



**KENSINGTON FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT**  
**MEETING OF THE EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS COMMITTEE**  
**MEETING MINUTES**  
Thursday, October 27, 2022 3:00pm-5:00pm  
Via Zoom Teleconference

**1. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL**

Directors: Larry Nagel

Public Members: Lisa Caronna, Katie Gluck, Peter Liddell, Danielle Madugo, Paul Moss, David Spath

Staff: General Manager Bill Hansell, KFD Chief Eric Saylor, KPD Lt. Brad Harms

Consultant: Emergency Preparedness Coordinator Johnny Valenzuela

Visitors: Julie Stein

**2. PUBLIC COMMENT**

This place on the agenda is reserved for comments and inquiries concerning matters that do not otherwise appear on the agenda.

None

**3. ADOPTION OF CONSENT ITEMS**

Items listed below are consent items, which are considered routine and will be enacted by one motion. Reports and recommendations prior to assigning consent item designations to the various items have been received and considered. Copies of the reports are on file in the Fire Protection District Administrative Office at 217 Arlington Avenue and are available to the public. The disposition of the item is indicated. There will be no separate discussion of consent items. If discussion is requested for an item, that item will be removed from the list of consent items and considered separately on the agenda. (Supporting material)

**a. Approval of Minutes of the Meeting of September 22, 2022 (Approve)**

A motion was made by Dave Spath and seconded by Lisa Caronna to approve the minutes of the August 25, 2022 Meeting. Motion passed 6-0.

**4. OLD BUSINESS**

None

**5. NEW BUSINESS**

**a. Introduction of Director Julie Stein who will be joining the EPC once she is approved by the KFPD Board of Directors**

**b. Discussion with EC/K FD Chief Eric Saylor About His Experiences With LRAD Systems**

Action: Discussion

Chief Saylor gave a presentation on LRAD systems and with writing grants. The slides for this presentation can be found [here](#). A video of Chief Saylor's presentation can be found [here](#). A discussion by the EPC followed the presentation.

Lisa Caronna asked about the coordination with Berkeley in using an LRAD system. Chief Saylor noted that we have control over the use of the system.

David Spath asked if we only need three devices above the Arlington. Chief Saylor said that three was a guess based on available information. Ultimately we would integrate this system with Berkeley and El Cerrito.

Katie Gluck noted that Mike from Genasys had walked the area and his estimate was that three speakers were required.

Danielle Madugo asked if El Cerrito would be pursuing a warning system. Chief Saylor answered that El Cerrito would be pursuing an LRAD system but at the moment there were higher priorities including evacuation routes and parking on red flag days.

Bill Hansell asked about the Berkeley model of using the Laguna Beach contract, thereby eliminating the need for rebidding an LRAD system. Chief Saylor noted that the Laguna contract is still open and therefore should be available to us.

Lisa Caronna asked about how telephone systems failure during an emergency might impose severe limitations on communications and how an LRAD system would fit into that scenario. Chief Saylor noted that an LRAD system is the best available option because they have their own battery and they communicate with satellite systems.

David Spath asked if LRAD devices would be resistant to wildfire. Chief Saylor did not have any information on how resistant LRAD systems are to wildfire.

He also asked about the Laguna contract if that would allow us to sole source. Chief Saylor noted that if we could add on to the Laguna contract that would allow us to circumvent the RFQ process.

Cassandra Duggan complimented Chief Saylor on his presentation and asked if El Cerrito's near bankruptcy was hindering implementing an LRAD system. Chief Saylor noted that finances were not hindering implementing an LRAD system.

**c. Discussion with EC/K FD Chief Eric Saylor About His Experiences With Writing Grant Proposals**

This agenda item was combined with 5b above.

**d. Update by KPD Lt. Brad Harms On The Next Evacuation Drill**

Action: Discussion

Brad Harms summarized the Emergency Evacuation Drill this spring. The drill included an evacuation of Zone 008 and a notification for Zone 007 but did not evacuate.

We could potentially do another Evacuation Drill next Spring with different zones. That way, every Kensington Zone would have the opportunity to participate. After that, we could

do a future evacuation drill with all zones.

Larry Nagel asked what the Emergency Preparedness Committee could do to assist in the planning of the next Evacuation Drill next Spring. Lt. Harms noted that the objective today is to determine if this is something the Fire Board would like to pursue. If there is consensus on conducting another drill, then Lt. Harms could start the planning of picking a date and determining which zones would be affected, and working with Contra Costa Emergency Services. This would be a joint decision of El Cerrito/Kensington Fire and Kensington Police.

Larry Nagel stated that he would put this topic on the agenda for the next Board Meeting on November 9, 2022 to have the Board approve an Evacuation Drill.

Danielle Madugo asked about the Camp Fire and the need to implement contraflow along the main arteries of town during an emergency. Chief Saylor noted that the last drill through the cemetery showed that this eliminated about 30% of the congestion. Each zone will have a different egress route.

David Spath asked about egress options for each zone. Lt. Harms stated that we would present options for each zone. Dave noted that it would be useful to prepare a document for each zone to list the options for egress.

