

EMAG

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT ADVISORY GROUP

Advises the Director of Washington Emergency Management on the distribution of Emergency Management Assistance Funds.

MINUTES

Thursday, October 7, 2021

conducted via TEAMS

1:00 pm to 4:00 pm

Meeting called to order at 1:00pm

by Adam Wasserman, Interim Assistant Director of Washington State EMD

Members

Quorum

Quorum met: Yes No

Attendees were noted from the TEAMS participant list and verbal confirmation for callers.

Member/Alternate

Member/Alternate

Counties

- | | |
|--------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> JoAnn Boggs | <input type="checkbox"/> Vacant |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Jay Weiss | <input type="checkbox"/> Vacant |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Vacant | <input type="checkbox"/> Vacant |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Deanna Davis | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sandi Duffey |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Chandra Fox | <input type="checkbox"/> Vacant |

- | | |
|-------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Scott McDougall | <input type="checkbox"/> Brendan Cowan |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ron Cameron | <input type="checkbox"/> Willie Bence |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Eric Brooks | <input type="checkbox"/> Vacant |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kurt Hardin | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jason Biermann |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Brendan McCluskey | <input type="checkbox"/> Alysha Kaplan |

Cities

- | | |
|-----------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Chris Alexander | <input type="checkbox"/> Carl Lunak |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Tory Green | <input type="checkbox"/> Ute Weber |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Patti Jean Hooper | <input type="checkbox"/> Vacant |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Curry Mayer | <input type="checkbox"/> Laurel Nelson |

CRESA

- | | |
|---------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Scott Johnson | <input type="checkbox"/> Vacant |
|---------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------|

Tribes

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cherrie May | <input type="checkbox"/> Vacant |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Ada McDaniel | <input type="checkbox"/> Steve De Los Angeles |

Guests

- | | | |
|----------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sean Davis, Franklin County | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sandi Eccker, Thurston County | <input type="checkbox"/> Jody Ferguson, Pierce County |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Scott Honaker, Snohomish County | <input type="checkbox"/> Liz Jessee, Walla Walla County | |

Director's Office

- | | |
|---------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Robert Ezelle | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adam Wasserman |
|---------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|

Supporting Staff

- | | | | |
|---------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sanura Jackson-Diaz | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tirzah Kincheloe | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Troy Newman | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Michael Roberson |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Will Vance | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sharon Wallace | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sierra Wardell | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kevin Wickersham |

Adam Wasserman confirmed a quorum was present.

Minutes from June 3rd, August 5th meetings and September 5th special meeting were approved unanimously.

EMAG Charter Meeting

Chandra Fox

EMAG members met on September 16th to vote on the new charter.

- Revisions to the charter were approved unanimously.
- The election process is the next step and will be discussed later in today's meeting.

Preparedness Grants Funds Update – *slides presented*

Sierra Wardell and Tirzah Kincheloe

18/19EMPG fund allocation and closeout status

- 70 of 71 19EMPG Agreements closed
- Snohomish reallocation agreement ended 9/30/2021
- 19EMPG Performance Period ended 9/30/2021
- We are in the 90-day closeout period

20 EMPG Status

- Awarded \$4,462,926
- Expended as of 9/30 \$2,528,437
- Current balance \$1,934,489

20EMPG-S Status

- Awarded \$1,717,531
- Expended as of 9/30/2021 \$950,729
- Current Balance \$766,802
- Grant agreements end 12/31/2021
- Final reimbursements due 2/15/2022

21EMPG and 21EMPG-ARPA

- In review and finalization period
- Tribal review panel cancelled due to sufficient funding
- Internal deadline to have all agreements issued to locals and tribes NLT 11/30/2021

EMPG-S Clarification

- We received clarification that 50M appropriated through the continuing resolution under EMPG is supplemental.
- FEMA Region X was interpreting that it was a down payment on FY22
- Sierra requested we have limited workload to avoid having multiple applications with multiple agreements.
- Tirzah will follow-up once they know more.

