

SECC Meeting

September 14, 2021

The meeting started at 9:30 AM with the roll call. The minutes from the previous meeting were approved. There were no additions to the agenda.

This is Clay's last meeting as Chair. He has done it for 25 years. It has been an epic adventure and he would like to thank everyone for their support. He had no idea when he started that it would last this long.

Chris Utzinger is retiring from the state emergency management department. His replacement is Kevin Wickersham. Clay Freinwald is retiring from the chairmanship of the SECC. He will still have some involvement with the committee.

The National Weather Service is rolling out NWEM, Non-Weather Emergency Messages. More on that later in the meeting.

Monte Simpson will still be representing amateur radio on the committee. He couldn't be at the meeting today.

The WSEMA conference is coming up on September 22. Ted and Clay will be doing a presentation on WA-PAWS, the new Washington State emergency notification plan. Ted will be doing his Fred and Wilma routine. This involves audience participation.

James Kassen is the new Comcast representative on the committee.

Ross McDowell has left the Mason County EM and is now in Lewis County.

In old business, WA-PAWS (the Washington Alert and Public Warning Plan) is being launched. Clay would like to thank the participants in the Plan Revision Committee for their hard work. They also worked on the SECC's response to the FCC's EAS NPRM (Notice of Proposed Rule Making). The committee met twice a month for 2 years. It was literally done one tab at a time. This is much more than

EAS. It is more user friendly. It is organized into logical sections. The website is now up and running [here](#). The plan is still fluid. Suggestions are welcome. There will be no major changes in monitoring assignments.

In new business, Roland Robinson presented the proposed 2022 RMT (Required Monthly Test) schedule. It is based on schedules he has done in previous years and input from the originators. He has not heard back from all the local areas, but the consensus was that that should not hold up the approval of the plan. It helps everybody's planning if it is approved well before the beginning of the year. It was approved. Clay has received compliments on the layout of the schedule from other parts of the country.

There have been some RMT's and RWT's that have been missed by the originators lately. What can we do? It was suggested that reminders be sent out on the remailer. This has been done in the past. Roland said he would start doing it again if it would be helpful. It was suggested that it would be helpful if the LECC Chairs would also remind the originators a couple of weeks before-hand. Reminders would help the recipients, also. The emergency managers on the call also thought it was a good idea. John Price asked if all the emergency managers were on the remailer. If they aren't, they won't receive any reminders.

Clay proposed the 2022 SECC meeting schedule. It will still be on the second Tuesday on odd numbered months. It was approved. The meetings will be held on Zoom for the foreseeable future. Special meetings can also be called. Meetings normally start at 9:30 AM.

Elections were held. Ted Buehner was nominated for the chairman position. A vote was held, and he was approved. Lowell Kiesow and Charlie Osgood were nominated for vice-chair. Charlie declined and Lowell was elected.

Clay has been talking about the need for an administrative assistant. Since the SECC was founded, he has done almost all of the paperwork for the group. It was talked about at a recent plan revision meeting and Scott Sipe volunteered. He is in the Grays Harbor area and has been a great help in the plan revision process. He has been appointed administrative assistant.

Reid Wolcott did a short presentation on the Weather Service rollout of NWEM, Non-Weather Emergency Messages. Recently there was a presentation to the

state emergency managers. It was not recorded, but the slide deck is available from Reid or your local WCM (Warning Coordination Meteorologist). These alerts will be broadcast over NOAA Weather Radio. Currently staff is being trained. Tentatively, it will start October 1 in Seattle and December 1 at the other offices in the region. The Sage ENDEC's will be decommissioned. It will be announced on the remailer when that happens. The messages go through IPAWS. Local EM's must have a COG set up through the state in order to originate emergency messages. The normal emergency alerts will continue to be relayed. AMBER alerts will not be affected. Neither RMT's nor the national EAS test will be relayed at this time. This new system replaces HazCollect.

The technical committee reports that Grant County missed the September RMT. Overall, the national test went well. Premier Networks relayed the test without audio.

In training, Clay suggested that emergency managers could learn how to better leverage their relationship with broadcasters to their advantage. EAS is a well-established public-private partnership.

In the Central Puget Sound area, the August RMT was not sent. The September RMT ran OK. A reminder was sent to the September originator.

In the Columbia Basin local area, the annual nuclear powerplant exercise went perfectly.

