

MARIN EMERGENCY RADIO AUTHORITY

c/o Novato Fire Protection District
95 Rowland Way, Novato, CA 94945
PHONE: (415) 878-2690 FAX: (415) 878-2660

MEMORANDUM

DATE: March 9, 2011
TO: MERA Executive Committee
FROM: Maureen Cassingham, Executive Officer
SUBJECT: **AGENDA ITEM A-3:** REPORT ON ANNUAL MCCMC JOINT POWERS
AUTHORITY OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE MEETING

Recommended Action:

Receive and file the Report on Annual MCCMC Joint Powers Authority Oversight Committee Meeting, as presented.

Background: On January 20, 2011, I met with the MCCMC JPA Oversight Committee at their request to provide an annual update on MERA's activities and answer questions. This one hour presentation and Q&A session was preceded by my updating the JPAOC 09/10 MERA Survey, providing hard copies of certain documents such as the FY10-11 Operating Budget and a list of meraonline.org documentation for their reference.

The JPAOC was particularly laudatory about MERA's website and all the information on it. The Committee was also impressed with the adoption of MERA's Strategic Plan. They were, however, taken aback by the need for, timing and estimated cost of the next gen system. They expressed concern over possibly needing to financially support the current system while funding its replacement.

The Committee was informed about the charges of the Strategic Plan Governance Work Group, Sustainability Subcommittee and Outreach Subcommittee. Likewise, they were advised about pending efforts to seek external funding for MERA's system needs. Several suggestions were offered on getting information out to the public about MERA including links on member agencies' websites to meraonline.org, presentations to member agency governing bodies, use of non-print media, presence at fairs/festivals, etc.

Finally, the JPAOC questioned the need for my annual MERA presentation to the MCCMC since they believe their report to them should suffice. It is my intention to postpone this presentation until I review this matter with the Executive Officer Work Plan Committee. A draft of the January 20 JPAOC meeting notes will be provided for my review and comment before distribution to the MCCMC.