Comments on Evacuation Drill Policy

I believe your action on evacuation drills is premature. The Cambria Fire Safe Focus Group is working diligently on evacuation planning with the Ad Hoc committee of the CCSD Board assigned to the Strategic Plan objective "Identify potential additional evacuation routes and capabilities, supporting relevant grant applications and report results to the CCSD Board". As part of our efforts, we have been awarded a grant to have 5 more evacuation scenarios run by Cal Poly to augment the studies we had done 2 years ago. The results of these studies will have an impact on our planning for the future.

Additionally, the County Fire Chief's Association in cooperation with the Fire Safe Council has contracted with Zone Haven to update the County evacuation plan and in particular the evacuation zones in Cambria. Once this work is completed our evacuation plan for the community will need to be updated and a communication and education effort launched to get our permanent community and the tourist industry up to speed on the new zoning and planning.

When this work is completed then an effort could be launched to engage the County Office of Emergency Services to assist the CCSD as necessary to see if evacuation drills are feasible and when and how to conduct them. Remember evacuations might be triggered by other events besides a fire...Tsunami, Earthquake, or Flood.

David Pierson