

#### MARIN EMERGENCY RADIO AUTHORITY

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# Governing Board Minutes of December 13, 2023 Regular Meeting

## **Call to Order and Introductions**

The teleconferenced regular meeting was called to order by President Pearce on December 13, 2023, at 3:30 p.m. Lorena Barrera called roll.

#### **Governing Board Members**

				Late
Agency	Representative	Present	Absent	Arrival
Town of Corte Madera	R.J. Suokko (Alternate)		Χ	
Town of Fairfax	Chance Cutrano (Alternate)	X		
City of Larkspur	Shannon O'Hare	X		
City of Mill Valley	Rick Navarro (Alternate)	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	X		
City of Sausalito	Brian Mather (Alternate #2)		Χ	
Bolinas Fire Protection District	George Krakauer		Χ	
Inverness Public Utility District	Shelley Redding	X		
Kentfield Fire Protection District	Mark Pomi & Ron Naso (Alternate)	X		
Marin Water District	Don Wick (Alternate)	X		
Novato Fire Protection District	L. J. Silverman	X		
Southern Marin Fire Protection District	Cathryn Hilliard	X		
Stinson Beach Fire Protection District	Jessi Peri	X		
Tiburon Fire Protection District	Richard Pearce	X		
Central Marin Police Authority	Michael Norton	X		
Town of San Anselmo	Steve Burdo		Χ	
City of Belvedere	Jason Wu		Χ	
Town of Tiburon	Jarrod Yee		Χ	
Marin Community College District	Greg Nelson		Χ	
Marin Transit	Mohamed Osman (Alternate)	X		
Marinwood Community Services District	Eric Dreikosen			X
Ross Valley Fire Department	Tim Grasser		Χ	

Staff Present:	MERA Executive Officer (Virtual)	Heather Plamondon
	MERA General Counsel (Virtual)	Brandi Robinson
	MERA Deputy Executive Officer (Virtual)	Dave Jeffries
	MERA Operations Officer	Todd Williams
	Recording Secretary	Lorena Barrera
Guests Present:	Federal Engineering Auditor	David Mortimer David Alvey

#### 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 October 25, 2023 Governing Board Regular Meeting
- 2. MERA November Operations Budget Report and Project Fund Update
- 3. Receive NBS Measure A Annual Report
- 4. MERA Fiscal Year 2022-23 Audited Financial Statements, Auditors Comments and Measure A Audit

**MOTION**: M/S/C (Eilerman/Spiller) to approve items. (Dreikosen not present for vote due to late arrival) **Roll call vote** Ayes: All, Noes: None, Abstain: None

### B. Executive Officer's Report

1. Receive Report #115 on the Next Gen System (Jeffries – Report)

Dave Jeffries gave his report as included in the meeting packet. Minor updates to project schedule – final acceptance projection is unchanged. Gave updates on the status of completed and ongoing bid packages – notes that network and microwave installation is beginning for sites in bid package 1 and 2. Gave construction/supply updates on Bid package 3 and 4 sites. Concludes with a review of the site overview and the Key Project Summary details, touching on completed and ongoing tasks, as well as upcoming tasks in the short and longer term.

2. Review and Approve Third Amendment to the Lease with Everest Partners for Mt. Tamalpais Tower Plan (Plamondon-Action)

Plamondon reviews item B2, explaining the necessary adjustments that were made to the installation process for Mt. Tamalpais site. Amendment is to officially document the changes.

**MOTION**: M/S/C (Wick/Cutrano) to approve Item B2 Third Amendment to the Lease with Everest Partners for Mt. Tamalpais Tower Plan **Roll call vote** Ayes: All, Noes: None, Abstain: None

3. Review and Approve Memorandum of Understanding between California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation, San Quentin for Access and Use of the MERA System (Plamondon-Action)

Plamondon reviews item B3, explaining the no cost agreement and its primary use of fire support. Agreement is standard with the addition of CDCR San Quentin's access to all County Fire channels and talk groups in the event of the provision of mutual aid. Member Pomi describes a recent incident where there was no direct communication with CDCR San Quentin and explains how this agreement would be beneficial.

Plamondon notes this item is part of an ongoing effort to formally update all MOUs with non-member agencies and mutual aid partners in preparation for the transition to the Next Gen System.

**MOTION**: M/S/C (Pomi/Hilliard) to approve Item B3 Memorandum of Understanding between California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation, San Quentin for Access and Use of the MERA System **Roll call vote** Ayes: All, Noes: None, Abstain: None

4. Review and Approve Addition of Radio IDs for MERA Members in Advance of the System Transition (Plamondon-Action)

Plamondon reviews Item B4, explaining the request for new Radio IDs to prepare for the increased staffing and new equipment of member agencies and mutual aid partners to smoothly transition to Next Gen System. Also notes that concerns for system capacity have been eased since an updated count of radios places the total at well below the limit.

**MOTION**: M/S/C (Cutrano/Norton) to approve Item B4 Addition of Radio ID's for MERA Members in Advance of the System Transition **Roll call vote** Ayes: All, Noes: None, Abstain: None

5. Receive Update from Executive Officer re: Sperry Capital Efforts (Plamondon, Verbal Report)

Plamondon gives update on financing effort with Sperry Capital. Bond counsel has been retained, and several discussions have occurred with said counsel and the Finance Committee. The committee will continue to meet to explore options and recommendations for funding.

- C. Operations Reports (Williams)
  - Receive MERA System Operations Update October-November (Williams Discussion)
     Todd Williams gives update on current gen system operations, notes outstanding performance overall. Mentions limited but sufficient supply availability. Concludes with system metrics for the period and the year-to-date.
- D. Open Time for Items Not on Agenda None

Heather Plamondon notes several site visits she has made around Marin and applauds the progress of the project. Thanks everyone involved for their patience and commitment.

E. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 4:01 PM

Recording can be accessed on the Agendas and Minutes Page at: http://www.meraonline.org