

SECC Meeting

January 8, 2019

Attendees:

In Person....

Clay Freinwald – Chair

Ted Buehner – Vice-Chair

Chris Utzinger – Wash St Emerg Mgmt

Anthony Clark – Wash St Emerg Mgmt

Bill Peters – T-Mobile

Corey Solines – T- Mobile

Alex Brewster – Entercom Communications

Joshua Atkins – Pierce Co Emerg Mgmt

Jon Kasprick – SBE 16

Monte Simpson - RACES

On Phone.....

Elysa Jones – Kitsap Co Emerg Mgmt

Phil Johnson – Central Puget Sound LECC

Dave Halloran – San Juan Co Emerg Mgmt

Sandi Duffey – Grant Co Emerg Mgmt

Jason Clapp – Yakima Co Emerg Mgmt

Maurice Goodall – Okanagan Co Emerg Mgmt

Charlie Osgood – Alpha Media

Jamye Wisecup – Clallam Co Emerg Mgmt

Anne Chastain – Clallam Co Emerg Mgmt

The minutes from the previous meeting were accepted and approved.

The call for any new agenda items resulted in none.

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32 **Announcements**

33 Clay used Outlook to send the meeting agenda and previous meeting
34 minutes via the EAS-WA remailer. A few on the remailer reported they
35 got the email, but the attachment(s) were missing, In addition, calendar
36 reminder file was missing in some cases. Phil reported the remailer was
37 recently hacked and may have played a role in these issues. Phil has
38 since solved the hack problems. Clay will use Outlook again for the
39 March meeting announcement distribution via the remailer.

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41 Tab Updates – Distribution of revised tabs are on hold while the State
42 Plan Revision Committee does their work through the first half of this
43 year. The new state plan will have a revised tab list. However, **work on**
44 **tab revisions can and should go on**, just no distribution at this point.
45 The revised or even new tabs can be in a queue, ready to be posted
46 once the State Plan has been revised.

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48 Clay wanted to remind everyone that if you have an EAS question,
49 please use the remailer so others can respond. Clay is not the special
50 point of contact for EAS information alone.

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52 **Old Business**

53 State EAS Plan Revision Progress Report – the sub-committee continues
54 to review the current plan. The latest efforts have involved a revised tab
55 list that places current tabs in a more logical, easier to find format and
56 meet the new on-line FCC state plan web site – ARS – Alert Reporting
57 System. The SECC has offered ARS-related questions to the FCC and the
58 FCC in turn has asked the SECC to provide input to those questions –
59 recently accomplished. .The state plan revision is targeted to complete
60 its work by the middle of this year, though it may be delayed since the
61 ARS is currently off-line thanks to the government shutdown.

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63 Uniform Screen Crawl Colors – At the previous SECC meeting, Jim House

64 - Disability Integration Manager for the Coalition on Inclusive
65 Emergency Preparedness at the Washington State Independent Living
66 Council highlighted that some TV stations and cable TV services were
67 providing emergency message crawls with colors that were hard to
68 read. Jim provided an article to the WSAB that was posted in the
69 December 2018 newsletter that addressed easier to read use of TV
70 crawls color schemes – dark background and light colored wording.

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72 Partners in Emergency Preparedness Conference – The conference is
73 coming up in mid-April at the Lynnwood Convention Center. Plans are to
74 take the Fred and Wilma story and turn it into a play that will help set
75 the stage for a Tue afternoon 4-hour workshop on public information
76 outreach efforts during a disaster.

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78 **New Business**

79 IPAWS – Chris reported that his team is addressing some Alert Sense
80 synch discrepancies between the initial MyStateUSA version that is EAS
81 message only thru IPAWS and also can send notifications to local
82 jurisdictions, and their newer IPAWS version that does both EAS and
83 WEA but does not have a local jurisdiction notification process. The
84 Alert Sense contract with the state is up for renewal in April and the
85 state hopes to resolve these discrepancies and the contract details by
86 then. The recent 911 outage highlighted these alert origination
87 software discrepancies, particularly for larger EAS operational areas.

