



MINUTES OF THE JOINT COMMITTEE MEETING OF COMMITTEE ON DISASTER RISK REDUCTION AND MANAGEMENT and COMMITTEE ON LAWS, RULES AND HUMAN RIGHTS

(Committee on Disaster Risk Reduction and Management)

CHAIRPERSON: Hon. Roger N. Camilo
VICE-CHAIRPERSON: Hon. Glennon I. Pegollo
MEMBERS: Hon. Arnel G. Milay and Hon. Jerry C. Barrera

(Committee on Laws, Rules, and Human Rights)

CHAIRPERSON: Hon. Ryan O. Flores
VICE-CHAIRPERSON: Hon. Rodrigo A. Castillo
MEMBERS: Hon. Roger N. Camilo, Hon. Glennon I. Pegollo and Hon. Bonifacio M. Atienza, Jr.

GUEST: Mr. Augusto Gonzales- MGDH I
Mark Aeron Calantog - LDRRMO IV
Charlaine L. Panganiban - LDRRMO II
John Dave B. Delos Reyes - LDRMMO II

SUBMITTED BY: Irene A. Arviola

SUBJECT: Proposed Resolution No. _____ REQUEST FOR A PASSAGE OF PROPOSED RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE LOCAL CHIEF EXECUTIVE TO ENTER INTO A MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT WITH THE OTHER NEARBY LGUs TO ESTABLISH LINKAGE/NETWORK FOR DISASTER RISK REDUCTION AND EMERGENCY RESPONSE PURPOSES

The meeting was called to order at 10:10 AM by the Vice-Chairperson Glennon I. Pegollo. The MGDH I Mr. Augusto Gozales and three (3) staff of MDRRMO was present and participated in the meeting. During the meeting, the Committee discussed the proposed Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) of MagNaMarTe (*Magallanes–Naic–Maragondon–Ternate*) focusing on inter-LGU cooperation for disaster preparedness and response.

Councilor Glennon Pegollo inquired whether the MOA of MagNaMarTe was an existing agreement. In response, Mr. Gonzales clarified that the MOA is a first-of-its-kind partnership, not only among the four municipalities but also within the Province of Cavite. He stated that Magallanes, Naic, Maragondon, and Ternate would be the first LGUs to establish such a partnership for disaster preparedness.

Mr. Gonzales further explained that the MOA was the result of discussions among the Municipal Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Offices (MDRRMO) of the four municipalities. He added that the MagNaMarTe concept had already been utilized in the health sector, where the eight districts were clustered, and it was from this clustering that the MagNaMarTe framework was formed.

According to Mr. Gonzales the MOA is currently focused only on the four municipalities. However, should the partnership show progress and effectiveness, it may be expanded to include the entire 8th District, subject to the approval and agreement of all LGUs within the district. He also noted that the Municipality of Naic, through his office, initiated and processed the MOA of MagNaMarTe.

Councilor Glennon Pegollo further asked about the objectives of the MOA and how each municipality would benefit from it. Mr. Gonzales explained that under the Local Government Code of 1991 (RA 7160), particularly Section 23, LGUs are granted the authority to group themselves, consolidate resources, and cooperate with one another for the common good. He also cited RA 10121, which mandates LGUs to be proactive in disaster risk reduction and management, including collaboration with neighboring municipalities.

It was emphasized that all participating municipalities will benefit, particularly in terms of manpower and other shared resources, and not solely through financial assistance.



The Committee was informed that the four municipalities will still develop and adopt a Standard Operating Procedure (SOP). Under the SOP, even with an existing MOA, a municipality cannot extend assistance to another LGU without a formal written request. This procedure is necessary to ensure compliance with Commission on Audit (COA) regulations and to avoid audit issues. With the MOA in place, the process of providing assistance to neighboring municipalities during emergencies will be smoother and more organized, while respecting jurisdictional boundaries.

The Committee also noted that the Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Fund (DRRMF) amounts to 5% of the total Annual Budget of the municipality, with a total allocation of approximately ₱51,000,000.00. Councilor Glennon Pegollo asked whether MagNaMarTe would have a separate fund or if it would be deducted from the 5% disaster fund. It was clarified that, based on COA guidelines, LGUs are allowed to provide donations or assistance to other LGUs using the 5% disaster fund, provided that the assisting municipality has already ensured the stability of its own locality.

It was further explained that if a municipality is under a state of calamity, financial assistance to other LGUs may not be guaranteed; however, assistance in the form of manpower and other resources may still be extended. The MOA is therefore not limited to financial aid but focuses more on sharing available resources, subject to the condition that the assisting municipality remains stable before deploying personnel or resources to neighboring LGUs.

Councilor Glennon Pegollo also inquired whether there was an existing MagNaMarTe Plan, emphasizing that implementation would be difficult without a clear plan. Mr. Gonzales responded that once the MOA shows progress, one of the priorities will be the development of a MagNaMarTe Plan, which will form part of the Standard Operating Procedures. He added that the Disaster Plan of each municipality should also indicate the interlinkages and types of assistance that may be provided to neighboring municipalities under the MagNaMarTe framework.

The meeting further emphasized the need for a MagNaMarTe Plan so that the objectives of the MOA can be clearly reflected in committee reports. At present, Mr. Gonzales stated that what can be initially provided is the Standard Operating Procedure, which will outline in detail the roles, actions, and needs of each municipality.

It was also discussed whether the SOP should indicate a specific percentage or limit to the assistance to be provided. Mr. Gonzales emphasized that the MOA intentionally does not specify a fixed amount or percentage of assistance. This flexibility is necessary to ensure timely, appropriate, and effective disaster response, whether in the form of goods, financial aid, manpower, or other resources, to alleviate the conditions of affected families. The principle of “home priority” was reiterated, meaning that a municipality must first ensure the stability of its own locality before extending assistance to others.

Councilor Roger Camilo asked whether these possible scenarios had already been discussed among the four municipalities prior to the drafting of the MOA. Mr. Gonzales confirmed that these matters were previously discussed and would serve as the basis of the SOP. He reiterated that even with an MOA, a formal letter of request from the affected municipality is still required.

It was clarified that while there is no limit on the type of assistance, there is also no fixed monetary amount, and assistance may be provided as long as there is a need for manpower or other resources. The Committee also inquired about the number of ambulances available for disaster response. It was reported that there are twelve (12) ambulances, of which nine (9) are serviceable and three (3) are unserviceable.

In conclusion, it was agreed that the Standard Operating Procedure will be prepared and submitted as an attachment for further review by the Committee. A subsequent meeting will be scheduled to further clarify and define the scope, coverage, and implementation of the MagNaMarTe MOA.

There being no other matters discussed, the meeting was adjourned at 10:46 AM.