

MARINWOOD FIRE COMMISSION: MEETING AGENDA

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 3, 2023, 7:00PM

Marinwood Community Center, 775 Miller Creek Road, San Rafael, CA 94903

Instructions on how to make a public comment during the meeting: At points in the meeting when the meeting chair requests public comment, members of the public shall indicate their desire to speak. All public comments shall be addressed to the Commission and limited to three minutes per speaker. The Commission may choose to respond to comments or request staff to respond at the conclusion of the respective public comment period.

#	Item	Commission Action
1	Agenda	Adopt
2	Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items <i>Speakers are asked to limit comments to three minutes. Speakers may comment only on non-agenda items within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Commission. The Commission may not take action on, consider or debate items not on the agenda except under narrow circumstances meeting statutory tests. Response to comments on non-agenda items will be limited to factual information or clarifying questions from staff or Commission. The Chair may refer the matter to staff or to a future meeting agenda.</i>	
3	Commissioner Items of Interest	
4	Draft Minutes of August 1, 2023 Fire Commission Meeting	Approve
5	Chief Officer Report and Activity Summary	Review
6	Commissioner Requests for Future Agenda Items	
7	Adjourn	

Requests for disability-related modifications or accommodations, aids or services may be made to the District office no later than 72 hours prior to the meeting by contacting (415) 479-0775

NEXT REGULAR FIRE COMMISSION MEETING TO BE HELD DECEMBER 5, 2023
AT MARINWOOD COMMUNITY CENTER

MARINWOOD COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT
MINUTES OF FIRE COMMISSION MEETING
August 1, 2023

Time and Place: 7:00PM at Marinwood Community Center, 775 Miller Creek Rd, San Rafael

Present:

Commissioners: Chair Steve Farac, Ron Marinoff, John Seratt

Absent: Tom Elsbree, Pascal Karsenti, Greg Stilson (CSA 13 Alternate)

Staff: District Manager Eric Dreikosen, Fire Chief Darin White

Board: Kathleen Kilkenny

1. Agenda

No edits were requested by Commissioners. Chair Farac adopted the agenda as presented.

2. Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items

No comments from the public were received.

3. Commissioner Items of Interest

-Commissioner Marinoff inquired about the potential housing development being proposed south of Lucas Valley Road across from CSA 13 and if this development would be annexed into Marinwood CSD.

-Commissioner Seratt inquired as to any update about cost recovery efforts for emergency response calls

4. Draft Minutes of April 4, 2023 Fire Commission Meeting

M/s Seratt/Marinoff to approve Draft Minutes of April 4, 2023 Fire Commission Meeting as presented. Ayes: Farac, Marinoff, Seratt. Nays: None. Absent: Elsbree, Karsenti. Motion carried.

5. Chief Officer Report and Activity Summary

Commission received Chief Officer Report and Activity Summary.

6. Requests for Future Agenda Items

-Commissioner Farac requested any updates as available regarding MWPA efforts in addressing homeowners insurance cancellation concerns

The meeting was adjourned at 8:02 PM.

Eric Dreikosen



To: Marinwood Fire Commission

From: Darin White, Fire Chief

Date: October 3, 2023

Re: Fire Department Update

Marin Wildfire Prevention Authority- (MWPA)

Evacuation Study

In an attempt to learn specific details about evacuation routes, their capacity and any recommendations that may prove useful to community members and first responders, I was unable to locate specific reference to multiple areas of the San Rafael/Marinwood CSD. After reviewing more of the draft version of the Marin County Current Conditions Evacuation Risk Assessment, I learned that the expectation of each jurisdiction (according to Assembly Bill 747) is that it will identify evacuation routes and their capacity, safety, and viability under a range of emergency scenarios and include this information in General Plans. This particular study and maps contained in it make no reference to the capacity, safety, and /or viability of the evacuation routes. The evacuation route involving Marinwood is not listed by name, but it can be deciphered when looking at a map showing both major and minor evacuation routes.