- The Charter provides that there is a chair and chair elect within EMAG
- At the December meeting we will have elections for both a chair and chair elect
- We included both positions to build succession and continuity into the structure
 - The Chair will serve as EMAG chair from 1 Jan 2022 – 31 Dec 2022
 - At the Dec 2022 meeting, we will elect a new chair elect and the previous chair elect will move to chair on 1 Jan 2023 and the cycle will continue from there.
 - Consider who you would like to nominate as chair and chair elect
- Chart now allows for delegation so the EMAG member does not need to be the EM of the jurisdiction
- Purpose is not only to guide the EMPG allocation philosophy but to support the overall growth and development of emergency management across the state
- Priority issues include
 - Vacancies in our sectors need to be filled
 - Need to have a role in governor’s pandemic AAR task force – 1 from east side, 1 from west side of state. We need input from all of our EM organizations and to support that process.
 - The introduction of the community lifelines construct
 - EMPG program requirements question of credentialing will be a requirement, want to make sure we’re not setting up our smaller jurisdictions for failure.
- Brendan McCluskey – What is the process for nomination?
- Chandra Fox – We can accept nominations now, which should be directed to Adam and at the December meeting we’ll call for nominations from the floor.
- Send nominations to Adam Wasserman and cc Sanura Jackson-Diaz
 - Adam Wasserman – Email is fine, and we’ll open the floor at last meeting, throwing names out now, is okay
 - Brendan McClusky nominated Chandra Fox to be the chair

EMC Overview

Jason Biermann

- The EMC Charter was updated a couple months ago.
- Still waiting to add positions that were legislated
 - Coroner/Medical Examiner
 - 2 Tribal Representatives – we are waiting to hear from Robert on how that nomination will work.
- Robert Ezelle – That was Jim Baumgart who is working on letter for the governor to send out to the tribal leaders to nominate individuals with emergency management expertise to represent the tribes on the council.
- Community lifelines 20 - They’ll be an ask from EMC to EMAG to look at this as well, how best to ask EMs how this changes how we do business.
- Bringing THIRA/SPR into EMC. We’re working with EMD staff to create communication that we can push out to state agencies
- An RCW mandated function of EMC is to provide a good assessment to the Governor and to TAG. This year we focused on the pandemic. In the upcoming year we’ll align the report with the legislative budget process.
- Chris alexander – Congratulations to Jason Biermann for graduating EMI National Emergency Management Executive Academy.

Open Forum

EMAG Membership

- Deanna Davis – On membership, with Sandi moving out of the alternate county position, is an alternate a nomination that should be sent to you?
 - Robert Ezelle – Yes, gen the nominations come out of the groups, we just approve them and seat them.
 - Sandi Duffey – The mid-size counties that Deanna is mentioning, they have 2 council representatives so it’s not necessarily an alternate. When EMAG started, we said it was easy to name each other as an alternate.
 - Robert Ezelle – Thanks for clarification. We’ll look at the charter, but that could be correct.
- Scott Johnson – How much longer will we be facilitating PPE?
 - Sharon Wallace – So far as we understand the distribution by us should end by October 31. Normal supply chains are available. Many counties do have supplies on hand. The State Dept. of Health will maintain a

backstock should the situation become worse in the future. The Dept. of Health is reexamining that and intends to have a plan available next week.

- JoAnn Boggs – So they say the supply chains are stocked, but today in the EMC meeting, our hospital said in a panic that they were not able to get gowns. We do have a few hundred gowns here that we were trying to get to them. So I think there are still some things out there that are not easy to get.
- Robert Ezelle – intent of the back stock is to maintain some stock on hand at the state under dept of health so that if you do have supply needs in your hospitals that need can be filled.

EMD Program Updates

Select EMD Staff

E911 – Adam Wasserman

- We are still pushing to have text to 911 available in all PSAPs and are still on track to do that.
- CRSC/Crisis Response Improvement Strategy Committee which came out of the 988/suicide hotline that was passed, 1477, they had their first meeting, and we are representing the 911 community on that.

