

MARINWOOD FIRE COMMISSION: MEETING AGENDA

TUESDAY, AUGUST 4, 2026, 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	Discuss
4	Draft Minutes of April 7, 2026 Fire Commission Meeting	Approve
5	Chief Officer Report and Activity Summary	Review
6	Commissioner Requests for Future Agenda Items	Discuss
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 OCTOBER 6, 2026
AT MARINWOOD COMMUNITY CENTER

MARINWOOD COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT
DRAFT MINUTES OF FIRE COMMISSION MEETING
April 7, 2025

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

Present:

Commissioners: Chair Steve Farac, John Seratt, Greg Stilson, Pete Stout

Absent: Pascal Karsenti

Staff: Deputy Fire Chief Robert Sinnott, District Manager Eric Dreikosen

1. Agenda

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

- Commission discussed upcoming Firewise USA community presentation occurring on April 22, 2026
- Commissioner Stout inquired about condition of Queenstone Fire Rd heading into summer season
- Commissioner Farac inquired about status of housing development proposed for Marinwood Plaza site

4. Draft Minutes of February 3, 2025 Fire Commission Meeting

M/s Seratt/Stout to approve Draft Minutes of February 3, 2026 Fire Commission Meeting as presented.

Ayes: Farac, Seratt, Stilson, Stout. Nays: None. Absent: Karsenti. Motion carried.

5. Chief Officer Report and Activity Summary

Commission received Chief Officer Report and Activity Summary.

6. Commissioner Requests for Future Agenda Items

-None.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:38pm.

Eric Dreikosen



MARINWOOD FIRE COMMISSION – FIRE CHIEF’S REPORT

Abraham Roman, Fire Chief

Meeting Date: August 4, 2026

- We would like to thank the Marinwood community members who joined us for our very first Life Saving Training event on July 18th at the Marinwood Community Center. Hosted by Chief Hatfield and EMT Miller, the session brought our community together for hands-on instruction. Participants learned vital skills of Adult and Pediatric CPR, how to properly operate an AED, applying tourniquets to stop severe bleeding, and clearing airway obstruction in yourself and those around you. Because of the fantastic turnout and overwhelming interest in this session, we are already planning to host more of these.



- Battalion Chief Kyle Hamilton who currently serves as the B Shift Battalion Chief is retiring after 26 years of service. Chief Hamilton was hired as a firefighter paramedic in 2000 and rose through the ranks promoting to the position of battalion chief in 2015. Over his tenure Chief Hamilton oversaw numerous emergency incidents while supporting the department's daily operations. In addition to his operational responsibilities, Chief Hamilton has played an important role in advancing the department's technology initiatives, helping implement tools and systems that improve communication, scheduling, efficiency, and service to the community. Whether managing complex emergency incidents or working behind the scenes to improve department operations, Chief Hamilton's steady leadership and commitment to innovation continue to make a positive impact on the organization. We wish him the best in his retirement.



- Captain Garrett Northern has recently been promoted to the position of battalion chief, filling the vacancy created by the retirement of Battalion Chief Hamilton. Chief Northern, who has been shadowing for the past few weeks, officially assumes the role of B Shift Duty Chief on August 1st.



- **San Rafael and Marinwood explore next steps for fire and emergency medical services.** The City of San Rafael and the Marinwood Community Services District are continuing discussions about how to strengthen fire and emergency medical services for San Rafael, Marinwood, and nearby unincorporated areas. On [June 15, 2026](#), the San Rafael City Council approved an agreement that is the first step towards strengthening fire and emergency medical services in northern San Rafael, Marinwood, County Service Area (CSA) 13, CSA 19, and selected unincorporated areas of Marin County. At its May 4 meeting, the San Rafael City Council reviewed a proposed phased approach that would begin with updates to the existing shared services agreement between the two agencies. Over time, that work could lead to a more integrated regional service model for fire and emergency medical services.