Some key findings in the assessment stated the following actions should be explored to improve evacuation outcomes for those leaving in the middle of the day and/or in the early a.m. hours when traffic conditions and emergencies can create confusion and risk. The recommendations include:

- **Enhanced evacuation planning for different weather and fuel conditions.** This is due to the unpredictability of fire behavior in dry onshore wind conditions and winds such as the Diablo Winds
- **Enhanced fuel reduction programs for evacuation routes and neighborhoods in and around fire ignition areas of concern.** This includes canopy clearances in narrow, windy, steep roads/areas surrounded by fuels.
- **Enhanced evacuation preplanning to consider the time of fire ignition and evacuation.** Points emphasized included afternoon school release times, evening rush-hour, elderly care facilities, large animal evacuations and vulnerable populations.
- **Enhanced Planning for temporary safe locations and sheltering-in-place.** The design of alternative fire-resilient shelters and/or temporary staging areas could prove to be a viable alternative to evacuation. Given the schools location and exposure to fire threat, evacuation planning efforts should include transportation assistance plans, shelter-in-place protocols and fuel reduction efforts in these areas.
- **Increased Planning for temporary staging locations.** These areas could provide brief safe parking areas for evacuees.
- **Enhanced evacuation alerts and notifications.** Nighttime alerts

- **Enhanced traffic restrictions during Red Flag Warning days**
- **Enhanced Evacuation Drills**

As more conversations occur, I will broach this subject with the Executive Director of the MWPA, Mark Brown, to request a more in-depth assessment occur on Lucas Valley Road and Miller Creek Road.

Insurance

In recognition of the challenges that homeowners are facing as insurance companies cancel policies or hike insurance rates for many residents living in or near high-risk areas, the MWPA leadership has made a strong effort to tackle this problem through a collaborative approach with insurance companies, engaging legislators, partnering with multiple organizations and through its direct efforts to reduce the fuel and associated risks. The many projects that have been completed and are currently underway illustrate those efforts and why the insurance companies should continue to provide coverage here.

In the event coverage is cancelled by some of the bigger name insurers some residents have found coverage through the Insurance Institute of Business and Home Safety (IBHS). IBHS has a “wildfire prepared” designation that may compel insurers to maintain coverage. The MWPA can share data on inspections and enable homeowners to display their preparedness and improved risk reduction. MWPA also considers the United Policyholders an ally who works to ensure fair insurance practices are followed by the industry. This nonprofit organization advocates for policy holder rights and serves as an example of collaboration that can be useful for ours and many other communities.

There is other innovation on the horizon, including the creation of an insurance pool, helpful information to those who may have lost their insurance through Fire Safe Marin guidance found online bit.ly/452WmdD.

American Red Cross Event



(Images on previous page are Courtesy of Kay Tsenin)

Last year, the Marinwood Fire department members had a great presence and were quite helpful in getting people to sign up for free smoke alarms. In April of 2022, volunteers for American Red Cross installed over 75 alarms in 23 homes. They discovered that there is a great need for alarms in the community as there were quite a few seniors with no or outdated alarms and households with many children and adults that had no alarms at all. As a result, they decided to return to do more alarms this year.

On August 19th, crews of American Red Cross personnel installed alarms again at Contempo Marin and had upwards of 40 homes participating. With this push and some individual alarm installation during the past several months they anticipate that they will have made about 100 homes safer in the Marin Contempo area of our community.

Members of Station 58 were on hand again to encourage and interact with the community on this important risk reduction and safety messaging. Ca. Ryan Bracket, Engineer Cesar Correa, and FFPM Wills Kelly are pictured above, joined by the remarkable team of American Red Cross staff.

I am pleased to share that the smoke detector installation efforts directly saved the lives of several individuals living on Teton court, who suffered a devastating fire in the middle of the night several weeks ago (not long after this photo was taken). Their home was one of the homes that had smoke detectors installed this past April. While we share in the sorrow of their lost possessions, we are grateful that they have all survived. Thanks to American Red Cross!!

