

EMAG

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT ADVISORY GROUP

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

MINUTES

Thursday, February 3, 2022

conducted via TEAMS

1:00 pm to 4:00 pm

Meeting called to order at 1:22pm

by Robert Ezelle, 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ashley Strickland | <input type="checkbox"/> Scott McDougall | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Brendan Cowan |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sandi Duffey | <input type="checkbox"/> Vacant | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ron Cameron | <input type="checkbox"/> Willie Bence |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Vacant | <input type="checkbox"/> Vacant | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Eric Brooks | <input type="checkbox"/> Vacant |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Deanna Davis | <input type="checkbox"/> Vacant | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Lis Klute | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jason Biermann |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Antone Miller | <input type="checkbox"/> Vacant | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jody Ferguson | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sandy Eccker |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Chandra Fox | <input type="checkbox"/> Vacant | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Brendan McCluskey | <input type="checkbox"/> Alysha Kaplan |

Cities

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Chris Alexander | <input type="checkbox"/> Vacant |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Vacant | <input type="checkbox"/> Vacant |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Vacant | <input type="checkbox"/> Vacant |
| <input checked="" 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

- Tammi Wright, Mason County

Director's Office

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

Supporting Staff

- | | | | | |
|--|---|--|--|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> John Hollingsworth | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sanura Jackson-Diaz | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sharon Wallace | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sierra Wardell | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kathryn Zetzer |
|--|---|--|--|--|

Adam Wasserman confirmed a quorum was present.

Minutes from December 2, 2021 were approved unanimously.

Proceeded out of order from the agenda to accommodate attendees' competing schedules.

EMC Overview

Jason Biermann

- An update from Nate Weed at DOH indicates Covid numbers are looking better throughout the state.
- Discussed Senior Advisory committee convening more frequently.
- There was a work session on the upcoming annual report to the Governor. Draft expected by next EMC meeting with a target submission in June. The report focuses on:
 - Covid response – public/private partnership and utilization of incident management teams.
 - Wildfire response from summer 2021

Preparedness Grants Funds Update – *slides presented*

Sierra Wardell and John Hollingsworth

Preparedness Grants Staffing Updates

- John Hollingsworth is the Acting EMPG Program Manager while Tirzah Kincheloe is out
- Josh Castillo is the new Program Coordinator for Regions 1 & 5

19EMPG Closeout Status

- Final Report submitted to FEMA on 12/29/2021
- \$0 funding returned

20 EMPG-S Closeout Status

- Passthrough Funds:
 - Awarded \$1,721,767
 - Expended as of 1/26 \$1,222,466
 - Balance \$499,300
- Final reimbursements due February 15, 2022
- Projected local turnback: about \$13,365 will be returned to FEMA
- Final Closeout documents due to FEMA April 26th, 2022

20EMPG Status

- Passthrough funds:
 - Awarded \$4,520,352
 - Expended as of 12/31 \$3,813,279
 - Balance \$707,073
- Remaining final reimbursements due February 15, 2022
- Projected local turnback is about \$169,065
- Final closeout documents due to FEMA December 29th

21EMPG Status

- Received 70 applications, 70 finalized
- Agreement end date 9/30/2022
- Passthrough Funds:
 - Awarded \$4,608,824
 - Expended as 1/31 \$152,047
 - Current balance \$4,456,777
- Not accepted/unallocated funds: \$0

21EMPG-ARPA

- Received 56 applications, 56 finalized
- Agreement end date 12/31/2022
- Passthrough Funds:
 - Awarded \$1,724,847
 - Expended as of 1/31 \$0
 - Current Balance \$1,724,847
- Not accepted/unallocated funds: \$233,163
 - County first right of refusal: \$64,003
 - Remaining \$169,160

Available Funding for Reallocation

- 20EMPG is approximately \$364, 636 and expected to increase slightly as final reimbursements are processed; includes adjustment of funds to closeout 19EMPG
 - King \$45,393
 - Snohomish \$1,619
 - Remaining \$317,624
- 20EMPG-ARPA unaccepted amount \$233,163
 - King \$53,948
 - Thurston \$10,055
 - Remaining 169,160

EMPG Reallocation Timeline

- December 2022 mtg: EMAG generates project ideas
- February 3, 2022 mtg:
 - Solicit project ideas for 20EMPG and 21EMPG-ARPA
 - Reallocation decision/plan to reach a decision
- September 30, 2022: 20 EMPG special project(s) complete and grant performance period ends
- December 2022: 21EMPG reallocation process begins
- September 30, 2023: 21EMPG and 21EMPG-ARPA special projects(s) complete and grant performance period ends
- EMAG members discussed the reallocations
 - Sandi Duffey – Suggested reallocated funds used for public outreach and education to reach the population with language barriers; items regarding evacuation, Ready Set Go materials.
 - Sandi Duffey –\$5,000 would work for Adams county public outreach
 - Jason Biermann can get a HAMWAN update next week
 - Sierra Wardell will get status of CEMNET
 - Members agreed to getting updates by February 11th and then conduct and email vote the following week.

