

Washington SECC Meeting Minutes

March 8, 2022

The meeting was called to order at 9:30 AM by Chair Ted Buehner with the roll call. The minutes from the previous meeting were approved. There were no additions to the agenda.

Announcements

The SECC will be making a response to the FCC Deaf and Hard of Hearing Clarity NPRM. The feds are looking to add clarity to EAS messages and how they are displayed on television and cable TV. We are working with Keith Shipman (Washington State Association Of Broadcasters). The deadline is April 12.

The Cybersecurity & Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) has some useful information. They are presenting a series of courses that would be helpful for anyone involved in Public Alert and Warning. Look [here](#).

Sirius/XM will begin sending a RWT weekly. They can be used as a Primary Entry Point (PEP), especially if you don't have reliable reception of the conventional PEP radio stations. This action was a lesson learned from last year's national NPT.

The 2022 Partners in Emergency Preparedness Conference will occur on April 5-7 at the Lynnwood Conference Center. See [this](#) webpage to register. The agenda is posted on the website, and includes several public alert and warning related presentations.

Old Business

Work continues to complete the new WA-PAWS plan. On the WA-PAWS webpage (click [here](#)), a few more tabs are in draft and/or in review.

- A4 Guide to the Washington State Plan – almost done.
- C6 WEA – It is in draft.
- C7 Cable System Information – It is still under review by James Casson.
- D3 Operational Area Plan Links – Washington State EMD will host the local plans or provide a link to each local plan. Clallam County plans to have their updated plan ready this summer.

- D4 Multilingual Info By County - A draft has been forwarded to Washington State EMD for review.
- F5 Link to SECC Meeting Minutes - The state will host two years of minutes. Older minutes will be available from the SECC by request.
- F4 Technical FAQ's - Scott Sipe and Lowell Kiesow are working on it. Suggestions are welcome.

The old State EAS Plan webpage will be deactivated soon.

New Business

The Active Shooter Alert bill (H.R. 6538) was discussed. Upon review by several jurisdictions and stakeholder, this Congressional Bill has a number of unintended consequences. Example include: EAS and WEA alerts cover too big an area, the alert could help the shooter and alert them to a police response, a Law Enforcement Warning (LEW) event code already exists, it can take too long to launch this warning message, urban areas do well with cell phone tower geo-targeting but rural areas not so well with far fewer cell towers, currently only 34% of phones can do geo-targeting, there is also no way of controlling how people program their phones, many people turn off the alert sound or block alerts entirely. The WSAB reported that this bill is politically sensitive, but is not likely to even get a hearing let alone pass Congress. Keith has been working with the NAB (National Association of Broadcasters) on this. Nothing more is going to be done on this unless the bill actually gets a hearing.

The Clallam County LECC is reactivating and plans to have a meeting sometime later this month. They hope to have an updated plan in place this summer.

Committee Reports

Ted is still pushing FEMA for a national EAS training program. More training for emergency message originators and recipients is needed to help all involved.

The RMT reminders from Roland Robinson have been a big help.

Local Area Reports

In the Central Puget Sound LECC, the state EMD did the February RMT for Island County. Grays Harbor won't be including Jefferson County in their RMT until the situation there is resolved.

Grays Harbor is working on their local plan update. The local PSAP/911 is doing tests on their LRN (Local Relay Network). Their LECC has been meeting quarterly.

The Inland NW LECC is still updating their local plan and making progress.

Between COVID, weather and personnel changes, the Mason/Thurston LECC has not been very active lately. They are planning on getting back together when things settle down.

The North Central LECC successfully did their March RMT conducted by Grant County.

In Yakima, they are trying to restart their LECC.

Stakeholder Reports

The WSAB reports the Washington State Legislature just passed a bill regarding Missing Indigenous Women alerts. They will be handled similar to Silver Alerts with no EAS or WEA activation, instead being handled as news stories and posted on WSDOT Variable Message Signs. They are also assisting with comments on the deaf and hard of hearing NPRM.

The National Weather Service has been meeting with WEMD in preparation of, once again, starting to broadcast AMBER Alerts on all NOAA Weather Radio stations statewide.

Please share future agenda items with SECC Administration Assistant Scott Sipe at scott.sipe@alphamediausa.com. Scott compiles the agenda.

The meeting ended at 10:28 AM.

The next meeting will be on Tuesday, May 10, 2022, at 9:30 AM, possibly meeting in person for the first time since the pandemic started - in Ellensburg. Zoom will still be a meeting option.

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 – JANUARY 11, 2022

POSITION	NAME	PRESENT
Chair	Ted Buehner	X
Vice Chair/Tech Committee	Lowell Kiesow	X
Chair Emeritus	Clay Freinwald	
WEMD Chair	Kevin Wickersham	
WEMD A & W	Chris Phillips	X
WEMD Multilingual	Lewis Lujan	
NWS	Reid Wolcott	X
WEA -	Bill Peters	
Amber Coordinator	Carri Gordon	
Eastern WA Leaders	Sandi Duffy	
	Charlie Osgood	X
Data Base Mgr	Simone Ramel-McKay	X
FEMA Reg 10	Laura Goodreau	
	Lloyd Kimball	X
Comm Systems Chair	Phil Johnson	X
Cable TV - Comcast	James Casson	
Recording Secretary	Terry Spring	X
Administrative Assistant	Scott Sipes	X
Amateur Radio	Monte Simpson	
Test Coordinator	Roland Robinson	
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	
Lewis	Larry Minor Scott Mattoon Andy Caldwell	
Mason/Thurston	Tammi Wright	X
North Central	Charlie Osgood	X
No. Puget Sound	Dave Halloran	
Okanogan	Maurice Goodall John Andrist	
Yakima	Mike McMullen	X

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE

NAME	AFFILIATION	PRESENT
Doug Blangsted	Kitsap Co. DEM	
Jerry Olson	KBPX Spokane	
Arthur Willetts	KWDK	X
Jarrold Dibble	Snohomish Co. EM	
Jim House	Coalition On Inclusive Emergency Planning	
Brady Aldrich	Northwest Public Broadcasting	
Jesse Spurgeon	Cherry Creek Wenatchee	
Joshua Adkins	Pierce County DEM	
Jason Shirron	King County OEM	X
Hannah Cleverly	Grays Harbor EM	X
Sharon Point	E. Whatcom	
Zac	Pierce County EM	
Dave Turnmire	Idaho SECC Chair	
Hannah Eison	Quinault Nation	
Theresa Rothweiler	Clallam County	
Vickie Fontaine	Skagit County DEM	X
Cindy Braunheim	KOMO	
Barry Mishkind		
Jordon Hanes	Columbia County	
Andy Laneweaver	State 911	
Justine Chorley	Clallam County	
Carl Lunak	City Of Bellevue	
Nick Falley	Grays Harbor County	X
Brian Daley	A.T. & T.	
Peter Musgrove	A.T. & T.	
Willie Bence	Jefferson County	
John Price	Mason/Thurston Co.	
Jason Clapp	Franklin County EM	
Chris Lee	Franklin County EM	
Jordan Hanes	Franklin County EM	
Carole Woods	Clallam Red Cross	X
Ed Taylor	City of Lacey EM Coordinator	X
Jacqueline Myer	W. Pierce County EM	X
Mathew	Redmond ARES	X
Jay Jones	AE1J-Puget Sound Fire	X
Julie Winkler	City Of Tacoma EM Coordinator	X
Bryan Clark		X