EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT ADVISORY GROUP (EMAG)



THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 2020 ~ TEAMS ~ 1:00 PM TO 4:00 PM

Meeting called to order by Jason Marquiss, Assistant Director of Washington State Emergency
Management Division at 1:00 PM

In Attendance			
No roll call or sign in sheet.	Noted all virtual attendees	from TEAMS participan	t list. (*) = via phone
<u>Members</u>			
☐ Christopher Alexander		☑ JoAnn Boggs	⊠ Eric Brooks
⊠ Ron Cameron	☐ Lorraine Churchill	☐ Brendan Cowan	☑ Deanna Davis
	⊠ Sandi Duffey	⊠ Sandi Eccker	⊠ Robert Ezelle
	□ Chandra Fox	☐ Seattle OEM	☐ Pattijean Hooper
☐ Gary Jenkins		☐ Cherrie May	☑ Brendan McCluskey
□ Ada McDaniel	☑ Jason Marquiss		☐ Ute Scofield
☑ Jay Weise			
<u>Guests</u>			
□ Laurel Nelson, Seattle DEM		☐ Kurt Hardin, Thurston County DEM*	
☐ Amy Gillespie, Pierce Co	ounty DEM		
Supporting Staff			
☐ Nancy Bickford	⊠ Sanura Jackson-Diaz	⊠ Tirzah Kincheloe	⊠ Robin Lang
	□ Troy Newman		□ Chris Utzinger
⊠ Sharon Wallace	⊠ Sierra Wardell		
Call to Order/Introductions/Opening Comments			Jason Marquiss
Jason Marquiss advised tha joined the meeting.	t he'd reserve opening comm	nents for Chair and facil	itate the meeting until Chair
Jason Marquiss opened with	h approval of October 24, 20	19 minutes.	
The October 24, 2019 meeting	ng minutes are 26 pages.		
No members objected to vo	ting on the Oct. 2019 minute	es via email.	
Covid-19 Status & Check-in			Jason Marquiss

What needs to be taken on in the next couple years that is not already a concern?

FROM THE SLIDE DECK

Review of last actions or approvals from the last held meeting:

- WAC 118-09-040 (1) Recommendation 1
 - o Part 1: fixed allocation to EMD of 35% of the 95% available after M&A is removed from total award
 - Partially accepted
 - Adjusted the EMD amount from 38% to 36.5% and reduced our retention of EMPG in order to support the funding of Parts 2 and 3 below
 - o This increased the local pass through to 63.5% (up from 62%)
 - o Part 2: 2% available to tribes
 - o Accepted and is reflected in the funding allocation for FFY20
 - o Part 3: 7% available to smallest counties
 - Accepted and is reflected in the funding allocation for FFY20
 - We do not intend to codify any of these allocation changes in WAC
 - WAC changes are not necessary to implement these recommendations
- WAC 118-09-040 (1) Recommendation 2 (minimum award for cities) and 3 (1/2 time FTE exclusively working EM)
 - JM will set aside time to work the WAC change process
- WAC 118-09-040 (2) Recommendation 4
 - Not a recommendation at the time that we were accepting

Will be implemented as grant guidance in future grant years beginning in FFY2021

- Newly applying cities/towns documentation requirements, inclusion of home county in review, two year phase-in
- Subrecipients' EMPG share of budget limited to 33% of overall budget
 - EMPG Allocation model for FFY21 EMD targeting a reduction of award from 36.5% to 35% to meet
 EMAG members recommendations in 2019 that is what we will use to allocate more

EMAG Charter Jason Marquiss

FROM THE SLIDE DECK

- Membership Rotations
 - o If you are willing to stay in the seat and if they are willing to still have you in the seat
 - Get back with Jason Marquiss and Sanura Jackson-Diaz to advise if staying/going/if you have an alternate
 - Dec 19, 2019 if you have someone willing to take up that alternate position, let us know anyone with yellow star SC Tier 1, Medium County, SC Tier 2
 - o Jason Marquiss is transferring custody of EMAG to a different manager in the building
 - o If a yellow or red star, we will confirm deny if you are still serving in those positions
 - Chris Alexander
 - Those with yellow starts in cities
- Strategic Initiatives
 - We did not formulate any work teams to sort through what these activities would require
 - Open up to group discussion anyone with second thoughts, what work group or entities need to be pulled together. Anyone have any strong feelings, comments which one of these three needs to be prioritized. Some were parallel to each other:

• Brendan Cowan – is there someone on that original committee that can run through these and give us a sense of where they're coming from?