Operations – Sharon Wallace**Mitigation/Recovery – Sharon Wallace for Stacey McClain**

- They have submitted BRIC and FMA application packages to FEMA equaling about 95M
 - Projects address flood, earthquake, drought, and climate resilience.
 - Projects are from Walla Walla, Clallam, Seattle, Pierce county, Aberdeen, King county, Ocean Shores, Shoreline, Auburn, Covington, and Issaquah
 - FEMA will announce its selections in the summer.
- For the 4481 HMGP application round
 - The Mitigation team has reviewed almost 200 proposals worth a total of 2.4B;
 - Applications are due to EMD by April 14th.
- 2021 post-fire round
 - Mitigation held a webinar for all those invited to apply
 - Full applications are due in April
- Human Services has the Joint Field Office (JFO) with FEMA to support counties and tribes under disaster 4635
 - -Individual assistance was approved on 1/5/22
 - Public Assistance has also been approved
 - -Housing has been a challenge and we've coordinated a housing support function to move people from hotels to longer term housing
- Public Assistance's (PA) JFO has 5 active disasters and could be adding a 6th
- PA has submitted a Major Disaster Declaration add-on to 4635 for the counties: Clallam, Island, Jefferson, Lewis, San Juan, Skagit, and Whatcom. We're waiting on the response.
- PA program initiated an IDA for January 1-16, 2022 severe storms and flooding. We're anticipating a joint FEMA-State PDA the week of February 7th.

Preparedness – Sharon Wallace for Troy Newman

- They're continuing with their CR22 planning.
- The MyShake App launched last week.
- Tsunami AAR occurred last week resulting in valuable feedback to include in our SOPs.
- The LEPC HazMat conference will be virtual this year in April & May.

Response – Sharon Wallace for Kevin Wickersham

- Continuing Response operations for Covid, Afghan arrivals, and European green crabs
- Kevin is reviewing candidates for the EMPS3 Credentialing Program Manager position.
- The supervisor for the Alert & Warning Center has departed. Chris Phillips, an SEOO is filling in, and we're preparing for that recruitment.
- We're validating the Covid AAR survey instrument, and then should be able to send it out.

Current Legislative Session*EMAG Members*

HB620 Weather Shelters – Adam Wasserman

- Put in by Rep. Leavitt, it's the extreme weather shelter bill that would set up a reimbursement grant program in EMD to reimburse counties that don't have the resources to stand up heating or cooling centers in times of declared disasters involving extreme heat or cold.
- An amendment added to it was to include situations where wildfire smoke has reduced the air quality.
- The bill made it through the fiscal committee and is at Rules now.

SB5693 Fiscal Biennium supplemental operating appropriations – Brendan McCluskey

- Includes federal ARPA money for the state to administer EMPG Grants. Does that mean the State won't take any EMPG money on that this year?
- Adam and Sierra haven't heard on it, it's not in Nancy's notes. Sharon will ask Nancy for info on it.
- Brendan McCluskey dropped a reference to it into the chat.

Biennium 23-25 Legislative Discussion

EMAG Members

- What other things should EM develop legislation around?
- No input from group received and so it we'll come back to it.

EMAG Workplan Development

Chandra Fox

- A strategic plan for EMAG is unnecessary as the role of the group is well defined already.
- Would like a workplan as many things are changing within state, changing at federal level that will impact the state.
- The EMAG meetings could be work sessions and work on priority projects during scheduled meetings.
- EMAG is subcommittee of EMC and some priorities that EMC has that would be appropriate for EMAG to work on.
- We have an effort headed up by Troy Newman for the revision of WAC 118.30, how can EMAG support that project? The 118.30 is our primary rule.

Pandemic AAR

EMAG Members

- The Governor's statewide pandemic AAR task force has been seated.
- Includes more than 50 people attached to the task force.
- Ruckelshaus is facilitating it.
- Adam Wasserman can send out the list of the agencies represented.
- Two seats are for Emergency Management:
 - counties west of Cascade crest, Brendan McCluskey of King County
 - counties east of the Cascade crest, Chandra Fox of Spokane County.
- Ashley Strickland - Any follow-up from the AAR Robert started for EMD's AAR response.
- Sharon – Yes, we're in process of developing out a survey tool that you'll all receive. That's just the first step in collecting information regarding EMD's response.

Covid-19 Status, Fire Season, and PPE Distribution

Robert Ezelle

Covid-19 Update

- Indications are that we are on the backside of the curve for omicron.
- Working with DOH to address issues of hospital capacity.
- Working with Dept. of Veteran's Affairs on the Veterans' hospitals

Flooding

- We were successful the IA and PA major disaster declaration for the November major atmospheric river event; just shy of 4M obligated and around 1500 applicants.
- We are getting in the last of initial assessments for damages in the January storms and working on extension request for a major disaster declaration.

PPE

- Any questions on PPE, please send to Robert and he'll get them to the right people.
- County request slides show for Tier 1 70-75 total requests in last full week of January.
- Ashley Strickland – Are logistics coming back out to the county EMs?
 - Robert to follow-up with him next week.

Open Forum

EMAG Members

- Chandra Fox - This is Chris Alexander's final EMAG meeting. He is retiring as Mukilteo Fire Chief; this will leave us with no representatives for small and medium cities.
- Sierra Wardell - SB5693 was in the budget for this year, not new language, just giving us the federal appropriation authority, because it's new funding they're calling it out specifically.

Closing Comments

Robert Ezelle

- Next meeting is April 7, 2022, 1:00-4:00pm

Meeting Adjourned at 2:35 p.m.