



Stanislaus County Disaster Council Operational Area Council

Joint Meeting
January 30, 2014



I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Stan Risen, Director of Emergency Services, at 6:40 p.m.

II. Roll Call

Disaster Council Members Present:

Chairman Stan Risen, Chairman, Stanislaus County
Secretary Dale Skiles, Secretary, Stanislaus County
Supervisor Terry Withrow Stanislaus County Board of Supervisors
Council Member Tony Madrigal, City of Modesto
Council Member Harold Hill, City of Hughson
Council Member Don Hutchins, City of Newman
Council Member Tom Dunlap, City of Oakdale
Council Member Darlene Barber-Martinez, City of Riverbank
Mayor John Lazar, City of Turlock
Council Member Joshua Whitfield, City of Waterford

Disaster Council Members Absent:

Council Member Chris Vierra, City of Ceres
Council Member Deborah Novelli, City of Patterson

III. Public Input

There was no public input.

IV. Approval of Minutes

A motion to approve the minutes from the May 9, 2013 Disaster Council meeting was made by Council Member Tony Madrigal and was seconded by Council Member Harold Hill. The motion passed unanimously.

V. Presentation of History of the Disaster Council and the Operational Area Council

Deborah Thrasher presented a power point on the history of the Disaster Council and the Operational Area Council. Points of discussion included why we have a Disaster Council and an Operational Area Council, as well as history and purpose of both Councils.

Action: Informational Item only.

VI. Present and Approve Disaster Council Structure

Secretary Chief Skiles explained the current structure of the Disaster Council, followed by a power point presentation on historical and potential disasters and emergencies in Stanislaus County. This was followed by comments made by JPA member Chief Tim Lohman from the City of Turlock. Chief Lohman talked about the fact that all emergencies start local and end local and how important partnerships and relationships are with the Operational Area and the Non-Governmental Agencies (NGOs) for pooling and leveraging resources. Chief Skiles then reviewed where we are now, and asked the Disaster Council to confirm its purpose and objectives. If the Disaster Council chooses to remain as one, then County/City Ordinances will need to be revised and membership, elected officials, or city managers, will need to be determined. If it is decided that it will not remain, then the County and the Cities will each have to develop their own disaster council requiring revised resolutions and ordinances. In addition, each City and the County will need to manage their own Disaster Service Worker Volunteer Program.

Council Member Tom Dunlap felt that locally elected officials are still appropriate to serve on the Disaster Council. Council Member Tony Madrigal said that he sees the benefit of both staff and elected officials serving on the Disaster Council. He suggested that it could be both: an elected official as the primary member, and the city manager as the alternate.

Deb Thrasher said that we could rewrite the Ordinance to read that one primary and one alternate can make up the Disaster Council.

Roy Wasden, City Manager for the City of Turlock said that he wants his Mayor to be on the Disaster Council and supports the elected officials as the primary members with the City Managers as the Alternate.

Council Member Joshua Whitfield noted that City Managers, as well as elected officials may not be around and proposed that their emergency manager, Matt Erickson, be appointed to the Disaster Council. Deborah Thrasher noted that he is already an Operational Area Council Member.

Chief Dale Skiles noted that we can write the ordinance to say either an elected official or the City Manager.

Action: Motion by Council Member Tony Madrigal, City of Modesto, second by Mayor John Lazar, City of Turlock, to approve the revision of the Disaster Council Ordinance to expand the membership to include City Managers as well as Elected Officials.

Ayes: Chairman Stan Risen, Director, Stanislaus County Office of Emergency Services
Secretary Dale Skiles, Assistant Director, Stanislaus County Office of Emergency Services
Supervisor Terry Withrow Stanislaus County Board of Supervisors
Council Member Tony Madrigal, City of Modesto
Council Member Harold Hill, City of Hughson
Council Member Don Hutchins, City of Newman
Council Member Tom Dunlap, City of Oakdale
Council Member Darlene Barber-Martinez, City of Riverbank
Mayor John Lazar, City of Turlock
Council Member, Joshua Whitfield, City of Waterford

Nays: None

Absent: Council Member Chris Vierra, City of Ceres
Council Member Deborah Novelli, City of Patterson

Abstain: None.

Deborah Thrasher noted that a draft ordinance almost completed and will be ready for the Disaster Council to review within 90 days. The draft will go to the Operational Area Council in February for input before presenting it to the Disaster Council in May for approval.

VII. Emergency Management Update

Chief Skiles provided and Emergency Management Update including the 2014 Drought stating the three priorities outlined by the State, which are Health and Safety, Fire Fighting, and Ag Issues.

Dr. Walker, Stanislaus County Public Health Officer discussed the current Influenza epidemic update and noted that it is the H1N1 virus and we are seeing it a month earlier than usual. It is affecting younger people with a median age of 49. There have been 11 deaths in the county. Dr. Walker believes that the epidemic has occurred because vaccination rates are low.

Eric Lamoureux with Cal OES Regional Administration discussed Cal OES's role in helping us with our planning, response, and recovery efforts. Their goal is to help build resiliency in communities.

Chief Skiles then introduced each Partner Agency and explained that several had tables in the back with materials and invited the Disaster Council Members, Operational Council Members, and City Managers to visit the tables and learn more about our Partner Agencies. Partner Agencies introduced included: Cal State University Stanislaus, Advancing Vibrant Communities, Mountain Valley EMSA, Para-Transit (CTSA), United Way, Turlock Irrigation District, Yosemite Community College District, CERT, Latino Emergency Council, American Red Cross, Pacific Gas & Electric, General Services Agency, Public Health, Community Services Agency.

Action: Informational Item Only.

VIII. New Business

There was no new business.

IX. Announcements/Reports

None

X. Schedule Next Meeting

May 15, 2014

XI. Close Meeting

The Meeting was adjourned at: 6:43 p.m.