Jason Biermann – Scott Johnson can jump in as well; there was a lot of discussion about pre-Covid how local jurisdictions should reach out to State EOC during disasters. Use your neighbors, use your friends first was really the idea. Aligning response actions with the some of the roles within WAC was really the idea.

Scott Johnson – standardization between all county levels needs to be standardized so that what we are doing between blue skies and black skies needs to be confirmed. A big topic of discussion was the impact on county programs when cities take funds from county level without replicating that level of service; passionate discussion around this; funding method is similar to no. 3 specifically more in aligning small city and our approach to effective emergency management around the state – that's all I remember

EMPG – EMAG Recommended changes

Sierra Wardell & Tirzah Kincheloe

FROM THE SLIDE DECK

Tirzah Kincheloe - This is the overall status of grants right now

- 19EMPG:
- Received 43 final reimbursements/reports
- 27 outstanding
- Will be closing agreements once payments are processed
- 20EMPG-S:
 - Received and reviewed 56 applications
 - 56 agreements processed
- 20EMPG:
- Received 70 applications
- 35+ finalized apologize for delay
- Finalized over 40, goal to have all send out by end of year; if needed sooner send request to your coordinator and we'll send those out sooner
- Normal EMPG turnback funds
- 18EMPG Turnback: \$47,545
- 19EMPG Turnback Estimate: \$30,000+ overall return funding is \$45,331 that would go back to home county; remaining \$35,685
- Past reallocation EMAG decisions:
 - City funds are returned to "home" counties
 - "Small County" funds are returned to a "small county" pot
 - Tribal amount pushed forward as applicable

Request is for the funding classifications to go away except for city to home counties. Large and small counties and tribes returned or unaccepted funding would go to an overall pot instead of going back to their respective classifications.

Jason Bierman – Question is what would go back to that pot?

Tirzah Kincheloe – We would still ask the EMAG what their thoughts are; would depend on the year and what EMAG thought

Sierra Wardell – I think most of the thought would be the tribal concerns. If there weren't projects, we would have an issue reallocating

Jason Biermann – Jason [Marquiss], from leadership perspective, is that possible?

Jason Marquiss - If other counties can't use in that same demographic it could be used in a regional initiative, could be used state-wide, not necessarily benefitting state, but statewide emergency management, Robert is on call now

Robert Ezelle – Funds not to county/region would go back to larger group, and see how we could best spend it – again would make it a collaborative process

Jason Marquiss – Jason [Bierman] Did that clarify it for you?

Jason Bierman – I think so, I would like to see that captured formally because that is what was originally put forth,

Jason Marquiss – Yes to provide maximum flexibility because what may work now may not work in 2 years, and to see how to best use it in the community and not return to fed gov, so 47K, right Sierra?

Sierra Wardell-Yes. Brendan and Scott have hands up.

Brendan Cowan - Yes interested discussion to see if that's a good model

Sierra Wardell - Thanks, Brendan

Scott McDougall – I made the original proposal. We're at a point now where small county pot of money to small counties is of less importance and that regionalized approach is probably a better way to look at things.

Chandra Fox – Previously, my request to EMAG was funds we returned to be utilized for CEMNET system and that is a problem we have regionally we thought that was a good use, so that's what we did with that funding. So, Scott I think that's what you're remembering. Should have a roster of ready projects that would benefit the region.

Tirzah Kincheloe - \$47,500 18EMPG would combine with 19EMPG - \$83, 230 which may go up a little as we receive more turnback funds; having a list of projects would be a good idea; will stick to 19EMPG performance period and recommendations to Robert - By Dec 15th, and beginning of 2021 finalize any products and completion later in the year for close out. Any ideas?

JoAnn Boggs – I do recall the CEMNET, not sure where we're at, and it's still something we need to work on; it's not completed

Brendan Cowan - I echo that.

