



# Marin Local Agency Formation Commission

## Regional Service Planning | Subdivision of the State of California

### NOTICE OF REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Marin Local Agency Formation Commission  
**Thursday, April 9<sup>th</sup>, 2026**

#### CALL TO ORDER

Chair Coler called the meeting to order at 6:35 P.M.

#### ROLL CALL BY COMMISSION CLERK

Roll was taken, and a quorum was met. The following were in attendance:

Commissioners Present: Barbara Coler  
 Dennis Rodoni  
 Steve Burdo (Attending remotely under Gov. Code §54953.8.3(c)(5) for another agency)  
 Lew Kious  
 Eric Lucan  
 Larry Chu  
 Craig Murray

Alternate Commissioners Present: Roger Smith  
 Cathryn Hilliard

Marin LAFCo Staff Present: Jason Fried, Executive Officer  
 Jeren Batchelder-Seibel, Deputy Executive Officer  
 Claire Devereux, Clerk/Jr. Policy Analyst

Marin LAFCo Counsel Present: Malathy Subramanian  
 Alternate Members Absent: Stephanie Moulton-Peters  
 Rachel Farac

#### AGENDA REVIEW

Chair Coler opened public comment. Seeing that no one wished to speak, the public comment was closed.

#### PUBLIC OPEN TIME

Chair Coler opened the public open time. Seeing no one wishing to speak, the public open time was closed.

#### CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS (discussion and possible action)

1. Approval of Minutes for February 12, 2026, Regular Meeting
2. Commission Ratification of Payments from February 1, 2025, to March 31, 2026
3. Accept and File Marin LAFCo Audit for Fiscal Year 2024-2025 Audit and Authorize Audit for Fiscal Year 2025-2026

Approved: M/S by Commissioners Rodoni and Murray to approve the consent calendar.

Ayes: Commissioners Burdo, Lucan, Chu, Coler, Rodoni, Kious, and Murray

Nays:

Abstain:

Absent:

Motion: Approved unanimously

#### PUBLIC HEARING

1. Presentation of the Novato Region Municipal Service Review and Sphere of Influence Update Public Draft. This is a hearing for the commission to review and make recommendations. (The hearing will be continued to the next meeting.)

DEO Seibel presented on the MSR

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Dennis Rodoni, Vice-Chair  
 County of Marin  
 Eric Lucan, Regular  
 County of Marin  
 Stephanie Moulton-Peters, Alternate  
 County of Marin

Barbara Coler, Chair  
 Town of Fairfax  
 Steve Burdo, Regular  
 Town of San Anselmo  
 Rachel Farac, Alternate  
 City of Novato

Lew Kious, Regular  
 Almonte Sanitary District  
 Craig Murray, Regular  
 Las Gallinas Valley Sanitary District  
 Cathryn Hilliard, Alternate  
 Southern Marin Fire Protection District

Larry Chu, Regular  
 Public Member  
 Roger Smith, Alternate  
 Public Member

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Commissioner Kious asked if Novato Fire would object to the recommendation.

DEO Seibel stated that he cannot speak for the board of Novato Fire, however, Marinwood has expressed interest, and Novato Fire has the capacity to serve.

Commissioner Lucan inquired about recommendation number 4, updating the SOI of the City of Novato.

DEO Seibel said that the SOI will be aligned to match the urban growth boundary and jurisdictional boundaries of the city of Novato.

Vice Chair Rodoni asked if the recommendation for Marinwood and San Rafael Fire would still remain.

DEO Seibel said yes.

Chair Coler said discussions with San Rafael Fire did not indicate much support for consolidation of departments.

Chair Coler continued the public hearing to the next meeting.

Approved: M/S by Commissioners Murray and Chu to continue the hearing to the June meeting

Ayes: Commissioners Burdo, Lucan, Chu, Coler, Rodoni, Kious, and Murray

Nays:

Abstain:

Absent:

Motion: Approved unanimously

## 2. Adoption of Proposed Operating Draft Budget for Fiscal Year 2026-2027

EO Fried reported on the Draft Budget

Vice-Chair Rodoni thanked staff and made a reminder that many agencies have tight budgets and to remain mindful.

Chair Coler asked what the county COLA is

Vice-Chair Rodoni stated it is 4%

Commissioners agreed to change COLA from 3% to 4% to match the county.

Chair Coler asked what the current reserve policy is

EO Fried stated that 25% of total expenditures. This year, we are 100% fully funded.

Chair Coler opened the public hearing. Seeing no one wishing to speak, the public hearing was closed.

Approved: M/S by Commissioners Lucan and Burdo to approve the Draft Budget with a 4% COLA.

Ayes: Commissioners Burdo, Lucan, Chu, Coler, Rodoni, Kious, and Murray

Nays:

Abstain:

Absent:

Motion: Approved unanimously

### **BUSINESS ITEMS (discussion and possible action)**

Business Items involve administrative, budgetary, legislative, or personnel matters and may or may not be subject to public hearings.

#### 1. Update and Discussion on CALAFCO Related Matters including Marin LAFCo Membership with CALAFCO

EO Fried gave the staff report.

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Chair Coler stated that the item she requested to be put on the CALAFCO agenda was not done. Continuing on that, EO Fried provides value to CALAFCO and to wait till June to make the decision.

Commissioner Chu asked staff/commission to think about whether they are providing enough benefit with the uncertainty of not knowing what the dues structure will be.

Vice-Chair Rodoni stated he is fine with waiting till June and what the cost of not being a member in terms of conferences and other paid CALAFCO services.

EO Fried stated that he will do the analysis.

### **EXECUTIVE OFFICER REPORT**

a) Budget Update FY 2025-2026

The agency remains under budget overall, though some line items may require adjustments.

b) Current and Pending Proposals

No pending proposals at this time

c) Marin LAFCo Workplan

EO Fried presented the staff report

d) Request From Budget Committee to Discuss Whether to Have Formal Performance Evaluation of Legal Services

The Commission discussed whether to conduct a review or pursue a future RFP process for legal services. Commissioners generally agreed that current legal counsel's performance has been satisfactory and noted the value of specialized LAFCo expertise, competitive rates, and existing cost-saving measures such as remote attendance.

Several Commissioners emphasized the importance of transparency, fiscal prudence, and periodically evaluating service arrangements as part of the Commission's fiduciary responsibilities.

Discussion clarified that the agenda item was focused on whether to conduct a review, not an RFP process. Consensus generally supported not pursuing a formal performance evaluation at this time, while expressing openness to revisiting legal service options or a potential RFP discussion at a future meeting

### **COMMISSIONER ANNOUNCEMENTS AND REQUESTS**

Chair Coler opened announcements and requests.

Chair Coler adjourned the meeting at 8:30

### **CLOSED SESSION**

Public Employee Performance Evaluation (Gov. Code 54957)

Title: Executive Officer

Conference with Labor Negotiators (Gov. Code 54957.6)

Agency Designated Representative: Chair Coler and Vice Chair Rodoni

Unrepresented Employee: Jason Fried, Executive Officer

Chair Coler moved the Commission to closed session. Upon returning to open session, Chair Coler stated there was nothing to report from closed session.

### **ADJOURNMENT TO NEXT MEETING**

June 11th, 2026, at 6:30 P.M. | Marin Wildfire Prevention Authority

Attest: Claire Devereux  
Clerk/Jr. Policy Analyst