

**Eastern Madera County
Emergency Preparedness Committee
Meeting Summary
February 14, 2008
Sierra Ambulance Training Headquarters-Oakhurst, CA**

Meeting Attendees: Dave Wolin, Larry Ballew, Sue Byers, Chris Dragoo, Jere Miller, Dick Rekart, Roger Simms, Bernie Smith, Janet Stanovich, Jerry Thompson, Lynn Vaughn, Mike Vaughn, Barry Beyer

Meeting called to order: 0735

Committee Introductions:

Old Business

MCI drill

Chris Dragoo reported that she and Chris Febrache will be meeting with school officials on February 26th to discuss their inclusion in the upcoming Emergency Preparedness Drill. The school would like to know to what extent they would be involved in practicing their school safety plan in conjunction with the drill. The school's concern is the timing of the drill due to STAR testing in April. Possibly a table top will be done in April and do the actual drill in the fall.

Relay for Life

Chris is co-chair for the American Cancer Society's Relay for Life. For each \$100.00 donated from a business or individual, their business card will be printed in the 2008 Eastern Madera County Relay for Life event program.

Discussion/Roundtable

Janet Stanovich reported that Madera County faired pretty well during the winter storm as compared to other surrounding counties. PG&E was out and ready within hours for power outages. The city of Fairmeade had a well break down and was without water. Cooperation with road department crews and COPs were instrumental in getting water out to the community. Sandbag drop sites were posted on the Madera County Emergency Services web site. There were three new drop sites for county residents (Chowchilla, North Fork, and Coarsegold areas). On 01/15/08, OES conducted flood fighting training. This was a good exercise in sandbag technique. There will be another training session in the fall. Hopefully, animal rescue will be involved in the fall training. There was an operational area meeting with correctional facilities on their evacuation plans. The meeting consisted of representatives from the two state women's prison, Department of Corrections, Juvenile Boot Camp, and law enforcement agencies. OES's Homeland Security plan that was submitted last September is now going to FEMA. Hopefully, funding will be granted for the plan. On March 5th, OES is conducting an operational meeting. On March 8th there will be class through the Red Cross on

shelter operations. The meeting will be held at the Oakhurst Lutheran Church. This will be an all day event.

Reverse 911 calls

In post drill interviews, only one person in North Fork reported getting a call. Others stated the recording was inaudible or received a portion of the message. A meeting will be held with the Sheriff's Department to discuss the issue. It's imperative that a good introduction be established, especially with telemarketing so prevalent. Public awareness, through forums and publicity will also help the local citizens to understand what to do when they receive a reverse 911 message. Also more lines need to be added to the system. Currently there are 10 lines. This issue needs to be resolved soon.

Larry Ballew reported that the CRCDC received the 2007 National Conservation Group of the Year Award. He did a presentation at Evergreen regarding reverse 911 and noted that the school would like to be involved. He also reported they were awarded the contract for the Madera County fire plan. A meeting will be held on March 10th regarding that plan. He noted that the school system will be required as part of their curriculum to include emergency drills. He also reported that he has received \$1.2 million in additional grants for widening fuel breaks and fuel modification (approximately 9 miles).

Group: A discussion was held regarding the many emergency plans that are in place, but this group needs to be integrated into these programs. Many people do not even know this group exists. Also, a scenario was discussed regarding a disaster in the valley, whereby people are evacuated to the mountains inundating our facilities.

Bernie Smith will be spending 3 days, May 7th-9th on an overview of behavioral health followed by cognitive therapy. On May 19th, she will be attending a meeting regarding shelters for special populations and the special equipment and medications that would be needed. On June 12th, there will be a meeting on mass fatalities. She will be working on disaster worker training for county departments. Also the strategic stockpile plan should be finished by July. The Public Health Reserve Corps will have their first meeting the 2nd week in March. Beginning March 7th through June, there will be 2 classes run simultaneously on training with WIC on personal and family preparedness. They hope to reach approximately 8,000 people. There will be a 2 day presentation in Madera on Safe Schools. On April 4th, she will speak to an Eastern Madera group regarding fire safety. Her office compiled a 69 page resource guide that she will make available on PDF for downloading.

Roger Simms reports the Rancheria Station should be open now. Usona Station will be open in a couple of weeks. Station 11 is still in the county process, but will be done eventually.....

Jere Miller is working on road registration for home numbers. Home numbers need to be more visible.

Mike Vaughn reports they will begin internal training in March with the goal for a major evacuation drill. He will be getting the church shelter operational.

Chris Dragoo reports that Community's safety officer will be on site in the spring to set up the decon equipment.

Barry Beyer of Kaiser is welcomed into the group and is glad to be able to participate.

Dick Rekart he will be involved in getting the YLP church as use for a shelter.

Jerry Thompson is still waiting to receive ID cards from the Sheriff's Department.

Sue Byers had been working on communicating incorporation issues and will be working on reverse 911 calls.

Next Meeting: March 13, 2008

Meeting adjourned at: 0850

Respectfully submitted,
Debbie Hayes