Jason Marquiss – Joann & Brendan, thank you for your comments, carved out this last FY to put into our contract for more support. To Sharon and Tony to talk to our IT folks to see if there is something we can do.

Sharon Wallace - Got it, Jason

Chandra Fox – Please include Chris on my staff as he has a good handle on our communication here.

Sharon Wallace – Got it, Chandra

Jason Marquiss – We don't need to have this completely sorted out. Sierra/Tirzah if we could have a stakeholder within their groups set up suspense for an initial hit list... how do you feel?

Sierra Wardell/Tirzah Kincheloe - Yeah, that's fine Jason.

Jason Marquiss - Anyone against that? Robert? [No objections]

Robert Ezelle - We're probably going to need another meeting scheduled on or about 12/15 to talk about this as opposed to trying to do that by email.

Jason Marquiss - Doable between Sierra, Tirzah, Sanura, and I.

FROM THE SLIDE DECK

Tirzah Kincheloe – Covid Supplemental

- Cities
 - o \$57,334 (already returned to "home" county, King County)
- Small Counties
 - 0 \$68,783
- Large Counties
 - 0 \$159,613
- Tribes
 - 0 \$59,944

TOTAL AVAILABLE FOR REALLOCATION: \$288,340

- 12/15/20: EMAG recommendation to EMD Director
- 12/31/20: Reallocation decision
- January/February: Finalize project details and/or issue agreements
- 12/31/21: Projects complete and agreements end
- 1/26/22: Grant performance period ends

Brendan C. – I wonder if we could offer up to the communities a proportional amount

Robert - Well that can certainly come forward on the proposal

Tirzah – Any others? Any suggestions or feedback for next year's application? Okay nothing. If something is on anyone's mind you can forward it to me, you have my email. That's the end of what I have. Thanks everybody.

Opening Comments

Robert Ezelle

Robert – Good afternoon. I miss sitting around the big table, but this seems to be a sign of the new reality. We've had some of worst winter storms in a decade. When dealing with that, Jason you had the first U.S. positive case there in Snohomish county and we have been activated fully since then. We got immediately into the PPE business; turned to Jason to head that up in March. Going to give him a chance to talk on that in a minute. We entered into unified command with DOH/DSHS/State EOC with regular meetings on how to battle Covid and what the state's response needs to be. Then we had civil unrest and supporting you in that, and most recently we had NG in standby. But based on recent info will stand them down today and tomorrow. Closely watching today and tomorrow if they're needed. Had second worst fire season in WA history. By far, biggest thing we have been involved in has been PPE. Will turn over to Jason to give a quick summary.

Jason Marquiss – Most interest in billing or selling PPE is how DOH is going to divest itself of the near \$29 mil of items in their warehouse that doesn't mean counties are going to pay that. Going make it available to those in the tiering guidelines; doesn't equate to everyone having to pay for that. Some have preferences and some don't want it. And it's not flying off the shelves as we hoped it would; notified that shelf life was extended from 2-5 years. Governor is working with DES to target population for re-sell. Separate exec at DOH that has taken over Adm Bono's work. Kristen Petersen has taken on that part of the portfolio. That happened in mid-August and here we are in Nov. with no significant forward progress. We are going to reconsider that discussion, maybe 4-6wks looking at those tiers and who would be capable of remitting payment for PPE. Entities not to be likely for PPE reimbursement. For example, daycares in Tier 3. That may be an entity that pays – just grabbing an entity of the list, this is not set in stone. If fed gov approves for 90/10 non fed match, anyone outside of that will get billed; will it

mean DES will have to set up a POS distribution, absolutely. I don't think we are any closer to a decision than 60 or 120 days ago. It's about long-term fiscal position to the state. Trying to harvest the fiscal funds where we can. As 14th Nov comes & goes, any discussion that leads me to believe we're heading toward a billing platform. I will get to group on who that could be. Now none of it is evident. Pausing for questions.

Scott Johnson – Thanks, that provided a lot of clarity. We've not had many PPE requests in Clark county because they can leverage their size. We have 410 health care facilities; they don't have the economy to purchase. If any consideration is given to those needing no-costs, I would base on those type of facilities rather than purely tiering.

