

MARIN EMERGENCY RADIO AUTHORITY

c/o Town of Corte Madera
300 Tamalpais Drive, Corte Madera, CA 94925
PHONE: (415) 927-5050
WWW.MERAONLINE.ORG

DATE: September 23, 2020

TO: MERA Governing Board

FROM: Betsy Swenerton, Acting Operations Officer

SUBJECT: AGENDA ITEM C-3: Update on Proposed Sonoma-Bay Hill Microwave Link Relinquishment

Discussion: On May 13, 2020, the Governing Board received a report regarding a request from the County of Sonoma that MERA relinquish control of the Sonoma-Bay Hill microwave link FCC license and directed the Operations Officer to work with Sonoma to transfer operational control.

Since that time, DPW has drafted two agreements. The first agreement is for the FCC license transfer/re-assignment from Marin County to Sonoma County. The license is also used for the Sonoma to Big Rock link (which MERA will want to retain for NextGen) Accordingly, DPW has engaged a FCC licensing consultant to assist in securing a separate license to maintain control of that link. Once this is resolved, the agreement will be updated and sent to Sonoma for review.

The second agreement is between MERA and Sonoma for MERA's continued use of the existing links once Sonoma replaces the microwave equipment. Sonoma has proposed to host MERA's traffic on their new microwave link at no cost to MERA. A draft of this agreement was sent to MERA on August 31 for review and comment. The Operations Officer will provide an update at the next Governing Board meeting.