



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

PDE&P Meeting Minutes for May 2, 2022
Draft approved at PDEP 6-6-2022 Meeting

Members Present:

Catherine Way	Co-Chair, DC3, City of Larkspur Councilmember, MCCMC
Adriana Rabkin	Co-Chair, DC3 Member, Director Marin VOAD
Amber Davis	HHS Public Health Preparedness Manager
Rob Ireson	Chief, RACES/ACS
Elaine Wilkinson	Marin County Emergency Preparedness Coordinator
Raed Al-Zaher	SRFD Emerg Prep Coordinator (for Quinn Gardner)
Tom Cromwell	Marin Medical Reserve Corps (for Anne Carta)
Vincent Valenzuela	American Red Cross, Marin Chapter

Members Excused or Absent:

Anne Carta	Marin Medical Reserve Corps, County HHS
Maggie Lang	Southern Marin Disaster Council
Steve Marcotte	DC3 Member, West Marin Disaster Council
Garry Lion	DC3 Member, Marin Economic Forum
Quinn Gardner	SRFD Emergency Manager

Public Attendees:

Sashi McIntee	Marin LAFCo, smcentee@cityofmillvalley.org
Jeren Seibel	Marin LAFCo, jseibel@marinlafco.org
Frank Cox	Former PDEP Co Chair/DC3 Member frnkcox7@gmail.com
Sara Robinson	Marin Aging & Adult Services, SRobinson@marincounty.org
Miranda Miller	Ross Valley Emergency Prep Coord, mmiller@rossvalleyfire.org
Paula Doubleday	ReadyMarin.org, paula.double@gmail.com
Laney Davidson	DPW / AFN Coordinator, lmorgado@marincounty.org
Melina Boyd	Marin County Office of Education, mboyd@marinschools.org
Fernando Barreto	Aide to Supervisor Rodoni, fbarreto@marincounty.org
Jody Timms	Age Friendly Marin Network, jodytimms@comcast.net
Lori Schifrin	CERT, MMRC, Red Cross lori.sch@att.net
Milt Hyams	DC3 District 1 Rep, mmhyams@aol.com
Amy Glenn	Central Marin NRG Advisory Comm, aglennstyle@gmail.com
Skip Fedanzo	MARS, drferret@comcast.net

The following documents were emailed to PDEP in advance:

- PDEP_Agenda 2022-5-2.pdf**
- PDEP_Minutes 2022-4-4a.pdf (Draft to be approved)**

I. Welcome, Introductions, Review of Minutes

- Catherine Way welcomed attendees and welcomed Fernando Barreto, the new aide to Supervisor Rodoni to the meeting. He previously worked with Canal Alliance.
- Draft PDEP Minutes 4/4/2022 were reviewed. Rob Ireson requested a change regarding Golden Eagle. Minutes were approved with these corrections.

II. Marin LAFCo: Role in Local Governance, Sashi McIntee & Jeren Seibel

- Sashi Sabaratnam McIntee is the Marin LAFCo Commission Chair and Jeren Seibel is the Deputy Executive Director
- LAFCO: Local Formation Commission, is a State mandated agency that reviews municipal services, prevents sprawl, and plans for agricultural land. It is a State watchdog over local government that looks at what services are delivered and focuses on the efficiency of municipalities. The commission consists of 2 city members, county members, special districts, and members of the public. Marin LAFCO can decide what they want to study in their 5-year Workplan.