Jason Marquiss – There are several folks at exec level that have the same thought – more tied to access and demographic. New tiering guidelines do those demographics a lot of favors – everyone please keep supporting LTC facilities.

Robert Ezelle – Hearing no questions, as watching news and DOH numbers show we are on brink of fall/winter surge – over last few days that curve has gone almost vertical – age distribution is almost even. Almost all counties are increasing in caseloads, some are decreasing. Challenge is there is pretty significant Covid fatigue. A lot of transmission is home gatherings. Messaging is to stay masked with people not in your immediate household. Discussion regarding another shut down and economic impact and watching health of hospital system. Do we need to slow down unnecessary surgeries like we did in March and April? DOH is working w/CDC, HHS regarding vaccine and how it can be distributed. Earliest we could see limited doses would December and prioritization would be to health care workers, first responders, the vulnerable. Are there any other issues/challenges you'd like to discuss before the group? Hearing none, Jason I'll turn it back to you.

Break 1410 Reconvened 1420

E911 Robert Ezelle

Robert - Capturing lessons learned completed 911 efficiencies, study interim report as teaser to the legislature, big heavy list, will talk about funding

Cyber & Critical Infrastructure

Robin Lang

Robin – Taylor has been working on business re-entry, water & airports, sending a CISA, DOH, EMD daily private sector advisory email, busy with election security group with the state and DOH, real-world cyber response.

Ops Unit Sharon Wallace, Stacey McClain, Troy Newman, Rob Sabarese, Chris Utzinger

Sharon Wallace – We'll start with Stacey in Mitigation & Recovery.

Stacey McClain - M&R

1) Flood Mitigation – 160 of 200 apps, due midnight 16 Nov., submitted in new FEMA go system; feedback 2 Dec. then request info back/forth in anticipation of submitting to FEMA

- 2) HMPG 2 active rounds Flood Disaster 4539 deadline 6 Nov. grant 10 mil. PA drives that. All funds Federal/State share.
- 3) HMGP Post fire round 30 Sept, then 30 Nov. 8.4 mil. State/Fed share pending disaster declaration approval. Individual Assistance disaster request for Whitman and Malden Pine city pending.
- 4) PA moved from bottom to top of FEMA list; FEMA doesn't expect movement until after the election
 - 90/10 share once reach 1 Bil. We did meet 1 Bil and ours is awaiting appropriations approval.
 - Tsunami sirens 9 new w/state funding and 9 more expected

Troy Newman – Preparedness

CR22 - we've asked FEMA to look at a rescope to leverage the exercise

Rob Sabarese – CR22 looks primarily at

- 1) critical transportation
- 2) operational communications

We attended NLE 2020 Concepts meeting – 2020 eval of cyber piece; Covid caused cancellation. NLE 2022 is focused on natural disaster. FEMA HQ looking at 3rd element to incorporate into CR22; is from cyber 2020 exercise that they weren't able to complete. Rob asked them to reconsider their approach to the cyber piece; keep it as a core ramp-up piece and we advised to reconsider – we are stretched thin with our Covid response.

Focus from FEMA, exercise economic recovery and housing component, THIRA/SPR viable considerations which would support how to allocate money and resources to provide to that effort

THIRA/SPR – since 2019, shifted into a confidence level rating that took heatmap concept and built that THIRA/SPR data; In 2020 all 32 core capabilities evaluated overall 100%; the data is skewed because only 46% of counties participated this year; which does not accurately reflect the state holistically; 2 counties had 100% participation, but only 2 core capabilities were assessed. Qualitative data may be more substantive.

EMAP – Conditional accreditation in July 2020, with a final accreditation visit in Feb 2021, other state agency plans were assessed. Governor's directive 13-02 state agencies requires COOP plans done by June 30th; 18 open items/conditions: 7 green, 8 yellow, 3 red.

Chris Utzinger - Response

In process of hiring Credentialing Program Manager

Notification RFP – all IT systems out so for bid every 5 years. We currently use AlertSense notification system. Bid will go out and we could possibly get a new notification system.

