Agenda Item B-3

MARIN EMERGENCY RADIO AUTHORITY

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DATE: March 9, 2016

TO: MERA Executive Board

FROM: Maureen Cassingham, Executive Officer

SUBJECT: AGENDA ITEM **B-3**: REQUEST FROM MARIN COUNTY OFFICE OF EDUCATION (MCOE): MERA RADIOS FOR MCOE AND DISTRICT OFFICES

Recommended Action: Appoint a Subcommittee of the Executive Board to meet with representatives of the Marin County Office of Education to initiate the vetting process for the request from MCOE for MERA radios, dated February 22, 2016.

Background: Discussions regarding the Schools' use of the MERA System date back to 1999 when a proposal from MERA was presented to MCOE outlining parameters and costs. Since my first meeting with Superintendent Burke and Assistant Superintendent McCann in January 2008 on MCOE's System use, issuance of the 2007-2008 Marin Grand Jury "Emergency Communications at Marin Schools': A Tale of Catastrophe dated 3-13-2008, and MERA's response to same, there has been ongoing, albeit sporadic, interaction between MCOE and MERA representatives about this. Those exchanges have touched on current System capacity, extent of MCOE usage, radio costs, development of the Next Gen System, etc.

Attached is MCOE's latest request of MERA for 400 radios, 20 for each of the 19 Districts plus the District Office, along with an update on the current status of the Marin Schools' Emergency Radio Network.

To better understand MCOE's latest request and develop a plan for further technical, operational and member review, the Executive Board is asked to appoint a 3-member Subcommittee to meet with MCOE representatives, followed by a proposed vetting process prior to Executive and Governing Board consideration.

ATTACHMENT: Includes the following:

- Marin County of Education – Letter of Request - Dated 2/22/16
- Correspondence between Mary Jane Burke and Martin Nichols – Dated 4/22/03
- Memorandum to Karin Hern from Maureen Cassingham – Dated 6/9/08