

**City of Sonoma Disaster Council  
REGULAR MEETING  
Emergency Operations Center  
175 First Street West  
July 10, 2008  
Minutes**

**Present:** Mayor Pro Tem Ken Brown  
City Manager Linda Kelly  
Milenska Bates, Public Works Director  
Wendy Atkins, Assistant Planner  
Robert Taylor, THMM  
Neal Ross, Sonoma Valley Sun  
Herb Golenpaul, Pueblo Serena Mobile Home Park  
Jackie Lyons, Sonoma Valley Hospital  
Phillip Garcia, Sonoma Valley Fire Department Chief  
Hans Steuck, Chantarelle Homeowners Association  
Cindy Scarborough, Vintage House  
Bret Sackett, Police Chief, City of Sonoma  
John Saguto, American Red Cross  
Rhonda Stallings, Local Veterinarian  
Sarah Tracy, Sonoma Valley Visitors Bureau  
Nanci Mathison, Sonoma Valley Unified Schools  
Jaqueline Alvarez, Sonoma Valley Chamber of Commerce  
Bob Smylie, County OES  
Pamela Martens, Sonoma Valley Unified School Districts Schools  
Bobby O’Gorman, Infineon Raceway  
Kathleen Hill, Sonoma Disaster Food Distribution Network  
Ed Buonaccorsi, City of Santa Rosa

**1. Call to Order**

Mayor Pro Tem Brown called the meeting to order at 3:35 PM.

**2. Comments from the Public**

There were no comments from the public.

**3. Minutes**

The minutes of June 5, 2008, were approved by consensus.

**4. Report on Northern California Fire Situation and Effect on Local Sonoma Valley Resources/Deployment**

Phil Garcia, Sonoma Valley Fire Department Chief, stated that the current fire events in the State of California are unprecedented. In Mendocino County alone there are over fifty fires burning unattended. The State of California has a Master Mutual Aid Agreement, which means that when resources are needed we have a system in place no matter where you are in the state. The problem is we have never had this many fires burning in California before and it stresses local resources. He stated that we have requested our local resources back to assist local staffing needs. Local residents can help prevent residential fires by removing fire fuel around homes and mowing agricultural grasses in the morning. The State of California is down to three-hundred fires at the moment, but there is no end in sight.

**5. County of Sonoma “Silver Sentinel” Disaster Preparedness Exercise**

Bret Sackett, Police Chief, introduced Bob Smylie, Sonoma County OES, to discuss the “Silver Sentinel” Disaster Preparedness exercise scheduled for October 23, 2008. Mr. Smylie stated that October 21<sup>st</sup> is the 140<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the last major slip on the Hayward and Rogers Creek Fault. During this timeframe in the bay area there will be a lot of commemorative events going on and many schools will conduct Drop, Cover and Hold drills. October 23<sup>rd</sup> will be the Silver Sentinel exercise to deal with the hazards of the Hayward and Rogers Creek faults. The County will be working with other agencies to organize the event.

**6. Report from Subcommittee on Public Information**

Public Work Director Bates stated that the subcommittee met on July 10, 2008, the purpose of the meeting was to get an overview of getting the disaster preparedness message out at the City Party. She also stated she wants to come up with a slogan. A table will be displayed at the City party with a canopy and a banner to bring attraction to the issue. The idea is to have some large disaster kits on display and some home kits that can be put into Rubbermaid garbage cans. The Red Cross will have information available and the County will make available pocket guides in English and Spanish. Ms. Bates stated that Kathy Swett said the Disaster Council can open the event with a short skit. The subcommittee will meet again to formalize the slogan.

**7. Viewing of DVD on City of Santa Rosa “Citizens Organized to Prepare for Emergencies” Program, Followed by Discussion**

Bret Sackett, Police Chief, stated that citizens need to be prepared individually for ninety-six hours in the event of a disaster. He introduced Ed Buonaccorsi, City of Santa Rosa. Mr. Buonaccorsi presented a brief video on the Citizens Organized to Prepare for Emergencies (COPE) program. The mission of COPE is to help residents, families, and neighborhoods to be better prepared to respond to and recover from emergency situations. This includes developing individual and neighborhood response plans, maintaining individual emergency supply kits and outreaching to neighborhoods in our community.

**8. Future Agenda Items and Projects**

Linda Kelly, City Manager, stated she would like to further discuss the COPE program at a future meeting. Kathleen Hill stated she would like to discuss the Sonoma Disaster Food Distribution Network at the meeting in September. The Silver Sentinel should be further discussed at the August meeting. John Saguto, American Red Cross, stated that he would like to discuss what worked and what did not work at the last fire event he was involved in regarding evacuation centers.

**9. Next Meeting Date – August 14, 2008****10. Adjournment – 4:50 pm**

Respectfully submitted,

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Wendy Atkins