



Southern Marin Fire Protection District

Emergency & Disaster Preparedness Committee

Pete Fleming, Chair

Thomas Perazzo,

Alternate: Cristine DeBerry

Tuesday, January 12, 2021–07:30 am–Headquarters

MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER:

Director Fleming called the meeting to order at 07:33 AM.

In Attendance:

BOARD: *Participating via Zoom meeting:* Director Fleming, Director Raveche*, and Director DeBerry (joined 7:36 AM); *Present in person:* Director Perazzo. There is a quorum.

STAFF: *In Person:* Chief Tubbs, Chief Peterson, Chief Welch, Communications Coordinator Elysha Omoomy, and Clerk of the Board Mariya Weinberg. *Via Zoom:* none.

Absent: none

2. OPEN TIME FOR PUBLIC EXPRESSION:

No public present, *with the exception of Director Raveche, who is attending this meeting in a general public capacity, and is not voting. Director Raveche did not speak at this time.

3. AGENDA ADJUSTMENTS:

Chief Tubbs proposed to add, as Item 5.d, a verbal update on the Measure U Oversight Committee recruitment process for a replacement committee member.

Motion to approve agenda adjustment:

M/S: Perazzo/Fleming

Ayes: Fleming, Perazzo, DeBerry

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Emergency & Disaster Preparedness Committee Meeting Minutes, December 8, 2020.

Motion to approve Minutes without changes:

M/S: Perazzo/Fleming

Ayes: Fleming, Perazzo, DeBerry

5. Reports and Information

5.a Staff Report - Future Discussion/Action Items for the EDPC

Last week Director Fleming had requested that Staff present ideas for future E&DP related activities, and Chief Welch has prepared a Staff Report for discussion at the current meeting. Please see the list of

suggested activities in the report. The list could also be considered by the Mill Valley Emergency Preparedness Commission, as well as community safety/ disaster preparedness commissions in Sausalito, Marin City and Tiburon. Some additional comments from Chief Welch are below.

Last year, in-person evacuation drills were postponed, due to COVID-19. We are figuring out ways to safely resume them this year, maybe by late Spring or Summer. We could attempt combining those drills with community vaccination projects.

The NRG (Neighborhood Response Group) programs are designed to help community members to prepare and help each other in a disaster. Sausalito does not have an NRG, but we (Chief Welch) think we can help get one started. Per Director Perazzo, Chief Welch is speaking on two topics off the proposed list during the upcoming Sausalito EPC meeting.

The Campout is a fun family event where families spend a night camping in a community area. This is preparation for survival in a disaster, where they can't shelter inside their homes. Fire Department and Law Enforcement participate. Again, this would have to be done safely, within any COVID-19 restrictions.

The Speaker Series on Zoom are relatively uncomplicated logistically, and we should be able to do some right away – see topics in the report. We can initially focus on evacuation, wildfire and flooding, and answering community questions.

The CERT training will likely morph into a combination of zoom/online instruction, as well as hands-on training with our firefighters.

Staff will begin planning and executing items outlined in the Staff Report. Additional ideas are welcome. Chief Tubbs added that some of these activities will be built into Proposed Strategic Objectives for the next Fiscal Year, which will be discussed at the Board Retreat.

Director Raveche (speaking as member of the public), said she would like to circulate a document that she has been preparing for the Mill Valley EPC, with some feedback from Tam Valley NGR. The documents concern a “good neighbor guide”, which helps neighbors help neighbors in an emergency, and assist those moving to the area, or short-term renters. The committee welcomed the idea.

President Fleming asked to follow up later on as to which of the listed items Staff particularly recommend to start with. Also, for the Speaker Series, can the Committee help share the recordings with the public to maximize dissemination of the information?

Chief Tubbs said we will work on the list of what can be accomplished this year, and more information will be provided at the upcoming Board retreat.

5.b Staff Report - Vaccination Update

Chief Welch presented this report, which is included in the meeting packet. Chief Welch mentioned that Pfizer and Moderna vaccines are being administered in Marin County to Tier 1 recipients, including first responders – law enforcement, firefighters, EMS, and also to care facility residents and staff. These people are now getting the 2nd round of injections. Southern Marin Fire personnel has been receiving the vaccines. Also, under leadership of Chief Barnes, SMFD/MVFD has been assisting with administering the vaccine, including to non-fire department personnel. Note that we will be reimbursed for at least some of the cost of participating in those efforts. The Chiefs have been discussing how we can transition to “the new normal”, once personnel is fully vaccinated.

Director DeBerry brought up a reference to Southern California EMT personnel being asked to “hold” COVID-19 patients that are not expected to survive, rather than bringing them into the ER, due to hospital system overload. Chiefs confirmed that no such practice is going on in our county. However, nursing homes may not be moving geriatric patients, who are also already in poor health, and who are not expected to recover from COVID-19. These are cases where comfort care is chosen over moving to a hospital.

Chief Welch answered President Fleming’s question about percentage of our personnel being vaccinated. SMFD has a high 70’s to low 80’s percent vaccination rate, with some having also received their second shot. MVFD has about a 50% vaccination rate. Every first responder who wanted the vaccine has received one. Note that CA Professional Fire Fighters Association has put out a lot of information addressing the concerns that personnel may have about the vaccine.

Director Raveche wanted to know about our fire house procedures post-vaccination. For example, if masks would still be required. Chief Welch answered that this issue is currently being discussed, including at the County level.

5.c Communications Staff Report

Elysha Omoomy, the Communications Coordinator, presented this report, which is included in the meeting packet. Moving towards August 2021, we will continue implementing proposals that were adopted by E&DPC and BOD, as described in the SMFD’s Communications and Branding Plan. Ms. Omoomy spoke about 2021 planned Educational Campaigns. She also went over the performance metrics for the various communication platforms. The numbers continue to improve across the board. Ms. Omoomy said support from E&DPC and BOD will be crucial to the success of the plan. More opportunity for Board input will be available at the Board Retreat. President Fleming asked for the Communications and Branding Plan document to be included in the Board Retreat documents.

5.d Measure U Oversight Committee recruitment process - verbal update

At the last BOD meeting, Mr. Kessell announced his resignation from the Measure U Oversight Committee, due to leaving the jurisdiction. The Board directed Staff to begin recruitment process for a replacement, and that has been ongoing. The application period of one month is open until January 28, but no candidates have applied this far. Ms. Omoomy will be pushing out additional messaging. Also, Chief Tubbs will again reach out to each of the Measure U Oversight Committee members, and ask

them to assist to find candidates. If there are no candidates by January 28th, we would look to extend the application period. Unfortunately, we can't recruit in Marin City, like Director DeBerry suggested, as they are outside of our jurisdiction. However, we will try for as much outreach to all areas of district to get diversity.

6. ADJOURNMENT:

Motion to adjourn.

M/S: Perazzo/DeBerry

Ayes: Fleming, Perazzo, DeBerry

Noes: none

Adjourned at 8:04 AM.