88

89 He reported that 18 counties have completed their COG application and
90 6 or 7 other counties are in progress. About 5 counties currently have
91 open issues. He noted that credit should be given to the IPAWS office
92 for being more responsive of late. The application process includes 1)
93 having a MOU between the county and IPAWS, and 2) determining how
94 the county wants to use IPAWS including use of EAS and WEA. Since the
95 state has been paying for Alert Sense for all 39 counties, IPAWS
96 applications go thru the Military Dept.

97

98 911 Outage – During the day on Dec 27th, first long distance and toll
99 free numbers began having failures. Later in the day, 911 began to fail –
100 not just in Washington, but across the country. EMD had conference
101 calls with PSAPs statewide and Century Link. Near 11 PM, EMD sent a
102 statewide EAS TOE message and about a half hour later, activated WEA
103 statewide. Selected counties sent their own 911 outage related
104 messages, some using the TOE event codes while others used CEM or
105 LAE.

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107 Moving forward, EMD is gathering stakeholder feedback for an AAR to
108 be completed by the end of March. They are looking for
109 recommendations from local jurisdictions. This was the first time WEA
110 had been used statewide. Of interest, there were differences in how
111 carriers transmitted the WEA message and smart phone device model
112 behavior. Discussion about creating a 911 outage template was
113 addressed since various jurisdictions offered message wording
114 differences.

115

116 RMT schedule – Some broadcasters and local jurisdictions are still not
117 clear on how to find the schedule. It was distributed on the remailer
118 during the fall and is posted as Tab 11 in the state EAS Plan hosted on
119 EMD's web site. EMD also created a direct link to the schedule to help
120 users.

121

122 There are still some jurisdictions that fail to reliably transmit RMTs on
123 time. Any such failures need to post the reason why the RMT was
124 missed on the remailer as highlighted in the current State EAS Plan.
125 Roland sends reminders near the first of each month to help remind
126 local jurisdictions about the upcoming RMT.

127

128 Communication is the key in effectively transmitting the RMTs in a
129 timely manner. Some LECC chairs contact the respective jurisdiction

130 directly to ensure they are ready. What else can be done? Should SECC
131 and LECC members attend HLS meetings to help the counties?

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133 Tab 2 update – Simone is working on it. Chris U. to send Simone the
134 latest Tel-1 list to assist her.

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136 Training – A training outline has been established and reviewed. Next
137 up is to find subject matter experts and begin organizing and creating
138 the training materials for those who send emergency messaging, those
139 who relay them and those who receive them – the public.

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141 Monitoring Assignments – Nothing new to report.

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143 LECC reports –

144 – Central Puget Sound – Phil reported preliminary work going on
145 behind the scenes regarding post-disaster communications with
146 broadcasters, PSAPs and emergency managers....

147 – Yakima – Jason reported they held their first LECC meeting in
148 several years in mid-November. The next meeting is scheduled for next
149 week. It is a learning curve.

150 – Clallam – Still working to resolve why they are unable to send
151 RMTs or other test event codes. They have a LECC meeting being
152 planned soon.

153 – North Sound – Dave (San Juan County DEM) asked about 911
154 outage notifications. He did not get any EAS message, but on WEA,
155 some people in San Juan County did get the 911 outage notification

156 – Okanogan – Maurice reported increasing work with local radio
157 stations. They use Everbridge to activate EAS. The state EAS TOE was
158 quite garbled - need to find out why.

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160 **Stakeholder Reports**

161 WSEM – Chris reports EMD is undergoing a reorganization moving from
162 3 units to 2 - 911 and operations units.

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WEA – Bill reported - 1) Regarding the Presidential Alert in Oct – they do a RMT internally, a hidden internal alert triggered by IPAWS to test the system. This was the first time some parts of the country received a WEA and resulted in a surge of customers calls. It was an opportunity to see the performance of the system - some lessons identified and now working to correct them. 2) During the 911 outage, some customers did not get the WEA message – overall, the system worked well. Cell towers performance is easily measured, but, at the user level, perhaps incorrect smart phone settings, older models, different chips in smart phones could keep the message from being delivered? They rely on customer complaints.

Amateur Radio – nothing significant to report.

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

The next meeting will be on Tuesday, March 12 at 9:30 AM at Clover Park. Directions will be on the remailer.