

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

When: May 2, 2024 1-3pm

Where: EOC, 5200 Soquel Ave., Santa Cruz

MINUTES

1. **Call to Order/Instructions for participation** – Patsy Gasca called the meeting to order at approximately 1PM.
2. **Roll Call (*Emergency Management Council Appointed Members, Districts 1-5*)** – Nancy Yellin, Joe Christy, Bob Wiser, Patsy Gasca, Amanda Gullings, Paul Garcia, Mary Edmund, Lauren Moody, John Gerhardt, Dan Selling, Nigel Miller, Tom Hail, Rishi Lal, Scott Garner, Rob Oatey, Nate Armstrong, Mike DeMars, Greg Benson, Andy Dally, David Reid, Clare Peabody.
3. **Changes to the Agenda** – None.
4. **Approval of Minutes (*Attachment A and B*)** – Joe Christy made the motion to approve the minutes as presented for both January and March. Nancy Yellin seconded, approved unanimously.
5. **Old Business** – None.
6. **New Business** – None.
7. **Informational Reports**
 - 7.1 OR3 – Dave Reid: The Operational Area has experienced 8 Federal Declarations since 2017. OR3/City of Watsonville/City of Santa Cruz will continue to collaborate to provide Extreme Weather Shelters for the unhoused during winter of 2024/2025. PG&E will be removing “hazardous” trees from Lompico area as it has been identified as a high-threat location. PG&E is working to resolve the outage issue that impacted Dominican Hospital, NETCOM, and UC Santa Cruz. OR3 had a meeting with Cal OES to review the Emergency Operations Plan (EOP) and received very positive feedback about the draft. The EOP will be reviewed by both the EMC and the BOS in the future. Within the EOP is the “Readiness Working Group”. This Group will be a collaboration between jurisdictional agencies and community partners to prepare for emergencies, train, and exercise. OR3 has received two proposals to draft the countywide Evacuation Annex which will be paid for by a grant. OR3 will be participating in a

tabletop exercise with Cal Fire (Extended Attack Drill) on June 7th. The tabletop will include a test of the NOAA Weather radios.

- 7.2 GIS – Paul Garcia – Demo of the S.A.F.E.R. application.
- 7.3 City of Scotts Valley – Scott Garner – No report.
- 7.4 City Of Santa Cruz – Robert Oatey – A new Emergency Manager has been hired and their start date is 5/13/24.
- 7.5 City of Capitola – Andrew Dally – The Wharf will hopefully be repaired by the middle of July for a soft opening.
- 7.6 City of Watsonville – Tom Avila – Not present.
- 7.7 County Office of Education – Rishi Lal – Working with schools and law enforcement agencies for standard response to an active shooter incident. SCSO will be doing the active shooter training this year at Aptos High School in July. They are also currently in the process of researching the application LifeSpot for an active shooter situation.

8. Non-Governmental Organizations

- 8.1 CERT Council – Mike DeMars – Helping to prepare for the active shooter training. Have been very successful with obtaining grants for train-the-trainer. Also received another grant for operational programs.
- 8.2 CERT Auxiliary – Mary Edmund – Announced that she submitted her resignation as a voting member of the EMC so that a bilingual representative could be appointed. Mary emphasized that this would bring more equity to the council. She also stated that she will continue to attend meetings as a community member.
- 8.3 Medical Reserve Corp – Nancy Yellin – MRC was deployed to work on Shigella kits and also assisted with syphilis outbreak in Watsonville. In 2 weeks will be having a medical surge tabletop.
- 8.4 Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) – John Gerhardt – Just closed a grant with Cal OES for short wave radio equipment.
- 8.5 Equine Evacuation – Mary Sullivan – Not present.
- 8.6 American Red Cross – Patsy Gasca – Responded to the Grant Street fire and are working with four families to provide case management and aid.

8.7 Watsonville Emergency Airlift Command Team (WEACT) – Tom Hail – City of Watsonville voted to close the crosswind runway. Working on planning an exercise to be held before the end of the year.

9. OR3 Grant Updates

- 9.1 FY 2021 State Homeland Security Grant Program (SHSGP) – Closing 6/24
- 9.2 FY 2022 State Homeland Security Grant Program (SHSGP) – OPEN
- 9.3 FY 2023 State Homeland Security Grant Program (SHSGP) – OPEN
- 9.4 FY 2023 State Homeland Security Grant Program (SHSGP) – OPEN
- 9.5 FY 2024 State Homeland Security Grant Program (SHSGP) – Final Scope Pending Approval
- 9.6 FY 22 Emergency Management Performance Grant (EMPG) – Closing 5/24
- 9.7 FY 23 Emergency Management Performance Grant (EMPG) – Approved, open.
- 9.8 FY 21 CalOES High Frequency Grant – Closed
- 9.9 California Fire Safe Council – County Coordinator Grant ROUND 2 – **Submitted**
- 9.10 California Fire Safe Council – Evacuation Management Grant – **IN-PROCESS – Performance Period thru 12/31/24**
- 9.11 FEMA Building Resilient Infrastructure & Community Grant – Beginning Scope Development, Environmental permit scope development

10. Announcements

Firesafe Council of Santa Cruz County - Lauren Moody- Priorities are fostering greater engagement with neighborhoods located south of Soquel. A large Firewise event is being held June 6th, from 2-6pm and will be at the Vets Hall in Downtown Santa Cruz. On May 30th an Old San Jose South Corridor event is being held at the 7th Day Adventist Church.

Dan Selling announced that the SLV Emergency Network is hosting an evacuation planning meeting at the Boulder Creek Recreation Hall on May

13th from 6:30–8:30PM.

11. **Adjourn** – The meeting was adjourned at approximately 2:07PM.