

THE MARIN WILDFIRE PREVENTION AUTHORITY
CITIZENS' OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE MEETING
5:30 p.m. Tuesday, December 29, 2020
Via teleconference due to Coronavirus (COVID-19)
MINUTES

1. Call to Order- Chair Minikes called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

2. Roll Call

Committee members – In Attendance: Kingston Cole, Larry Minikes, Stephen Keese, Lucy Dilworth, Rebecca Suggs, Pat Randolph, Larry Chu, Max Perrey, Carolyn Longstreth
Staff in Attendance: Executive Officer Mark Brown

3. Agenda Adjustments

There were no adjustments.

4. Open time for public expression

There were no comments.

5. Executive Officer's Report

Executive Officer Brown reported on the following: 1) The Executive Committee meeting; 2) Board Retreats (remote); 3) Follow-up questions for environmental compliance Request for Proposals (RFP); 4) The Finance Committee meeting; 5) Mid-year budget adjustments; 6) Finance Policies; 7) Board of Directors meeting; 8) Approval of Planning and Program Manager position; 9) Operations Committee meeting; 10) 2021/22 Work Plan; 11) Advisory/Technical Committee meeting.

Executive Officer Brown answered questions from the committee.

Chair Minikes opened the meeting to public comments.

There were no comments.

Chair Minikes closed the meeting to public comments.

6. Citizens' Oversight Committee Assignment Updates

Committee member Chu gave an update on the Finance Committee activities. He answered questions from the committee.

Committee members Dilworth and Longstreth gave an update on the Board of Directors activities.

Committee member Randolph gave an update on the Executive Committee activities.

Committee member Perrey gave an update on the Operations Committee activities.

Committee member Randolph gave an update on the Advisory/Technical Committee activities.

Chair Minikes opened the meeting to public comments.

There were no comments.

Chair Minikes closed the meeting to public comments.

7. Proposed Citizens' Oversight Committee Bylaws Review

Chair Minikes stated the Bylaws Committee consists of Committee members Perrey, Dilworth, Randolph, and Suggs. He stated they should be focusing on where they want to go as a committee. The Bylaws provide the framework.

Committee members Perrey and Dilworth gave a report.

The committee asked questions and provided input.

Chair Minikes opened the meeting to public comments.

Ms. Terri Thomas, representing the Fire and Environment Resilience Network (FERN), recommended consideration of including analysis and recommendations to the Purpose and Member Responsibilities Sections of the Bylaws. She discussed amendments to Article 2.

Chair Minikes closed the meeting to public comments.

Committee member Randolph gave a report regarding the term of service for committee members, Chair, and Vice-Chair positions.

The committee asked questions and provided input.

Chair Minikes suggested using the Operations Committee Bylaws as a template.

Chair Minikes opened the meeting to public comments.

There were no comments.

Chair Minikes closed the meeting to public comments.

Committee member Suggs gave a report regarding the replacement of committee members.

The committee asked questions and provided input.

Chair Minikes opened the meeting to public comments.

Ms. Belle Cole, representing ESP, had questions about the purpose and responsibilities of the committee and questioned why they were getting so involved in the other committees. She understood the oversight function but questioned the level of detail

Mr. Bruce Bartel stated people have been trying to get the Board to have its sub-committees conduct business in the public view- not necessarily full Brown Act Meetings, but at least the ability to observe. He encouraged all sub-committees to make meetings available to public view.

Chair Minikes closed the meeting to public comments.

Committee member Longstreth stated she would recuse herself from discussions about Article 2 of the Bylaws since FERN made comments and suggestions. She is a member of FERN. However, she does have her own comments about the Responsibilities Section.

8. Information Items

There were no comments.

9. COC Members Request Future Agenda Items

Committee member Dilworth asked that the following be placed on an upcoming agenda: A discussion and recommendation to the Board about the public's ability to see the operations of sub-committees.

Committee member Cole asked that the following be placed on an upcoming agenda: The creation of a sub-committee to delve into the relationship between the various environmental groups/ESP and firefighters. He was concerned about transparency.

10. Adjournment- Chair Minikes adjourned the meeting at 6:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Toni DeFrancis,
Recording Secretary