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- Their primary focus is Municipal Service Reviews as is outlined in the State government code for LAFCOs throughout the State. They have looked at services region by region: police, fire, library, recreation, etc.
- Disaster preparedness is not a municipal service. Evacuation is typically planned by Office of Emergency Services (OES) and law enforcement but it is managed by fire and is on the roads planned by public works. In some areas these functions are not in the same entity. Novato public works is run by a different organization than Novato municipality. LAFCo projects would need to involve all these agencies. There is an OES Mitigation Plan that is looking at evacuations now.
- Community members can request special studies. A couple of years ago LAFCo did a county wide fire study and they looked at prevention and administration. Olivia Gingold, an analyst, is working on this and speaking with city council, fire managers, Chief Jason Weber. This is a great place for PDEP to give input.
- LAFCo looks at the service territory of its sphere of influence and looks at if the service provider is equipped to meet its goals, has enough resources, etc. Past reports reside on the LAFCO website: <https://www.marinlafco.org/>.
- Catherine Way: Is there a role LAFCo can provide in assessing community emergency preparedness?
 - Sashi McIntee: This is not outlined in State government but we have done some special projects like sustainability. It would need to be defined. We can ask agencies what level of preparedness they have. Jeren Seibel: The services we are reviewing are all specifically outlined in State government.
- Sara Robinson: Are there any term limits? Are staff appointed? How many reports are produced each year?
 - Sashi McIntee: City members are appointed and Special District members are through a vote. The County appoints their people. Public members are voted by all other members. Members serve 4 year terms. LAFCo has one paid staff member in addition to the Executive Director and Deputy Executive Director. Commission members get paid a stipend for each meeting.
- There are 12 agencies being reviewed this year as part of a study taking 13 months. Typically each study takes 6-9 months¹. We look at every agency in a five year span. We don't review school districts, the County itself, or JPAs. <https://www.marinlafco.org/joint-powers-agencies>
- LAFCo is reviewing West Marin and their disaster plans and preparedness for their communities. We looked at Bolinas and Stinson Fire Protection Districts. We also reviewed CSA 28 which provides paramedic services and flood control.
- The next study will be the Golden Gate corridor: Mill Valley, Sausalito and Southern Marin Fire. There will be a full municipal service review that will include Tam Valley CSD and Marin City CSD. The study will highlight areas that are not being implemented and will put together a working group to help the area with their plan. If the agency does not have resources we have a punch list of recommendations. For example, in the San Rafael study Marinwood CSDA wants to get out of the fire service. The question is if San Rafael Fire will take over Marin CSDA Fire. LAFCo has been instrumental in bringing Marinwood and San Rafael together to figure out what can be done.
- Catherine Way: What can PDEP do to work with LAFCO?
 - Sashi McIntee: come up with a list of what it takes for a community to be prepared. Create a framework for analysis and come up with data collection measures. We can share this with agencies.

¹ Current Marin LAFCo study schedule:

<https://www.marinlafco.org/files/960029c73/Study+Schedule+FY+18-23+121020.pdf>



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- LAFCo has 12-15 towns and 64 special districts participating. There are about 50 active participating agencies. Frank Cox: Many LAFCo agencies are already involved in disaster response and all LAFCo agencies are mandated to be Disaster Service Workers (DSWs) in a disaster and all DSWs are required to be trained for and prepared for disasters. All DSWs can be deployed in the event of a disaster or emergency. Yet in the event of a disaster activation, no agency will get State reimbursement unless the DSWs are trained and follow Standardized Emergency Management (SEMS) mandate². The April 2021 LAFCo workshop did an excellent job helping analyze consolidation of services among Marin agencies (Central Marin Fire, Police, Southern Marin Public Safety Services)³ and the LAFCo Commission members have strong disaster preparedness / response backgrounds⁴. LAFCo is in an ideal position to facilitate/coordinate/consolidate support for disaster preparedness, training, response, recovery, and reimbursement among all the Marin Public Agencies.
 - Sashi McIntee: SEMS reimbursement procedures among LAFCo members are not well developed and no one from the County to a municipality has a system to track what you need to be reimbursed. **LAFCo hopes that County OES should pull together this need.**
 - Catherine Way: The Matrix study may better define OES roles. A new MCSO Sheriff will be elected and Matrix could recommend OES could work under the County Administrator's Office (CAO). OES could be full services, they could do more.
- Jeren Seibel: LAFCo historically does boundary changes or if unincorporated areas want to become part of a town they would come to us. We have the authority to initiate consolidation. But if public 'protest level' would be high, we may not initiate the issue. nothing we say should be a surprise to agencies. And agencies have a full 30 to 45 days to respond to our suggestions.
- Sashi McIntee: There is potential consolidation of Mill Valley fire into Southern Marin fire. If anyone is interested in helping with our workshop let us know.

III. Sonoma UC Coop Wildfire Vegetation Mitigation Program, Sashi McIntee

- The UC Cooperative Extension is the applied research division of the University of California Agriculture and Natural Resources.
- Sashi works with the Sonoma office and is working on a special study on fire services. There will be a workshop on July 27th. Catherine Way: The workshop will include UC wildfire mitigation, Master gardeners, UC Cooperative Extension, 4H and others.
- Sashi helped create vegetation management for Sonoma. Sonoma land is privately owned parcels whereas Marin is largely publicly owned. The Sonoma conversation is how to do this with private owners. Sashi has experience with the Marin Wildfire Prevention Authority though Sonoma County itself doesn't have a County fire department. Catherine Way: In Marin, Federal and State own the majority of Marin open land.
- NASA is interested in wildfire planning and mitigation. They are collecting satellite data on vegetation and are focused on community collaboration. They are currently conducting research on evacuations and evacuation modeling and working with

² State reimbursement of response-related personnel costs pursuant to activities identified in CCR, Title 19, §2920, §2935, and §2930

<https://www.caloes.ca.gov/cal-oes-divisions/planning-preparedness/standardized-emergency-management-system>

Cal OES Yellow Book contains selected California authorities governing emergency management,

<https://www.caloes.ca.gov/cal-oes-divisions/legal-affairs/authorities>

³ <https://www.marinlafco.org/2021-04-29-lafco-workshops>

⁴ <https://www.marinlafco.org/commission>



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academics and tech people and connecting them with practitioners on the ground. Sashi is working with Tom Welch on what is the Drop Cover and Hold for evacuations and thinking about evacuation behavioral strategies in a disaster. We want you to get out of harms' way. This might be a community refuge area, or shelter in place, or drive away from the area in your car. Alerts need to be simple and there needs to be flexibility. Avoid giving people maps because they might evacuate into a fire zone.