San Rafael and Marinwood have worked together on fire protection for more than 50 years. Today, that partnership includes closest-unit dispatch across city and district boundaries, shared staffing and operational support, City-provided paramedic services, dispatch and equipment, and chief officer services provided by the San Rafael Fire Department. Fire Station 58 plays an important role in serving northern San Rafael. According to the City staff report, Marinwood Fire currently responds to more than 900 calls each year within San Rafael, representing more than half of its total call volume.

Why the City & Marinwood CSD are looking at changes. The current shared services model has helped improve response times and operational coordination. However, increasing service demands, rising operational costs, and the need for consistent paramedic-level emergency medical response (also known as Advanced Life Support capability) have highlighted the need to consider updates.

Like many fire agencies, Marinwood has faced challenges recruiting and retaining paramedics. Because Marinwood operates a single fire station, staffing shortages can directly affect its ability to provide paramedic-level response in the areas it serves, including northern San Rafael.

A 2024 Staffing and Resource Deployment Study prepared for the San Rafael Fire Department found that Station 58 improves effective emergency response when available. The study also recommended exploring the long-term integration of Station 58 into San Rafael Fire Department operations to improve consistency and reliability for both San Rafael and Marinwood.

Proposed phased approach. The City and Marinwood CSD are discussing an incremental approach that would allow both agencies to address immediate service needs while continuing to evaluate a longer-term regional model.

Phase 1: Amend the existing shared services agreement

On June 15, the City Council approved an amendment to the shared services agreement for fiscal year (FY) 2026-27. The amendment is intended to support consistent Advanced Life Support capability, operational costs, and maintain reliable response coverage in northern San Rafael.

Key elements of the agreement include:

- The City will contribute \$350,000 to Marinwood CSD to support fire services in FY 2026-27.
- Marinwood CSD will no longer pay approximately \$116,000 annually for chief officer services.
- A future provision that, if the amended agreement continues into FY 2027-28, the City's annual payment would increase to \$500,000 and then be adjusted annually by an inflation index.
- A shared commitment to continue working toward a more comprehensive regional service model.

Phase 2: Consider having San Rafael provide fire and emergency medical services for Marinwood under contract

The second phase, currently anticipated for FY 2027-28, would involve a contract where Marinwood CSD would pay San Rafael to provide fire and emergency medical services.

- Under this possible model, San Rafael firefighters would staff Marinwood Station 58, and Marinwood firefighters who qualify would be offered jobs with the San Rafael Fire Department. Marinwood CSD would provide funding in support of the contract based on available fire services funding.

Phase 3: Explore a comprehensive regional service model

Longer term, the agencies would continue looking at whether one regional approach could better serve San Rafael, Marinwood, CSA 13, CSA 19, and selected unincorporated areas of Marin County.

This phase would require additional coordination with regional partners, labor groups, stakeholders, and the Marin Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCo).

Regional studies support further integration

Independent regional evaluations have also supported a more integrated approach. A 2019 Marin LAFCo Municipal Services Review found that San Rafael is, in many ways, functionally the fire service provider for the broader study area. A 2025 update to that review further recommended a concerted effort toward bringing fire and emergency medical services wholly under one provider.

What happens next

City and Marinwood CSD staff will continue their negotiations and are expected to return to their respective governing bodies for future consideration.

The current anticipated timeline includes

- July 1, 2026: Amended shared services agreement takes effect.
- July 2026-May 2027: The agencies would continue negotiating a possible contract for services and exploring options for reorganizing fire and emergency medical service delivery.
- July 1, 2027: A contract for services could take effect, if approved by both agencies.

The proposed approach is intended to maintain reliable emergency response in the near term while supporting financially sustainable, long-term regional services for San Rafael, Marinwood, and surrounding communities.

- **The Marinwood Plaza construction project has commenced.** It is currently in the grading/site development phase. The project consists of 125 affordable apartments in four 3-story buildings that will be located on both sides of the Marinwood Market.