EOC operations –full activation since end of January. Covid-19 is part of the new normal. We are currently running 1-week operational periods and will look to move to a longer strategic operation by end of the year or early next year, if applicable.

NG will go off state active duty later this afternoon but will remain aware of potential for civil unrest through end of January.

EMAC – Fire suppression task forces were sent to OR & CA this fall. Thank you to all who sent resources. EMD sent 8 of our staff to the OR ECC for 14 days

Legislative Priorities

Robert Ezelle – 911 funding issues, back to legislative close-up to our baseline budget (slide 26)

Jason Marquiss - Hazmat Planning – Time to renew the funding off oil spill to Gen Fund or DRA, better to be in a more flexible funding source (slide 27)

Jason Marquiss - State IA - funds would be used to kick in when we do not get a federal IA declaration (slide 30)

Robert Ezelle – Trying to get a mechanism to help people, administered with other state agencies (slide 33)

Jason Bierman – That would be great to be read into how you plan to administer it.

Robert Ezelle – Point well taken, any other questions? [none] Tribal EM – Glaring gap in 38.52.040 puts out who we should be pushing bill forward for; 20 members with 2 tribal reps. Our plan is to coordinate with Governor's Office of Indian Affairs to determine who the members would be. This is what we put to the governor's office, cannot advocate for it yet as governor hasn't put forth his legislative priorities; these are dead unless added to the governor's priorities. They're not bills yet. Then once a bill will work with stake holders and legislators. We will help educate our legislators on these items.

Robert Ezelle - Current Initiatives discussion

Jason Bierman – strongly support tribal membership [via chat]

Others in chat echoed the same

Robert Ezelle - Future Opportunities - IA Program – What it looks like. Jason, are you willing to partner with us in what it looks like and commerce, other agencies?

Jason Bierman – Am willing to participate.

Chandra Fox – I or Gerry from my staff would be willing to take part.

Laurel Nelson – Is there any way to know the timeframe for voices at the table? Would like to offer up Erica from my staff.

Robert Ezelle - Should have broad ideas by end of year.

Laurel Nelson - Got it, will have to balance staffing.

Brendan Cowan – San Juan is interested as well

Robert Ezelle – Any others? [none] Credentialing, we will be working on what a credentialing program looks like.

Jason Bierman – Friendly amendment: involve the all-hazards IMT group with Chris.

Robert Ezelle – I will ask Chris to reach out to that group and have a discussion on what are opportunities coming out of disasters and Covid experience.

Brendan Cowan – Friendly counterpoint, to Jason's regionalization: We've become hyper local with local capability first and foremost. Nothing about Covid makes me think regionalization will help.

Jason Bierman – He's on an island. What are some of the things that have influenced decisions?

Robert Ezelle – EMC - We're putting together a team with leadership to build a strategic plan to look for reason it's there.

Scott Johnson - What's your vision for what that looks like?

Sharon Wallace - A small team of folks to talk about future of EMC, a strategic business plan, how often meetings should be held, who's involved. It's not defined because we want EMC to define it.

Scott Johnson - Aside from DOC, DOH, L&I, I've gotten calls from every state agency in Southeast Washington asking how to navigate this disaster. 'How do I do what is normal in a disaster event?'

Robert Ezelle - I like that point. Other thoughts?

Chandra Fox - A challenge with utilization of the Guard. Now there's an expectation with local agencies, food banks, or police that the Guard is just there and free. Need to educate that the Guard's use is atypical and what correct use and process is...lead time 72hhrs, how do we work with military department to educate them?

Robert Ezelle - Good point. And the National Guard has been in the jurisdiction advertising their capabilities. Need to educate on what that cost is and that the cost is born by the state. OFM's interpretation that the State pays for the National Guard could lead to others seeing the Guard as a free resource leading it to be the resource of choice.

Brendan Cowan - Need for liaison that ties local jurisdictions and state together, that's not Covid specific, just going forward.

Robert Ezelle - This is something we see over and over again when local counties are overwhelmed with disasters. There are 39 counties, 29 tribes so cannot do that on a large scale. We can do that in smaller events or are you looking for a local POC that's dedicated to you and a few other counties?