Operations – Sharon Wallace

Preparedness – Troy Newman

- CEMP – Michael Roberson
 - It's time to update CEMP.
 - Link is in the chat for the emergency planning resources page – <https://mil.wa.gov/planning-resources>
 - To see what kind of planning support we provide and how to request that offer contact us via emdcmreview@mil.wa.gov or contact Kayla Eicholtz directly.
 - Other tools include the CEMP checklist, planning engagement guide, templates for each of the ESFs which are based on the core capabilities, LEP best practices templates, evacuation planning templates, and capability development templates to identify capability gaps.
 - In coming months we'll add resources to the site to incorporate Community Lifelines.
 - If you need to push back your deadline, please contact us.
- IPPW – Will Vance
 - Integrated Preparedness Updates for 2022
 - We'll have closer integration with THIRA/SPR data
 - Instead of one IPPW with a morning session and afternoon workshop, we're looking at holding the workshop portion ahead of the capstone meeting, and then have the Integrated Preparedness Plan draft out ahead of the capstone meeting.
 - We will use the pre-IPPW worksheet as we have the last few years to prioritize resources provided by WA EMD to support local jurisdictions.

Response – Sharon Wallace for Kevin Wickersham

- EOC is still supporting DSHS in the arrivals of Afghan refugees
- Also supporting DOH's response to medical capacity needs
- Logistics program will be recruiting soon for an EMPS2 coordinator position
- The Alert & Warning Center is recruiting an EMPS2 duty officer and will recruit for another before the year ends

Mitigation/Recovery – Sharon Wallace for Stacey McClain

- Open Hazard Mitigation Assistance Grants the 4584 and 4593, application packages are due Dec. 10th.
- The 2021 post-fire, there 8 qualifying FMAGs this year for a total of 7.3 million and those pre-applications will be accepted through Nov. 12th.

- 2021 BRIC and FMA, for those that were invited to submit their full application packages is Nov. 8th
- The email address for Hazard Mitigation information was placed in the chat – hma@mil.wa.gov for other questions.
- Covid numbers are almost 2 billion spent to date and more than 900 million in recovery funding.
- The Human Services Appliance Grant is up and running; 1 million approved for Douglas, Okanogan, Pierce and Whitman for 2020 fire victims. Grant applications are being accepted through long-term recovery groups for those counties with the exception of Pierce who is accepting applications – application period closes June 2022.
- Washington Restoration Framework is Complete and in the Governor’s office.
- LEP program, 2021 legislative report that is due Dec. 1st is near completion
- Reminder we have an LEP coordinator available to assist counties in the development of their LEP plans
- Funeral assistance – only 26% utilized compared to 44% nationally.

Director’s Office- Robert Ezelle

- We are still working on an updated position description and banding of the Deputy Director position.
- State HR has advised of a change they wish to be made. We hope to get it finalized and banded in the next few weeks.

Covid-19 Status and Fire Season

Robert Ezelle

Covid-19 Update

- We see case counts starting to come down.
- Looking at one scenario where things may plateau around late November, Christmas time at a level that’s consistent with what we looked like going into the last wave.
- Then they have a more moderate scenario where they can see it coming down at the end of November and then as a result of relaxation in distancing and masking, start picking back up again more in line with the second and fourth waves.
- Hospital capacity is dire. They’re not sure what would happen with people that have flu and covid at the same time.

Fire Season

- We’re at the tail end of it.
- This fire season will rank #3 in terms of total acres burned.
- 680,000-690,000 acres burned

Closing Comments

Robert Ezelle

- Next meeting is December 2, 2021, 1:00-4:00pm
- Email Chair/chair elect nominations to Adam and Sanura before the meeting, but we will open the floor for nominations on Dec. 2nd.
- Adam Wasserman will send the members list out.

Meeting Adjourned at 1:59 p.m.