



MARIN EMERGENCY RADIO AUTHORITY
 c/o Town of Corte Madera
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Governing Board
Minutes of October 26, 2022 Regular Meeting

Call to Order and Introductions

The teleconferenced regular meeting was called to order by Vice President Cusimano on October 26, 2022, at 3:31 p.m. Lorena Barrera called roll.

Governing Board Members

Agency	Representative	Present	Absent	Late Arrival
Town of Corte Madera	RJ Suokko (Alternate)	X		
Town of Fairfax	Chance Cutrano (Alternate)	X		
City of Larkspur	Dan Schwarz		X	
City of Mill Valley	Todd Cusimano	X		
City of Novato	Susan Wernick			X
Town of Ross	Tom Gaffney	X		
City of San Rafael	David Spiller	X		
County of Marin	Dan Eilerman (Alternate)	X		
City of Sausalito	Bill Fraass		X	
Bolinas Fire Protection District	George Krakauer	X		
Inverness Public Utility District	Jim Fox & Shelley Redding (Alternate)	X		
Kentfield Fire Protection District	Mark Pomi & Ron Naso (Alternate)	X		
Marin Water District	Don Wick	X		
Novato Fire Protection District	L. J. Silverman	X		
Southern Marin Fire Protection District	Cathryn Hilliard	X		
Stinson Beach Fire Protection District	Jesse Peri	X		
Tiburon Fire Protection District	Richard Pearce		X	
Central Marin Police Authority	Michael Norton		X	
Town of San Anselmo	Steve Burdo		X	
City of Belvedere	Jason Wu	X		
Town of Tiburon	Ryan Monaghan	X		
Marin Community College District	Martin Langeveld (Alternate)		X	
Marin Transit	Mohamed Osman	X		
Marinwood Community Services District	Eric Dreikosen	X		
Ross Valley Fire Department	Tim Grasser		X	

Staff Present:

MERA Executive Officer	Heather Plamondon
MERA General Counsel	Trisha Ortiz
MERA Deputy Executive Officer, Next Gen Project	Dave Jeffries
MERA Operations Officer	Todd Williams
MERA Administrative Assistant	Maura Griffin
Recording Secretary	Lorena Barrera

Guests Present:

Federal Engineering	David Mortimer
AECOM	Bruce Bagnoli
Marin County DPW	Michael Frost

A. Consent Calendar

All matters on the Consent Calendar are to be approved with one motion unless a Member of the Governing Board or the public requests that a separate action be taken on a specific item.

1. Approve Minutes from September 28, 2022 Governing Board Regular Meeting
2. Adopt Resolution 2022-11 Reconsidering the Circumstances of the COVID-19 State of Emergency and Making Findings in Connection Therewith to Authorize Public Meetings To Be Held Via Teleconferencing Pursuant To Government Code Section 54953(e)
3. Adopt Resolution 2022-12 Amending the Date of the November Governing Board Regular Meeting to Occur on the Second Wednesday of the Month.

MOTION: M/S/C (Silverman/Hilliard) to approve Consent Calendar items 1-3. (Susan Wernick not present for the vote) **Roll call vote** Ayes: All, Noes: None, Abstain: None

B. Executive Officer's Report

1. Receive Report No 105 on Next Gen System Project (Jeffries – Discussion)
Dave Jeffries reviewed this report as included in the packet, beginning with the updated construction schedule provided to Motorola - the team is awaiting an updated overall project schedule in return. He continued by giving updates on the status of completed, ongoing, and upcoming bid packages. Jeffries then reviewed the preparations for upcoming tests of the connectivity plan for different types of agencies.
2. Review and Approve Award of Bid for Next Gen System Project Bid Package No 3 (Jeffries – Board Action)
Dave Jeffries reviewed the proposal and awarding of bid package 3 to Fidato as included in the packet. With their cost estimate being the lowest at \$3,612,000, as well as prior experience working with them, Jeffries' team recommends approving the award, in addition to a contingency fund of \$700,000. The board discussed questions regarding the contingency fund - whether it was necessary, and if Fidato has included any type of allowance in their proposal. After some discussion, Member Suokko proposed setting the contingency amount to 15%, bringing the board to a consensus on the topic.

MOTION: M/S/C (Cutrano/Gaffney) – to approve Item B2 Award of Bid for Next Gen System Project Bid Package No 3 with contingency of 15% **Roll call vote** Ayes: All, Noes: None, Abstain: None

3. This item intentionally left blank
Jeffries explained this item was removed as it was still being worked on and may be brought up in the November meeting.
4. Review and Approve an Extension to Agreement with Planet Bids Platform (Jeffries – Board Action)
Dave Jeffries reviewed the proposed one-year extension to the agreement with planet bids. The contract expires on November 15th, and more time than that is required to complete bid

package 4. According to the current schedule, this would be the last extension needed to complete the process.

MOTION: M/S/C (Silverman/Eilerman) – to approve item B4 Extension to Agreement with Planet Bids Platform **Roll call vote** Ayes: All, Noes: None, Abstain: None

5. Review and Approve a Memorandum of Understanding Document to be used between MERA and Non-MERA Agencies for the use of the Gen One and Next Gen Radio System (Plamondon – Board Action)

Member Plamondon reviewed the request to approve the MOU as included in the packet. She explained the document would be used as a template when MERA engages in system sharing agreements with non-MERA agencies.

Public comment received from Tara Evans and Stephen Bingham. Tara had questions regarding items #2, #4, #5 of the MOU, and the level of access given to federal agencies. Stephen had a comment on paragraph 16, hoping to clarify the language further, as well as a comment on the language of item C2 not specifically referring to this MOU for the record. Member Plamondon addressed the above questions and brought the board to consensus on agreement.

MOTION: M/S/C (Spiller/Cutrano) – to approve item B5 Memorandum of Understanding Document to be used between MERA and Non-MERA Agencies for the use of the Gen One and Next Gen Radio System. **Roll call vote** Ayes: All, Noes: None, Abstain: None

C. Operations Reports (Williams)

1. Receive MERA System Operations Update September – (Williams - Discussion)

Member Williams reports on this item as included in the agenda packet, noting the 1st gen system had good performance for the month of September. Minor gear replacement and maintenance continues as necessary, no major ongoing issues.

2. Review and Approve Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives to use the Gen One and Next Gen Radio System under and Approved Memorandum of Understanding (Williams-Board Action)

Member Williams and Plamondon reviewed the request from the BATFE, noting that it has been revised since it was last brought at a prior GB meeting. Public comment received from Tara Evans asking what would happen should the BATFE reject the proposed MOU. She also restated Stephen Bingham’s comment from item B5 regarding the language of C2. Member Plamondon assured the board that the agreed upon MOU will dictate the terms of engagement with outside entities, and that it is exactly what will be sent for agreement should an agency expect to work with MERA as the document describes.

MOTION: M/S/C (Wick/Eilerman) – to approve item C2 Review and Approve Addition of One Radio for Southern Marin Fire Protection District. **Roll call vote** Ayes: All, Noes: None, Abstain: None

3. Other Information Items - none

D. Open Time for Items Not on Agenda

Vice President Cusimano expressed thanks to members Williams and Suokko for their expertise and work done on behalf of MERA and for the governing board.

Member Pomi wanted to confirm the date of the November GB meeting, with the board coming to agreement that it will be on the 9th.

E. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 4:23 PM.

Meeting recording can be located using this link:

<https://youtu.be/6eXDd8xCGAk>

Respectfully submitted by:

Heather Plamondon
MERA Executive Officer