Station Visit





On July 30, 2023, a two-year old future recruit named Owen stopped by for an impromptu fire station visit with his mother and were greeted by the members. Owen was able to sit in the truck, tour the station and according to his mom, he could not stop talking about his experience for the rest of the day. Just another fine example of our professionals making an impact for the community we serve. Shown above, Ca. Ryan Brackett provides Owen with a tour and opportunity to “sit in the front seat”. Owen’s smile says it all!

Girls Camp



MARIN CO.
FIRE AGENCIES PRESENT

HER

Girls Fire Camp



**Novato Fire District
Station No. 62**
450 Atherton Ave Novato, CA 94945

Train like a firefighter.

This **free**, two-day camp provides an exciting opportunity to be introduced to firefighting and emergency medical service skills through hands-on experience.

Registration is required and spots are limited.



October 7-8, 2023
8:00am- 4:00pm

SCAN QR CODE TO
REGISTER NOW



Ages 14-18
Inclusive of all genders

OR VISIT bit.ly/3Z8s1IR

On Saturday October 7th and Sunday October 8th, 2023, the Marin County Fire Department agencies will host their first Marin County Girls Fire Camp. This camp is operated in partnership with the Golden State Women in the Fire Service, who bring volunteers from many departments to partner with the women fire service professionals in Marin County to provide high school students ages 14-18, with direct hands-on experience and exposure to the profession.

CAMP DETAILS

- **Dates:** Saturday, October 7, 2023, and Sunday, October 8, 2023.
- **Time:** 8:00am-4:00pm. Morning Check-In will open at 7:30am.
- **Location:** Novato Fire District's Station No. 62- located at 450 Atherton Ave, Novato, CA 94945
- **Who can attend?:** Students ages 14-18; This camp is inclusive to all genders
- **What is provided?:** The camp is free for all who attend. Breakfast and lunch will be provided both days. Water and hydration stations will be available throughout the site. All equipment will be provided by the fire agencies and camp directors.
- **What to wear?:** Campers should dress in clothing that they find comfortable and easy to move in. Personal protection equipment (PPE) will be provided to the campers each morning. Each camper will also be provided with a camp t-shirt, which will be worn throughout the camp.

The camp registration period has ended and the camp is full! More information will follow from the Marin Independent Journal as they will conduct interviews and visit the camp to feature this effort in upcoming articles.

Marinwood Fire Department Statistics: September 2023

The Marinwood Fire Department responded to 129 emergency calls in September 2023. A little over half of the calls for service were medical calls. Engine 58 responded to one fire related incident. On September 3rd, E58 responded code 3 to a mobile home fire in Contempo Marin. Upon arrival, they found a double-wide mobile home with heavy fire showing. E58 confirmed that all occupants were safely out of the home and defensive tactics were employed. E56 and E57 assisted with extinguishing the fire and protecting nearby property. Extensive damage was limited to the home and two adjacent

<i>Incidents by Area and Type</i>								
Area	MA	PSA	FA/NN	FIRE	HAZMAT	COVER	OTHER	TOTAL
Marinwood	12	6	7	0	0	N/A	0	25
CSA 13	3	3	0	0	0	N/A	0	6
Old JPA (Mont Marin)	7	4	0	0	1	N/A	0	12
New JPA (East of 101)	32	9	3	1	0	N/A	0	45
SR Mutual Aid	5	11	0	0	1	1	0	18
MC JPA	3	3	0	0	0	N/A	0	6
MC Mutual Aid	0	0	0	0	0	N/A	0	0
Novato	5	5	0	0	0	7	0	17
Total number	67	41	10	1	2	8	0	129
<i>Percentage of total</i>	<i>51.9%</i>	<i>31.8%</i>	<i>7.8%</i>	<i>0.8%</i>	<i>1.6%</i>	<i>6.2%</i>	<i>0.0%</i>	

Call types:	
MA	Medical assist
PSA	Service call
FA/NN	Fire alarm
FIRE	Fire
HAZMAT	Hazardous material incident (e.g., spill)
COVER	Coverage for other stations
OTHER	Other incident(s): n/a

Average response time for Engine 58: 5 minutes, 49 seconds