

EMERGENCY MANGEMENT COUNCIL
When: March 23, 2023, 1-3pm
Where: EOC 5200 Soquel Ave., Santa Cruz

AGENDA

1. Call to Order/Instructions for participation

I. Patsy Gasca called the meeting to order at 1:02 PM

2. Roll Call (Emergency Management Council Appointed Members)

I. Nancy Yellin, Jamshid Kiani, Patsy Gasca, Chief Ainsworth, Joe Christy, Nate Armstrong, Tom Avila, Scott Garner, Sarah Ryan, Scott Cullen, Michael Bennett, Matko Vranjes, Greg Benson, John Gerhardt, Carolyn Burke, Kimberley Peterson, Mary Edmund, David Reid, Annie Puckett

3. Changes to the Agenda

I. None

4. Approval of Minutes (Attachment B)

- I. Corrections to the November 3 minute: spelling of Yellin, paragraph 1; addition of Mary Edmund to November roll call.*
- II. Motion to approve the minutes: Nancy Yellin; second the motion, Joe Christy; **MOTION APPROVED***

5. Old Business

I. None

6. New Business

6.1 Meeting Structure/Cadence

David Reid suggested removing the hybrid reference from future meeting agendas given that the COVID-era exceptions to the Brown Act, (allowing for virtual meetings of public bodies, including the EMC council), have expired. All meetings of the EMC will occur the first Thursday of each odd month, in-person with a quorum of 13, from 1 -3 pm. At the Emergency Operations Center.

*Motion to approve the annual in-person meeting schedule and location: Nancy Yellin; **MOTION APPROVED***

6.2 Parliamentary process of review

6.2.1 Adding agenda items & Adding action items.

David Reid stated that the EMC should expect to receive a high-level overview of parliamentary procedure at the May meeting.

6.3 Calendar of Activities/Agendas (Attachment B)

EMC council reviewed proposed annual schedule of meeting topics.

6.4 Subcommittee Development

Nancy Yellin suggested the EMC consider developing subcommittees to focus on important topics including exercises and sheltering, given that the limited annual meeting schedule does not provide sufficient time to focus on these items.

6.5 Training & Exercise Goals for 2023

David Reid stated that a consultant has been identified to conduct an After-Action Report related to the January storm event EOC activation. He stated that the consultant will be in touch with EMC council members for input to the report and that the report results will inform future training and exercises.

David Reid suggested that the Cal Fire extended attack drill, typically scheduled in June, should include a shelter and care element.

Chief Ainsworth discussed the upcoming active-shooter training, scheduled to occur at SLV school in July. He explained that the Law-Fire branch is adopting active shooter protocols and responses that will be applied consistently across the entire county and is consistent with response models across the State. He emphasized the importance of a uniform response across the County. He clarified for Patsy Gasca that these protocols differ from those in Monterey County. Dave Reid suggested that the med-health branch participate in the training, and

Chief Ainsworth stated that they are seeking participation from area hospitals.

David Reid stated that plans for a communication-centric tabletop exercise, in conjunction with Santa Clara County, for the area along the shared border are in discussion.

Dave Reid shared that Firewise communities, including communities in the North Rodeo Gulch area, are interested in conducting their own exercises as it relates to fire evacuation routes, and are working to move forward the planning process. Due to the complexities and liabilities of conducting such a training, including establishing evacuation routes across private properties NOT maintained by County officials, Chief Ainsworth declines support for these efforts.

7. Informational Reports

7.1 OR3

David Reid described the series of emergency and disaster declarations that have occurred since Dec. 31, including one Federal Disaster Declaration and three Local Emergency declarations. He reported that OR3 has been busy with storm response and ongoing recovery, including the operation of two DRCs in Santa Cruz and Watsonville.

He also confirmed that the Board approved the funding award to the county by the CA Fire Safe Council for Evacuation management and preparation. This funding will support an update to the County's emergency management plan as well as the purchase of a chipper and new road signage via the Fire Safe Council.

Finally, he stated the County will adopt a new alert and warning tool, Genasys, to be used by Net Com, County and others, with the intent of communicating more effectively during a disaster intent to communicate more effectively for disaster.

7.2 City of Capitola – Sarah Ryan stated her appreciation of Unified Command amid the January Storm event and her interest in the County's update to the emergency management plan, as it could inform Capitola's emergency operations plan.

7.3 City of Santa Cruz – Paul Horvat- *Absent*

7.4 City of Scotts Valley – *Scott Garner – Stated that Scotts Valley's primary dispatch went down temporarily but has since been repaired. Scotts Valley is currently seeking grant funding for a dispatch console upgrade.*

7.5 City of Watsonville – Tom Avila- *No new updates*

7.6 County Office of Education – *Jennifer Buesing – Absent due to State dignitaries touring Pajaro area schools damaged in March flooding*

8. Non-Governmental Organizations

8.1 CERT Council – Robert Gray – *Absent*

8.2 CERT Auxiliary – Mary Edmund – *Communication exercise planned for April 4/29*

8.3 Medical Reserve Corp – *Nany Yellin on behalf of Anna Sutton – has ideas of how to invigorate and conduct drills; Medical reserve Corps members to attend a conference on this subject in May*

8.4 Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) – John Gerhardt – *On going testing occurring; communication exercise planned for 4/29*

8.5 8.5 Equine Evacuation – Cally Haber – *Absent*

8.6 American Red Cross – *Jamshid Kiani and Patsy Gasca– going into community of Pajaro for mobile feeding and distribution of supplies; ready to cooperate with trainings.*

9. OR3 Grant Updates – No Changes

- FY 2020 State Homeland Security Grant Program (SHSGP) – OPEN
- FY 2021 State Homeland Security Grant Program (SHSGP) – OPEN
- FY2021 Emergency Management Performance Grant (EMPG) – OPEN
- FY2021 Emergency Management Performance Grant–American Rescue Plan Act (EMPG–ARPA) – OPEN
- CalOES High Frequency Grant Program – OPEN
- California Fire Safe Council – County Coordinator Grant – OPEN
- California Fire Safe Council – Evacuation Management Grant – **Approved**

10. Announcements – None

11. Adjourn

*Motion to adjourn, Nate Armstrong; **Motion Approved***

Next Meeting: May 4, 2023, 1-3 pm at the EOC

The Emergency Management Council generally meets the first Thursday of every odd month, excluding July.