The Inland Northwest LECC will be meeting again in October. Emergency management has been busy with fires and COVID during the summer months.

The Mason-Thurston LECC met via Zoom. The next meeting will be November 18. The transmitter for the Mason County LRN needs work.

In the North Central area, Sandi Duffy has left and is now in Adams County. Grant County did not originate their RMT.

At the Washington State EMD, a change in leadership has been taking place. They are now in Activation Level 2. It was at Activation 1 for 13 months. This has been a bad year for fires. We are still in fire season. They are still trying to set up a COG for every county.

Chris Utzinger is retiring after 13 years and moving to Montana. He wishes all the best and thanks us for all the great collaborations in the past, and he hopes they continue in the future.

At the weather service, there will be some changes to some of the weather alerts, especially those involving water. In the next five years advisories will be phased out in favor of weather statements. The National Weather Service offices will be represented at WSEMA. Reed will not be able to attend.

Carri Gordon reports that they are looking into using hyperlinks embedded in WEA for pictures. This is being done in other states. There are costs and staffing issues involved, but Cari is optimistic about it happening in the next few years.

The next meeting will be on Tuesday, November 9, at 9:30 AM, most likely on Zoom.

The meeting ended at 10:59 AM.

WA-PAWS – Tab B5	SECC 2022 Schedule	9.14.21
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2022 SECC MEETING DATES	LOCATION
Tuesday Jan 11	Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic - Most SECC Meetings will be virtual via Zoom until further notice.
Tuesday Mar 8	
Tuesday May 10	
Tuesday July 12	
Tuesday Sept 13	
Tuesday Nov 8	

Notes –

- The above schedule can be altered by the SECC as needed.
- The SECC may hold special meetings as required.

SECC MEETING ROLL CALL – SEPTEMBER 14, 2021

POSITION	NAME	PRESENT
Chair	Clay Freinwald	X
Vice Chair	Ted Buehner	X
WEMD Chair	Chis Utzinger	X
WEMD A&W	Tony Clark	X
NWS	Reid Wolcott	X
WEA -	Bill Peters	
Amber Coordinator	Carri Gordon	X
Eastern WA Leaders	Sandi Duffy	X
	Charlie Osgood	X
Data Base Mgr	Simone Ramel-McKay	X
FEMA Reg 10	Laura Goodreau	
	Lloyd Kimball	X
Technical Committee	Lowell Kiesow	X
Comm Systems Chair	Phil Johnson	X
Cable TV - Comcast		
Recording Secretary	Terry Spring	X
Amateur Radio		
Test Coordinator	Roland Robinson	X
WSAB	Keith Shipman	X

LECC Chairs

OPERATIONAL AREA	NAME	PRESENT
Central Puget	Phil Johnson	X
Clallam	Anne Chastain	X
Coastal	Pat Anderson	
Columbia Basin	Sean Davis	X
Cowlitz/Wahkiakum	John Mackey Beau Renfro	
Inland N.W.	Simone Ramel-McKay	X
Kittitas	Brad Tacher Bob Johnson	
Lewis	Larry Minor Scott Mattoon Andy Caldwell	
Mason/Thurston	John Price Tammy Wright	X
North Central	Charlie Osgood Sandi Duffy	X X
No. Puget Sound	Francis Burkhart	X
Okanogan	Maurice Goodall John Andrist	
Yakima	Mike McMullen	

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE

NAME	AFFILIATION	PRESENT
Doug Blangsted	Kitsap Co. DEM	
Jerry Olson	KBPX Spokane	X
Arthur Willetts	KWDK	X
Jarrold Dibble	Snohomish Co. EM	
Jim House	Coalition On Inclusive Emergency Planning	
Brady Aldrich	Northwest Public Broadcasting	X
Jesse Spurgeon	Cherry Creek Wenatchee	
Joshua Adkins	Pierce County DEM	
Jason Shirron	King County OEM	X
Hannah	Grays Harbor EM	
Sharon Point	E. Whatcom	
Zac	Pierce County EM	
Dave Turnmire	Idaho SECC Chair	
Hannah Eison	Quinault Nation	X
Theresa Rothweiler	Clallam County	X
Vickie Fontaine	Skagit County DEM	X
Cindy Braunheim	KOMO	X
Barry Mishkind		X