine Way was reappointed to the Disaster Council.

#### Marin VOAD

- Adriana Rabkin: We conducted a survey of organizations asking what their biggest concerns are, what the core challenges are that their organization is focused on improving, what their biggest priorities are in an emergency and what are their communities biggest concerns in an emergency. We are building a multi-year training and exercise plan (MYTEP) based on these findings and will develop a comprehensive year with activities and exercises that build up to a full scale event that helps us all



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practice our collaborative emergency response. The VOAD will focus on supporting big issues, not just planning continuity of operations plans and informing organizations about the incident command system.

- The Radio Communications Volunteer (RCV) program uses Ham radio in a disaster when traditional communications have failed. We are going to the BOS next month to be approved as an official program. We hold weekly planning meetings and conduct monthly radio net tests and will be holding our second exercise with RCV operators and the 7 CBOs involved in the pilot project.

### West Marin

- Steve Marcotte was not present. No update. Catherine and Adriana will speak with him again about finding a West Marin representative to participate in these meetings.

### Red Cross (ARC)

- Sue Yeres: A QR Code has been developed and flyers are finalized for the Sound the Alarm installation program. There is both a web link and phone number to call. Red Cross is distributing these through the fire chiefs and providing chiefs with smoke detectors to install directly in resident's homes.
- Hoping to restart the Pedro (K-2<sup>nd</sup> grade) and Pillowcase (3-5<sup>th</sup> grade) programs. We have educators ready to go and want to reach schools and other community groups with kids as well like Boy Scouts, community centers, etc. Kids have a big impact on getting their parents involved and prepared for emergencies.
- Creating a volunteer group to run a table at FireSafe Marin Ember Stomp on May 28.
- Lori Schifrin: There is a tech issue with the flyer link that requires a Microsoft account. Sue will look into this.

### Southern Marin / Business Community

- Garry Lion: Omicron remains an issue for businesses. Some restaurants are going back to take out only.
- We are having the Forecasting the Future in person event at College of Marin, Indian Valley campus on either Mar 24 or Mar 30. This is a half day event with an economic update on businesses. We will have live streaming of the event.
- Putting together Economic Vitality Report, an economic and strategic plan for the County. We received a grant for consulting group and are working with Chambers of Commerce and other interest groups discussing how to stimulate economy to get things back on track. Presenting to BOS in April.
- Marin Economic briefings continue monthly.

### County CERT, Mill Valley Preparedness

- Maggie Lang: Marin County cancelled 2 CERT classes because of Covid concerns. On Feb. 26 there will be a skills day in Novato. 22 students have completed the online course and are ready to practice their skills and approximately 100 are going through the online course. There will be a West Marin CERT class in April. CERTs are all DSWs and are recertified every 4 years. There is lots of discussion about CERT and NRGs working together. We want to integrate function and leadership. Will share a table at Ember Stomp event. Sara Robinson: I'm glad to hear about this CERT-NRG potential partnership. This would be great for event coordination and resident accountability in neighborhoods with active NRG leaders and block captains.
- Jan. 20 Southern Marin Disaster Council meeting heard from Kerry Pollard from the water district. They are creating a citizen advisory group and are focused on water resiliency: water re-use, desalinization and bringing in winter water. Next meeting is March 1. Also heard from Elaine Wilkinson about Southern Marin NRG plans.



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- Mill Valley Emergency Planning Commission (MVEPC) is putting together a good neighbor guide for visitors to help them be prepared for wildfire, earthquake, etc. Adriana Rabkin: The West Marin beach communities have put together a small kit with a radio and information for visitors who stay in the rental properties.

### Public Health Preparedness and related programs

- Amber Davis was not present. No update. Adriana & Catherine will reach out to Amber again about attending the PDEP meetings.

### Public Safety / Emergency Management

- Raed Al-Zaher: No update.

### Marin Medical Reserve Corps (MMRC)

- Tom Cromwell: MMRC have helped distribute rapid Covid tests but State has stopped distributing these at the County level.
- FADR: We have not held classes for the past 2 years due to Covid. We are holding a meeting tomorrow to see how to get this up and running again. This started as a Stop the Bleed class and then other items were added like splints, chest compression, Narcan.
- Belvedere/Tiburon: Disaster Council is being reorganized. The council educates itself but none of this gets out to the community. How do we get the public involved because that is the sole reason the council exists. The Belvedere block captain program stalled for awhile. I want to re-energize it and the initial plan was to train block captains, but many block captains do not want to learn medical issues. We might want a trailer response team; we have a well supplied disaster medical trailer and 20-30 physicians and nurses to help staff the trailer.

### OES RACES Chief Radio officer

- Rob Ireson: RACES / ACS<sup>2</sup>: was not present. No update.

### Public Comment/Questions

- None

#### **IV. Closing Items**

- Our next PDEP meeting is Mar 7.

**Closure:** 2:30 pm end of meeting

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

**Dates may be flexible as circumstances require**

**PDEP Meetings Year 2022 (dates may be adjusted):** March 7, April 4, May 2, June 6, July 11, Aug 1, Sept 12, Oct 3, Nov 7, Dec 5, 2022

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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<sup>2</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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**DC3 Meetings: 3-5pm:**

**DC3 Year 2022:** Mar 10, June 9, Sept 8, Dec 8, 2022

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 2020-2-7b.docx*

*DRAFT approved at 3-7-2022 PDEP Meeting*