Brendan Cowan - Yeah, I want a familiarity and knowledge of each other before the event. The person comes and connects with us during blue skies.

Robert Ezelle - We have used our regional folks, Catlin, Hartman heavily. They are who we would lean on. Will get Annie and Patrick up to speed. What are other opportunities we could expand on? Are we doing the right level of touching base?

Scott Johnson - EMD staff is usually pretty candid. Anytime there's Covid info that can get lost in an EMD/DOH black hole it's frustrating.

Robert Ezelle - Ties into people knowing what their respective roles are. L&I we generally don't work with disasters on.

Jason Bierman - Much visibility on EM & public health. Public health could expand their case for additional funding. We need an AAR to see opportunities for outreach.

Chandra Fox - I echo what Jason just said. We need to be able to talk to and educate them about their responsibilities and our responsibilities are instead of being delivery boys.

Robert Ezelle - Got it

Scott Johnson - Our input was lacking in a lot of decisions. It could have been less if we had input from the beginning.

Robert Ezelle - We also have experienced this. Been our quest to inform, educate, mitigate the effects a number of times. We've been surprised by legislation without our input. Are there other opportunities? Want to take a look at risks? I can throw one out looking at the state budget – 9 BIL to 4 BIL shortfall. Cuts are coming. Do you see this happening at local levels?

Scott Johnson - Yeah. To avoid cuts we eliminated our 2% increase.

Robert Ezelle - We are looking at being decimated for the entire biennium but shifting costs so that we're not losing staff.

Chandra Fox -I've been trying to hire a Planning Coordinator. Had one that just passed the background check and I lost the position. Now I'm the deputy director and planning coordinator.

JoAnn Boggs - We're going through the budget & ID-ing cuts.

Robert Ezelle - Anyone else from urban core?

Laurel Nelson - We are a casualty of defunding the police department (PD) as we are part of PD. May get moved out of the PD with direct reporting to the mayor. We are in the hiring process for a new director around the new year. Could be layoffs in other departments.

Jason Bierman - Snohomish county is under a hiring freeze. Also doing furloughs. No department is spared from either. Made some cuts, mitigated through the budget process.

Robert Ezelle - Funding is a consistent theme going forward through our recovery process. What are other risks?

Laurel Nelson - Everyone is exhausted and at risk for long-term fatigue beyond 2020

Robert Ezelle - We're seeing it here too. Want 2020 to end. Fearing 2021 too and how can we leverage partnerships to build capabilities? Thank you to all that raised hands for the IA program; we'll be reaching out to EMC. Under

Sharon's talented leadership, we should have success. We need to take ownership of talking with state agencies. We have homework to do.

Jason Bierman - Be very careful about Covid bias. This is the incident of a lifetime. We'd be remiss if we focus energy and effort to make people take notice of other known events.

Robert Ezelle - These are some pretty good lessons for things like Cascadia

Brendan Cowan - Think about changing the charter so person setting the agenda, calling the meeting is outside EMD.

Robert Ezelle - Offered this last year with no takers. Will put on future agenda.

Sandi Duffey -Grant county is also involved with other cities radiological prep programs. Covid doesn't prevent a radiological release and to consider within exercises how to juggle these things during fires. Jason Bierman reached out to Okanogan County and told Maurice (Mo), "What do you want? What do you need? We'll get it to you." Maurice was blown away and pleased with the people being sent over. Those type of reach outs bond us together and are the only way some counties can continue moving forward. The ability to help our neighbors is where we need to start.

Robert Ezelle - In summary, for funding, this may be the only session to get it through. Meeting – one more meeting this year. Setting up meeting schedule for next year. What do you want the meeting schedule to look like in 2021?

Sanura Jackson-Diaz - In listening to all of you, I think you're best met with meeting bi-monthly.

Robert Ezelle - Any opposed. [Chat shows agreement from multiple parties, none opposed verbally or in chat.] We'll do bi-monthly starting in February. Will try to marry it with the EMC schedule and early in the month. This is the end of our agenda.

JoAnn Boggs - Jay Weise won his election, county election seat. [Congratulations all around]

Robert Ezelle - Great getting back together with all of you and looking forward to it in the future.

Meeting Adjourned at 1545