- Catherine Way: PDEP might help with information gathering. PDEP membership is cross pollinated with other County efforts. PDEP next steps: think about 4 areas that would benefit from research and analysis.
- Adriana Rabkin: How does LAFCo fit with the Community Development Agency (CDA)? Catherine Way: LAFCO and CDA are completely different. Each county has the LAFCO oversight board to look at municipal services and jurisdictional boundary questions. They conduct a study to take on local needs, services and populations. CDA looks at County unincorporated areas. It is also under a state mandate. The County General Plan is updated every 8-10 years and has seven elements including housing, transportation, and the newest climate and emergency preparedness. Leslie Lacko who spoke with us in March, 2022 spoke about the General Plan.

IV. ReadyMarin Website, Elaine Wilkinson & Paula Doubleday

- Elaine and Paula walked PDEP through a mockup of the revised website and explained the changes they are making to the site.
- Now is the time to reduce the jargon on the website and make the site more accessible, more simplistic, and easier to follow. We want to use the same language across the County, make it community friendly and provide information in different languages.
- The goal is to provide a landing spot for anyone to find information about disaster preparedness, CERT, NRG and the Get Ready program and provide links to other expert sites. Chief Welch and other fire chiefs have seen the draft.
- We looked at what other websites are doing. [SF72.org](https://www.sf72.org) is San Francisco's website that provides real time information during an emergency. It is a simple example and we have permission to use their material.
- We are also rethinking the Get Ready program. The CA Listos program <https://www.listoscalifornia.org/> has accessible information in many languages.
- Our guiding principles are we want to meet people where they are, make preparedness seem simple, help people understand they are more prepared than they think, and keep it friendly & inclusive.
- The new landing page will have three areas of focus: Plan and Prepare; Neighborhood/NRG; and CERT. You will also be able to sign up for Alerts on every page of the website. Everything on the front page will take you to internal pages: Prepare your Pets; Know your neighbors; CERT basic training.
- We will also incorporate Listos where you can sign up for preparedness suggestions, receiving a text each day. There will be direct links to other sites rather than re-create the content like MarinCIL, Firesafe Marin. Lastly there will be basic downloads at the bottom of the page like how to make a plan.
- We are hoping to launch the new website by the end of June, 2022.
- Sara Robinson: Marin County is revamping its website. A user survey went out about navigation. Responses will help the County prioritize how different populations would conduct a search. Is there a chance to create a similar user survey for the Ready Marin website? Paula Doubleday: Ready Marin will be simple and won't be overwhelming. Miranda Miller is part of the development team and she is new to emergency preparedness and brings the lens of those who are unfamiliar to emergency preparedness.
- Skip Fedanzo: What are you doing about multi language needs? And what are the landing pages where you send people to – are you sending them to the main front page



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or the page that covers the topic mentioned? Paula Doubleday: We will send users to the main landing page because we cannot go too deep into others' sites.

- Adriana Rabkin: You might want to participate in the next West Marin Disaster Council and present these updates to them as well. They often feel disconnected and this would be a great opportunity to have them participate in something being developed on the East side of Marin that impacts everyone in Marin.
- Laney Davidson: are you ensuring the site is accessible to people with disabilities according to digital accessibility laws is crucial? Elaine Wilkinson: Yes we absolutely will be ensuring that.

V. Updates from PDEP members

MCCMC Marin County Council Mayors + City Councilmembers

- Catherine Way: MCCMC met last week. Mark Van Gorder with PG&E gave an enhanced vegetation management presentation. There is more removal this year than ever before Mark Brown, Marin Wildfire Prevention Authority, also presented on wildfires.

Marin VOAD (Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster)

- Adriana Rabkin: Marin VOAD is participating in the upcoming BAUASI regional exercise, Golden Eagle, on May 19. This will be an opportunity for us to practice our communications protocol and we will be sending out an Everbridge Alert via phone, text, and email to our disaster list on the day of the event. We will then hold a conference call later in the afternoon to review the basics of how we will provide situational updates and hear from community members about what they are seeing in their communities following a disaster.
- Skip Fedanzo: RCV operators will be practicing sending messages between CBOs during their own activation later in the day.

