# EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL
# WORK SESSION

Thursday, March 5, 2015 – 0900-1200
Bldg 109, Camp Murray

## Meeting Minutes

This study session is an open forum for members of the EMC to discuss issues, identify ideas and/or solutions to tasks or issues before the actual EMC meeting and to formulate consensus amongst members to facilitate accomplishing the EMC's mission.

**Agenda topic: SAC Issues**

- EMC Membership and Attendance Discussion:
  - Current membership is listed by position in RCW 38.52.040
  - Each position has the right to vote and can be counted towards the quorum. There have been a couple of instances where the quorum has not been met in the past couple years
  - We have to work by the bylaws as they are currently written, and the bylaws state that the primary or alternate has to be present for voting rights; proxies that have been sent are not recognized as voting members
  - Each discipline/agency should identify the best person that can add value and vote on critical issues (and have an alternate)
  - The law is 24 years old and the language is outdated, but that is what we have to work with. We need to look at the structure that we want, what we want to do to get there, the purpose of the council, and *then* we can work toward membership
  - There is value to having directors of agencies present, but we also know that regular participation is not likely
  - It would be more workable if the council had operating guidelines that say that the primary/alternate can decide who they can send as a proxy
  - The membership of the EMC needs to meet the requirements of the SAC and have whole community engagement
  - SAC workgroup recommendations are to include tribal representatives, voluntary organizations, WSDOT, education, OFM, a ports representative, and possibly another private sector representative. With this proposal, 9 out of 22 agencies would be state agencies
  - EMD will write a very specific letter to agencies requesting update on participation with the EMC
  - Chuck LaBlanc has been identified as the alternate member for the Fire Protection Bureau
  - State EM Directors is open to interpretation as to who fills it. Historically it was WSEMA directors (and before that it was EMD before EMD was a part of the Military Department). Another group we have is the EMAG and could ask them to provide two people
  - The Military and State EM directors are two very distinct roles. Perhaps TAG and ATAG should fill MIL and Robert would be the primary State EM Director. This would increase the current state agencies on the current list from 6 to 7; however, the whole purpose of the council is to advise General Daugherty, and he wouldn't sit on the council to advise himself
  - Everybody on this committee has to be approved by TAG
  - There is concern about that EM directors being merged under one header; maybe split the EM directors to large counties and medium/small counties
  - Member-At-Large has not been represented recently. EMD will send Sue Bush a letter or call to follow up

- There are deficiencies in the current law. Adding and renewing positions will take a change in the law. We could make suggestions on specific changes to positions already listed, or change the law just to say how many members will be on the EMC and have the TAG choose the last few or make suggestions
- "Membership shall include but are not limited to"
- Is there a way, without changing the RCW, to create 17 voting members and add the 5 as ad hoc, non-voting advisory roles?
- Added Utilities to the SAC recommendations instead of another private sector representative
- Ensure that there is an odd number of members for quorum purposes
- Might consider inviting all grants representative to a summit to ensure that preparedness activities are not being duplicated
- If the EMC is wanting to include OFM in discussions they should get somebody from the Governor's Executive Policy Office to participate
- Robert and Dave will take the recommendations, have a discussion with TAG on expanding the group, and will suggest a two-phase operation to appoint ad hoc members and, in the future, try to move them into voting member positions. The outcome will be brought back to the EMC for a vote
- This would this require a change to the charter and bylaws
- Proxy vs alternates discussion can be scheduled into a regular EMC meeting
- This information will be sent out before the next EMC meeting to prepare for a vote

- Committee/Work Group review and formation
  - No discussion – ran out of time

**Agenda Topic: Governor's Report**

- Discussion, development, and review
  - OFM, who will be the first to review the EMC's report to the governor, suggested that the EMC submit the report around June 1 to the Governor to allow him to consider any possible actions for the next legislative session.
  - Dave DeHaan has been asking for input and suggestions for the report. The EMC report will endorse the SR530 Commission's recommendations and build on a few of them
  - EMC members and those who wish to contribute to the report should send the draft recommendation document back with track changes to Dave for discussion and incorporation
  - Since the SR530 report is narrowly focused, Resilient Washington is another report that could be used and incorporated
  - The EMC's report should not contain much more than three points – the bigger you make the report the more you diffuse the message
  - **Recommendation #1**: Establish a workgroup under the EMC to help establish a Statewide Emergency Management System
    - We are not creating a totally new system, but offering better coordination and interface of existing components and suggestions for eliminating system gaps
    - $100K for cost of workgroup participation and facilitation
      - The $100K will have to wait until next session so as to make a proposal in the governor's budget in the 2016 session. This is a large ask; the new fiscal year starts July 1 and the governor is not likely to spend that much from the emergency fund at the beginning of the year. Another suggestions is to prioritize this amount from the 20% of HLS funds
      - May remove the money portion from this recommendation and put it in a future report
    - The EMAG has taken on some of this effort and their work is the cornerstone of what needs to take place, but the work also needs to be interdisciplinary

        - Response capability varies widely across the state at the county level. We need to look at how to help those smaller counties
        - We need to come to agreement of what a statewide system is and what the components are
        - The EMAG is taking a longer view on this with deliverables for next summer, but also 5 and 10 year milestones
    - **Recommendation #2**: Establish a workgroup to identify and define emergency management Sustainable Funding
        - WSEMA is working on a definition
        - You cannot determine the funding needed without the vision of the statewide emergency management system and the gap between the current state and the preferred future state
        - Or how do we leverage the other workgroups? EMAG has a workgroup to focus on this
        - Don't create another group, since WSEMA and EMAG are already working on it. Re-wording: "We'll leverage existing workgroups and consolidate information for action."
        - Current groups may appear not to be interdisciplinary enough to address the whole funding spectrum
    - **Strike Recommendation #3 and replace possibly with language provided by DNR**
    - **Strike Recommendation #4**; tie in with Resilient Washington
        - Another institute would possibly draw funds from what is already established
        - Dave Norman will pick out a very succinct recommendation to include policy and/or funding impacts that the governor will have to consider
    - Other draft recommendations that we might at least support in the report
        - Create a subcabinet working group
        - **Strike Fire Mobilization** from Additional Recommendations
        - **Prioritize Fatality Management**
        - **Strike FirstNet, leave SIEC**

**EMC 2015 Goals – 1130-1200**

- EMC information collection, evaluation, and dissemination
    - Complete annual reports
    - Knowledge and development of SAC requirements and the other responsibilities
    - Education, familiarization, and exposure to the statewide emergency management system
    - Sustainable funding
- EMC action request worksheets
    - No discussion – ran out of time
- Other issues?
    - Added DSHS as part of the SAC recommendation for new members