

# SECC Meeting

November 13, 2018

Present:

Terry Spring-KWPX TV

Sandi Duffey-Grant Co. EM

Chris Utzinger-WA MIL EMD

Ted Buehner-Vice Chair

Clay Freinwald-CFTS

Carri Gorton-WSP (AMBER)

Bill Steele-Pacific NW Seismic Network

Phone:

Jon Kasprick-SBE

Arthur Willitts-KWDK TV

John Price-Mason/Thurston LECC

Charlie Osgood-Alpha Media

Keith Shipman-WSAB

John Mackie-Bicoastal Media

Clay called the meeting to order and introductions were made. The previous minutes were approved. There were requests to add items to the agenda.

Sandi Duffey now has her amateur radio license.

There will be no more EAS TAB revisions until the plan revision committee is done revising the state plan. Expect some major revisions in the structure of the plan.

31

32 Ted Buehner will be headed to Yakima for an informational and  
33 orientation meeting. There has been some turnover there with a new  
34 Emergency Manager. The workings and advantages of EAS will be  
35 explained.

36

37 In old business, the plan revision committee will have meeting #6  
38 today. The TABS are being rearranged in a more logical order. In the  
39 past, they have been added hap-hazard in any available spot. Some will  
40 be combined. The committee will decide what stays and what doesn't.

41

42 The National EAS Test happened on October 2. The state did a couple  
43 of informal surveys. The survey on Nextdoor was brief; whether the  
44 test was received or not and how soon. Another, on Survey Monkey,  
45 also had what carrier and EAS on radio or TV. Most respondents  
46 received the test within 2 minutes. Around a quarter of the  
47 respondents did not receive the test.

48

49 Some people disable all alerts because they don't want to be bothered  
50 or find them to be an irritation. Some find the title, Presidential  
51 message a turn off, although Presidential messages cannot be turned  
52 off. The WSAB encourages broadcasters to get the message out. It  
53 should be easier for consumers to choose what is disabled rather than  
54 just all or none. One way to inform people is through a utility bill insert,  
55 but this usually costs money. The cell carriers should be leading the  
56 education effort on their dime. But it should be a collaborative effort.

57

58 Ted and Clay will be going to Clallam County to orient and inform the  
59 new Emergency Manager to EAS.

60

61 Thurston County recently had a flood awareness week. They have an  
62 opt-in email warning system, Thurston Community Alerts. See  
63 <https://www.co.thurston.wa.us/em/Alerts/index.htm>.

64

65 In new business, EAS TV screen crawl colors were discussed. The  
66 background and lettering should be contrasting. Otherwise, they can  
67 be hard to read. The preference is for light letters on a dark  
68 background. The deaf need to be able to read it as well as those people  
69 whose TV's may be muted.

70

71 Bill Steele, Shake Alert regional coordinator, gave a presentation.  
72 Shake Alert is an earthquake early warning system. The Pacific  
73 Northwest Seismic Network monitors ground movement and detects a  
74 quake in seconds. It used to be minutes. There are many seismic  
75 stations stretching from California to British Columbia. The whole  
76 Pacific Coast is an active earthquake area and quakes are hard to  
77 predict. All the info they collect is shared. With enough warning, public  
78 transport can be stopped, valves can be closed, pumps stopped, people  
79 warned and more. There needs to be education to let the public know  
80 what it can do, and what it can't. Direct warnings to cell phones have  
81 latency issues. A drop, cover, hold app for phones is in development.  
82 The Pacific Northwest Seismic Network is working with various entities.  
83 See [www.pnsn.org](http://www.pnsn.org).

84

85 The 2019 Partners In Emergency Preparedness Conference will be held  
86 April 16-18 in Lynnwood. See  
87 <http://www.cm.wsu.edu/ehome/index.php?eventid=348773&>.

88

89 TAB 7 (Glossary Of Terms and Acronyms) needs updating. There are  
90 omissions. Consider this a call for input on the remainder.

91

92 Operational areas were discussed. Most cover multiple counties. In  
93 order to issue alerts they have to go through the IPAWS accreditation  
94 process in order to determine what FIPS codes they can use. The  
95 operational areas were originally set up to approximate coverage by  
96 major broadcast stations. They need to be able to issue alerts with all

97 FIPS codes in their area. Alerts that are not issued through Alert Sense  
98 go through IPAWS. Not all local entities use Alert Sense. The way  
99 permissions are set up is the same for IPAWS and Alert Sense.

100

101 Carri Gordon is currently working with a small group of Subject Matter  
102 Experts to assist in re-writing the Department of Justice publication of  
103 AMBER Alert Best Practices. While going through the current guide  
104 there is a VERY brief discussion of state SECC's and their role in EAS and  
105 AMBER. During the discussion with the other SME's it was quickly  
106 evident that the working relationship we have here in Washington with  
107 me as the State AMBER Alert Coordinator and the WA State SECC is  
108 unique and as such will be outlined in the new guide as a "best  
109 practice" to new and current state AMBER Alert Coordinators around  
110 the country. We all believe that it's critical to have the face to face  
111 interaction before, during and after an alert in order to quickly hash out  
112 issues with technical problems and/or questions from the public or the  
113 media.

114

115 Remember to use the remailer. See  
116 <http://sea.sbe16.org/mailman/listinfo/eas-wa> to subscribe.

117

118 The next meeting will be on January 8 at 9:30 AM at Clover Park.  
119 Directions will be on the remailer.