American Red Cross (ARC)

- Vincent Valenzuela: There is a Sound the Alarm event in Novato on May 21 at the Novato RV mobile home park. The month of May is our 'Sound Alarm Month'. This is a national event to install 50,000 smoke alarms in homes across the country. This will be our first event in Marin since Covid-19. There have been a couple of fires in this park in the last couple of years.
- There are over 30 requests for smoke alarm installations in Marin County right now. We can provide individual installations and train others to do these. This is a great free service.

Marin County HHS Public Health Preparedness

- Amber Davis: We are working with Skilled Nursing Facilities (SNF) and Long Term care facilities on their hazard plans - HVA Hazard Vulnerability Assessments training. This is annual planning and the group must do this work.
- We have a partnership with Multicultural Center Marin and Marin CIL to develop a presentation on preparedness for caregivers. The presentation will be offered in English, Spanish and Vietnamese. Sara Robinson: Will that be recorded so we can distribute it afterwards? This would be good to have on the Ready Marin site. Paula Doubleday: We have a caregiver's check list; it would be great to have a link to your video.
- Skip Fedanzo: will flyers be sent out to providers? Amber: Yes, they will go to SNF, Long Term care facilities, IHSS caregivers and the caregiver list Marin CIL has as well.
- Amber will be sitting in the PH seat for the Golden Eagle exercise.
- We are mostly out of Covid, but we are still working with vendors for Covid tests and have received rapid antigen test kits that we are distributing to the public through facilities, CBOs, and housing sites.

Marin Medical Reserve Corps (MMRC)



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- Tom Cromwell: The FADR program is still on hold. There is substantial interest in redeveloping this program and AED and NARCAN have been added to the program. Anne Carta has arranged 6 meetings and we are training people to train the community, about 1,000 people. These will likely be started again in September.
- Catherine Way: Do you offer these in the school system? Stop the bleed used to be a high school requirement. Tom: They don't have time to add this to the curriculum. And reducing this material to 30 minutes is insufficient. Melina Boyd, MCOE: Stop the bleed is not required right now. We just got more funding so we may be reaching out to you Tom.
- \$27 million seawall project in Tiburon underway. This was a 10-12 year engineering study looking at capacity and control of the water level in the lagoon. Sea walls San Rafael & Beach Road are CRITICAL corridors. Everything goes under those two roadways.

Marin Economic Forum/Business Community

- Garry Lion: was not present. No update.

Marin County Emergency Preparedness Disaster Council

- Elaine Wilkinson: We held a strategic planning meeting with regional coordinators. We are thinking about NRGs, CERT and how they can work together.
- We want to put out clear communications to start to create a sense of branding and we also want to set metrics and show the value of what is being developed.
- If possible, we want to reduce the cost of CERT to zero. Few counties require their CERTs to pay for training.
- We sent a survey to 2,000 CERTs in Marin. We need to understand and track their behavior and participation. Miranda Miller will develop a method of tracking how people participate.

OES RACES Chief Radio officer

- Rob Ireson: RACES / ACS⁵: ACS/RACES. Marin, Alameda, San Mateo, Santa Clara and Cal Trans will all be participating in the Golden Eagle exercise on May 19. District 4 Cal Trans in Oakland may also participate. If all communications go down, radio will back it up. We will practice very basic traffic passing and establishing communication links from Marin EOC. We are working with Sonoma and San Francisco transportation hubs.

San Rafael Emergency Management

- Quinn Gardner: was not present. No update.

Southern Marin Disaster Council

- Elaine Wilkinson: There was a great discussion on fire insurance coverage and Mark Brown presented to the group. The FireSafe Marin videos are fantastic – please share: <https://firesafemarin.org/video-library/>. The videos are on YouTube, are short, and are getting great traction.
- There is a strategic planning meeting this Friday. We are asking each city and town to adapt the strategic plan to their community needs.
- Homeowner Fire Insurance is very spotty and there does not seem to be a clear answer about what homeowners can do to ensure coverage. Catherine Way: Let's make this a topic for a future meeting.

West Marin Disaster Council

- Steve Marcotte: was not present. No update.

⁵ 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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Public Comment/Questions

- Tom Cromwell: There is a vending machine for NARCAN in an HHS building near the Sheriff's office. Nasal NARCAN should be free and accessible. RxSafe Marin fills them. There are no side effects if given incorrectly. Melina Boyd: We have a NARCAN program in the schools where staff are trained.

VI. Closing Items

- Our next PDEP meeting is June 6 and the next quarterly DC3 meeting is June 9

Closure: 3:00 pm end of meeting

Next Meetings: 1-3pm:

Dates may be flexible as circumstances require

PDEP Meetings Year 2022 (dates may be adjusted): 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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### **DC3 Meetings: 3-5pm:**

**DC3 Year 2022:** 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)

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