Valley Center Community Planning Group Emergency Evacuation Sub-Committee

July 29, 2021 6:30pm

Minutes



Committee

Delores Chavez Harmes Chair / VCCPG

> LaVonne Norwood Vice Chair / VCCPG

> > Lisa Adams VCCPG / Mobility

Sgt. Michael Davis SD Co. Sheriff

William Del Pilar Community

James Gordon LAFCO/Community

Chief Joe Napier Valley Center Fire

BC Robert Reynolds
Cal Fire

Jim Courter Great Valley Center Fire Safe Council

Chief Rick Johnson Dear Springs Fire



Representatives

Benjamin Mills SDCo. Public Safety

> Ryan Sylvia CAL Fire

Juan Escobar CHP

- **A. Attendance:** Dee Harmes, LaVonne Norwood, Lisa Adams, Sgt. Mike Davis, William Del Pilar, Chief Joe Napier, James Gordon, Chief Rick Johnson, Matt Matthews, Justin Salter.
- B. Pledge of Allegiance: Meeting called to order at 6:34pm by Chair Harmes followed by the pledge.
- C. Welcome & Introduction of Guests:
- **D. Approval of Minutes:** Motion to approve May 20, 2021 minutes by Chief Napier with second by James Gordon. Motion passes.

Public Comments: None

- E. Action Items:
- Chair's Report: Dee, Lisa Adams Larry Schmidt met with SDG&E with county staff. Discussed situation with Keys Creek, aquifer depletion, lowered well water levels and condition of trees. SDG&E addressed all concerns and agreed to meet with Fire Chief and VCMWD manager, Gary Arant. SDG&E and Gary Arant will attend the August VCCPG to address concerns from community.
- 2) VCFPD-Chief Napier: Fielding phone calls on Cole Grade Road and Valley Center Road regarding road construction and how public safety will deal with evacuation and other potential disasters. VCFPD is listening to concerns of public. Staff met with SDG&E and subcontractors to ensure a solid plan is in place for general evacuation. Both meetings were fantastic!
 - a. As soon as an evacuation order is issued, the road construction companies will button up work and move all equipment out of the way. They will become part of the plan for directing traffic and controlling amount of people on roadway; at the direction of the evacuation branch – Sheriff and CHP. This provides equipment and extra hands.
 - b. In a general evacuation due to fire at a magnitude where everyone needs to leave, public safety and firefighters would be only personnel in area fighting the fire. All people would be moved to a temporary evacuation point and SDG&E and subs would be utilized as CERT and others. Private fire brigade "Patriot" will help with evacuation.
 - c. During Red Flag conditions, no construction will take place. All work will stop. Roads and lanes of travel will be open. All electric emergency gates will be opened.
- 3) San Diego County Sheriff-Sgt. Mike Davis: Invitation to Sheriff Dept. Community Night Out, August 3rd at VC Middle School from 3-5pm. Introduced Dominique Fonseca from Office of Emergency Services (OES) to share what takes place after fire and law combine in a unified command.
 - a. **Dominique Fonseca** OES Powerpoint Presentation
- 4) Deer Springs Fire Protection District-Chief Johnson: Defensible space inspections continue for Deer Springs area as well as Moosa field break on eastern end of Hidden Meadows. Congratulations extended to Chief Johnson who has been promoted to Division 3305, La Cima Conversation Camp of hand crews and Campo battalion off the 8 corridor and the aviation battalion.

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July 29, 2021 6:30pm Minutes (cont.)

5) CAL Fire Update Station 71-Chief Reynolds: No Report.

6) Community Risk Reduction Program-Capt Silva: No Report.

7) Greater Valley Center Fire Safe Council-Jim Courter: No Report

8) LAFCO-James Gordon: LAFCO meeting June 7th meeting an informational item was agendized on the percentage of tax collected that go to fire districts. Most fire districts get 6% of property taxes collected i.e. of \$1,000 only \$60 (6%) would fund local fire districts. Two fire districts do not receive the benefit of 6% tax base - Valley Center and Deer Springs. Net result is VC and Deer Springs receive 1% of the 1% property tax collected. It is difficult for any fire agency to provide adequate services to the community for 2% of the 1% tax collected. All calculations came out of county offices. Chief Mecham presented a new district within the county to the BOS and was able to convince the county to fund this new district as fire protection is being moved farther than it ever has been. VC wants to be in the same conversation. VCFPD has been providing world class service to our community, but we need to be in the same conversation in receiving 6% of the 1%. VC and DS growth district receives 1% of the 1%. As our communities continue to grow, we go backwards in these calculations. The amount of funds VCFPD receives are not practical to run a fire station. Conversations are needed with Supervisors to express the imbalance in this process.

F. New Business:

Adjournment: Meeting was adjourned at 7:32pm

Next Meeting: August 26th, 6:30pm

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