Dave also asked what the objective would be for the next evacuation drill. Lt. Harms noted that the objectives would be to test egress routes and to raise public awareness. We would send the message to the community that we are taking this seriously and therefore the community also should take this seriously.

Dave also asked if it would be worthwhile to evacuate both zones simultaneously to evaluate where the choke points are. Lt. Harms noted that this would be the objective for the drill two years from now.

**e. Update by KPD Lt. Brad Harms on the Progress of Parking Restrictions on Red Flag Days**

Action: Discussion

Lt. Harms talked about the parking rules. It still has not been ratified to change the parking directions for Purdue and Kenyon. All of the roads going downhill from Purdue are facing Beloit. But vehicles on Lake, Grizzly Peak, Los Altos and Kenyon actually have three options: Beloit, Grizzly Peak or Spruce. Purdue has been identified as a major thoroughfare and would require a vote to move the signs so that all streets facing Beloit will not face that bottleneck.

Dave Spath asked about the possibility of changing the direction on Beloit. Lt. Harms stated that that would require additional study and one problem is that the gutter on one side is very steep and would require some sort of grating to change direction.

Katie Gluck complemented Lt. Harms on his work and asked about the status of working with County DPW to move the signs and change direction. Lt. Harms noted that there is a protocol for changing the signs. This would require community buy in through block parties and provision for funding the cost to the county (approximately \$18,000). If this is something the Board wants to pursue and budget, then the project would go for a vote at the County level like we did on Lenox.

Katie also commented that we should coordinate traffic flow with Berkeley because they have made several changes to their traffic flow. Lt. Harms agreed.

Larry Nagel noted that he will be giving a presentation to the Board at the next Board meeting and will be including this topic in his presentation.

Mabry Benson stated that we could suggest that people park on opposite side of the street. Brad Harms noted that Vehicle Code requires that. Disobeying this code could mean that the district would take on an enormous amount of liability.

**f. Update by Paul Moss on door hanger project emphasizing wildfire preparedness focused on evacuation**

Action: Discussion

Paul Moss stated that he had been working with Johnny Valenzuela and they have developed a door hanger. Johnny then presented the door hanger design, and that the door hanger is awaiting approval from Chief Saylor.

**g. Proposal by Larry Nagel to cancel the November 24, 2022 and December 22, 2022 and instead to have a Special Meeting on December 8, 2022 at 3 PM.**

A motion was made by Danielle Madugo and seconded by Peter Liddell Caronna to cancel the November 24, 2022 and December 22, 2022 and instead to have a Special Meeting on December 8, 2022 at 3 PM. Motion passed 6-0.

**h. Request from President Larry Nagel to all members of the EPC to submit their intention to remain on the EPC for one more year commencing on December 1, 2022**

The bylaws state that all membership on standing committees must be approved annually by the Board of Directors. This approval will be on the agenda for the November 9, 2022 regular meeting.

**6. EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS COORDINATOR'S REPORT**

Johnny reported that there are free sandbags available in preparation for the rainy season. The next paper shredding and pharmaceutical drop-off event will be Saturday, October 29, from 10 AM to 1 PM. There also will be a Toys for Tots toy drive. The video describing how to form a Firewise community is posted to the KFPD website. There will be a block party on Sunset Drive late this month. Chris Hilliard is working on a date for the annual emergency supply sale including water containers and fire extinguishers.

Lisa Caronna asked how can the EPC help in distributing the door hangers. Johnny noted the door hanger is awaiting approval. Distributing to the community will require volunteers to distribute the door hangers. Paul Moss noted that unless these door hangers can be distributed in the next few weeks, it may be a better to postpone distributing these door hangers until the beginning of fire season next year.

Dave Spath noted that some residents would like to purchase water containers but have no way of picking the containers up and bringing them home. Larry Nagel noted that the people working the pickup deliver the containers after the pickup is over.

**7. REPORTS FROM COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

Danielle reported on what's going on at the school. The staff is busy securing boundaries of the school for security as the need was noted at the latest active shooter drill. This will eliminate access to the school from the Olde School Trail. Danielle noted that the school will be meeting with Chief Saylor and the Fire Marshall Chase Beckman about shelter in place at the school as opposed to evacuation.

Sue Duncan from El Cerrito Firesafe noted that they were very concerned about the evacuation of the Madeira Elementary and they met with the WCCUSD Safety Officer. They found that he was very helpful in the evacuation planning.

**8. CALL FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

None

**9. ADJOURNMENT**

The next regular meeting of the Emergency Preparedness Committee of the Kensington Fire Protection District will be held on January 26, 2023 at 3:00pm via Zoom Conference, unless noticed otherwise per the Brown Act.

Meeting Adjourned at 4:38 PM by Director Larry Nagel.

MINUTES PREPARED BY: Larry Nagel

These minutes were approved at the Emergency Preparedness Committee Meeting of the Kensington Fire Protection District on January 26, 2023.

Attest:

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**Emergency Preparedness Committee Member**