

MARIN EMERGENCY RADIO AUTHORITY

27 Commercial Blvd., Suite C, Novato, CA 94949

Phone: (415) 883-9100 FAX: (415) 883-9155

MEMORANDUM

DATE: June 17, 2004
TO: MERA Board of Directors
FROM: Martin J. Nichols, Executive Officer
SUBJECT: AGENDA ITEM F: MERA MEMBERSHIP FOR NEW AGENCIES

Recommended Action: Adopt a policy authorizing the memberships of new agencies to MERA subject to the following conditions:

1. MERA General Counsel determines that the potential new member has the common power to operate an emergency radio system.
2. MERA engineer certifies that there is sufficient system capacity for the new member.
3. New member agrees to be a signatory to the MERA JPA.
4. New member agrees to pay a backbone contribution as determined by the Board of Directors.
5. New member agrees to pay an annual share of MERA's operating costs as provided in the JPA.

(Policy recommended by the Executive Committee.)

Background:

The Ross Valley Sanitary District is interested in joining MERA. Once MERA is fully operational and the current low-band system is abandoned, other agencies may be without coverage and may also ask to join.

The MERA JPA anticipated new members in Article 7:

7.1 Members.

b. The County, any Special District and any City or Town may be considered for Membership in the Authority after February 28, 1998, by presenting an adopted resolution to the Board which includes a request to become a Member of the Authority.

c. The Board shall accept proposed Members upon a majority affirmative vote of the quorum, upon payment of any Board determined fee and interest, and upon satisfaction of any conditions established by the Board as a prerequisite for Membership.