

**Public Safety Committee
Meeting Minutes
August 9, 2006**

The meeting was called to order by Robin Kaufman at 9:00 AM at the Bernardo Heights Community Center.

Present:: Marie Graver, Jim Harmon, Robin Kaufman, Paul Lennon, Norm Murkoff, Karen Rott, Keith Worthington

Guests:

Courtney Smith	Council Member Brian Maienschein's Representative
Stephen Lew	Mayor Jerry Sanders Representative
Bev Jorgensen	Vice President San Diego North Chamber of Commerce
Donna Hartings	The Pomerado Newspaper Group

Reports:

Robin Kaufman informed the committee that Karen Rott resigned as chair and that a new person had not yet been appointed.

Stephen Lew, representative from Mayor Jerry Sanders reported on the water crisis in Rancho Bernardo and surrounding areas. He described the timeline beginning on August 1 with the water main break to the announcement of a mandatory boil-water order on Saturday, August 5. Discussing the testing for E. coli, he stated that the impact on personal illness was low.

The largest problem was that of community frustration over poor communication in the contaminated areas. Channel 8 was the only TV station reporting the incident and advising residents to boil-water. Jim Denton noted that today NPR focused programming on the number of people qualified in emergency preparedness training who failed to respond.

Mr. Lew stated that state mandated procedures were followed. This incident did not meet the level for additional emergency announcements.

Jim Harmon termed this a "silent" disaster as opposed to an incident such as an earthquake or explosion. The EPP was not notified of this emergency. It did point out the need for disaster workers to reexamine phone trees and neighbors notifying neighbors on foot.

Courtney Smith reported that Council Member Maienschein had written a memo to Mayor Sanders requesting that they look at this issue.

Bev Jorgensen stated that she could keep the SDNCC informed by posting information to the Chamber website. The committee agreed to explore that as a possibility.

The Public Safety Committee concurred that a review and upgrade of the public notification system was needed.

SDPD

Paul Lennon reported on car prowls and break-ins as a continuing problem in the area. Rancho Bernardo, the North East District, includes approximately 31% of the calls for police assistance.

EPP

Jim Harmon announced that the Emergency Operations Center was staging exercises on earthquakes as follows:

Wednesday August 16 Rancho Bernardo Library 6:30 – 7:00 PM

Thursday August 31 Templar Hall Poway 6:30 – 7:00 PM

These exercises are open to the public for observation.

On Saturday, October 21, from 9:00 AM until Noon, the Rancho Bernardo Emergency Preparedness Program has also planned an exercise.

RSVP

Marie Graver reported that that all YANA's had sufficient water during the crisis. She added that in the future they would be assured of bottled water during an emergency.

The McGruff program hosted 1,500 children in August 5 at the YMCA in Mission Valley.

Other

Additional discussion of Goals and Objective will take place when the new chairman is appointed.

Meeting adjourned at 10: 15 AM

Respectfully submitted by
Karen Rott