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2/8/2018

Maureen Cassingham
MERA Executive Officer
c/o Novato Fire Protection District
95 Rowland Way
Novato, CA 94945

- Executive Director/Station Manager
Amanda Eichstaedt
- Program Director
Lyons Filmer
- Community Affairs and Information
Katie Eberle
- Engineering
Richard Dillman
- Technical
Ian McMurray
- Underwriting and Development
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- John Gouldthorpe
- Susan Hayes
- Elizabeth Hill

Dear Maureen Cassingham,

This is a formal request from KWMR, West Marin Community Radio, to waive the current Annual License Fee for the use of MERA sites at Mt. Vision and Martinelli Bolinas. The fee for each site is currently \$1,080 for a total annual fee of \$2,160 annually.

KWMR is very grateful to be a community partner with local first responders in disseminating verified information on road closures, power outages, and weather and disasters. The radio station takes our role in both disaster preparedness and information dissemination very seriously.

The station works closely with both Marin County Fire (where we are co-located at Mt. Barnabe in Lagunitas) as well as with local volunteer fire departments, the Office of the Marin County Sheriff and the local Disaster Coordinators. KWMR was on the air within minutes of the 2014 Napa earthquake. The station broadcast updates from local first responders in West Marin and then took calls from around the North Bay. We were the only live broadcast entity for more than 45 minutes after the quake.

KWMR also broadcast upwards of ten minutes per hour of information regarding the North Bay fires this past fall. The station worked closely with Marin County Public Information Officers and the office of Supervisor Dennis Rodoni to inform the community about the situation at hand locally and with our partners in counties to the north.

This waiver of the fee will help KWMR, by reducing expenses. As a non-profit 501c3 organization that relies on contributions from listeners and members, this financial relief will go a long way.

Sincerely,

Amanda Eichstaedt
Station Manager and Executive Director

BOLINAS FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

P.O. BOX 126 ■ 100 MESA ROAD ■ BOLINAS, CALIFORNIA 94924
415 868-1566 ■ FAX 415 868-2009

February 13, 2018

Maureen Cassingham
Executive Officer
Marin Emergency Radio Authority
95 Rowland Way
Novato, CA. 94945

Re: Support for Waiver of Rental Fees for KWMR

Dear Ms. Cassingham,

I am writing this letter in support of the request made to MERA from Amanda Eichstaedt on behalf of West Marin radio station KWMR to have their annual rental fees waived.

Over the past several years, KWMR has become an integral part of emergency prevention, preparedness and communications in West Marin. Residents have become reliant on the information KWMR is able to provide during an emergency or disaster, information they may not otherwise be able to obtain. All of the West Marin fire agencies support and count on KWMR to assist us in our continuing efforts to educate residents on a variety of issues and to provide important and timely public information.

Thank you very much for MERA's consideration of this request.

Sincerely,



Anika Tyrrell-Brown
Chief



INVERNESS VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

INVERNESS PUBLIC UTILITY DISTRICT

POST OFFICE BOX 469
INVERNESS, CA 94937-0469

(415) 669-7151 ♦ Fax (415) 669-1010 ♦ ipud@horizoncable.com

To: Maureen Cassingham
Executive Officer
Marin Emergency Radio Authority
95 Rowland Way
Novato, CA.

Re: Waiver of rental fees for KWMR.

Dear Ms. Cassingham

This letter is in support of the KWMR radio stations' request to waive fees associated with the location of KWMR transmitter equipment on MERA radio sites.

The KWMR radio station in Point Reyes is a vital link in the flow of emergency information to our communities here in West Marin. The fire agencies in West Marin have the ability to use the West Marin disaster radio system to directly contact the radio station and get information out on the air immediately regarding emergencies, evacuation routes, road closures or any other public service information that might not be available without access to internet or power.

KWMR is a non-profit organization that relies on donations to continue to function and I urge the MERA governing board to grant the waiver request.

Jim Fox
Chief
Inverness Volunteer Fire Department
50 Inverness Way
425-669-7151

Board of Directors: Kenneth J. Emanuels, President • Dakota Whitney, Vice President

Laura B. Alderdice, Treasurer • Brent Johnson • David Press

Ken Eichstaedt, P.E., General Manager

James K. Fox, Chief of Operations (Site Chief), Water System Superintendent

From: Jordan, Tom <T_Jordan@marinsheriff.org>
To: mlc1948 <mlc1948@aol.com>
Cc: Reilly, Christopher <C_Reilly@marinsheriff.org>; Amanda Eichstaedt <amanda@kwmr.org>
Subject: Email in support of a waiver of KWMR's MERA tower rental fees.
Date: Mon, Feb 12, 2018 12:19 pm

Ms. Cassingham,

This email is written in support of a waiver of KWMR's tower rental fees.

KWMR has repeatedly proven to be a critical partner to our efforts in sharing emergency information with the public. What's more, their staff have taken to time to learn about how best to integrate with the Operational Area Emergency Operations Center Public Information team, streamlining the process of information dissemination.

Thank you for considering this in your decision,

-Tom

TOM JORDAN
Emergency Services Coordinator
Office of Emergency Services
Marin County Sheriff's Office
1600 Los Gatos Dr. #200
San Rafael, CA 94903
Office: (415) 473-6584
T_Jordan@MarinSheriff.org

In Partnership with our Communities

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