

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

MINUTES

Minutes of Meeting October 6, 2022,

Meeting called to order by JoAnn Boggs, Acting Chair, 9:04 AM

In Attendance – Introduction of Attendees

JoAnn Boggs requested the status of quorum; **Sharon Wallace** confirmed quorum was achieved.

Approval of Minutes

JoAnn Boggs, Acting Chair

Quyen Thai motioned to approve August 4, 2022, minutes as submitted.

Chandra Fox seconded the motion.

Without objection, the council unanimously approved the minutes as submitted.

Call To Order

JoAnn Boggs, Acting Chair

JoAnn Boggs opened the floor for discussion on the subcommittee reports for the WAMAS subcommittee.

No discussion presented.

- The Seismic Safety Subcommittee is creating a charter and it will be discussed further in the December meeting.

Opening Comments

Brigadier General Dent, Robert Ezelle, Sonja Hallum

Brigadier General Daniel Dent gave opening remarks on behalf of Major General Daugherty and thanked everyone for attending the meeting today. He was pleased to announce our continuing relationship with the Secretary of State for election security. He also noted that a small communications contingent that was sent to Florida in support of Hurricane Ian.

Robert Ezelle introduced himself as the Director of the Washington Emergency Management Division. Robert mentioned that it has been a mild fire season, but it's not over yet, estimating ~190,000 acres burned at season's end. Legislative decision packages have been submitted to the Office of Financial Management. Had an opportunity to speak with Community and Economic Development Committee of the House on resiliency and what that looks like.

Sonja Hallum introduced herself as the Governor's Senior Policy Advisor for Public Safety. The Governor's Office is focusing on developing the budget due December 20. For the upcoming session the Governor is going to be focusing on four primary areas: housing and homelessness, public safety, issues related to reproductive rights, environment and climate issues.

Regional Issues Impacting Washington

Willie Nunn, Regional Administrator, FEMA Region X

Willie Nunn, FEMA Region X shared that the CREW Act was passed by President Biden last week. The CREW Act gives job protections for reservists when they deploy to major disaster and emergency declarations to ensure their jobs are protected back home.

FEMA is supporting disasters in Washington, Oregon, and Alaska, as well as on the East Coast.

Regarding the Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities' program or the BRIC grant program. The application period is open until January 27. The non-financial direct Technical Assistance program to has been expanded to 40 communities.

- Local jurisdictions are encouraged to develop project applications in coordination with the state.
- Tribes can directly apply with FEMA or coordinate project application through the state as subrecipients.

Joann Boggs opened the floor for any questions.

No questions presented.

Open Public Forum

JoAnn Boggs, Acting Chair

Open to questions or discussion.

No discussion presented.

Current and Recurring Emergency Management Issues

Stacey McClain, EMD

EMD Operational Update

Stacey McClain, EMD on behalf of **Kevin Wickersham, EMD** gave an SEOC and Operations Unit Update.

- Stacey gave SEOC and EMD updates offering to answer any questions that may come up. Highlights included:
 - The SEOC continues to be activated at Level 2, which is a partial activation. Staffed up given increases in fire activity lately in monitoring activities. Activated with a Supervisor and Operations Section Chief, Logistics Section Chief, and PIO. The Public Assistance group activated for fire management assistance grant monitoring and activities. GIS specialist working as well in addition to ESF 5, 7, 8, and 15 monitoring the mutual aid picture across the country.
 - COVID-19 Update – Governor Inslee announced he's going to terminate a few of the remaining proclamations for the COVID-19 activation on October 31.
 - Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza – Deactivating ESF 11. Planning for a potential IMT deployment if a large detection for commercial or producers along that side. If any detections in smaller backyard flocks that's handled through the Department of Agriculture's programs.
 - European Green Crab infestation continues to be an aggressive response, led through Department of Fish and Wildlife in partnership with the Ecology and DNR and the tribes and the locals and the shellfish producers.
 - Flood Season - Preparing for flood season and meeting with the US Army Corps of Engineers, National Weather Service, and other key partners in preparation.
 - Monkey Pox – ESF 8 is remaining active to monitor.
 - As the elections approach, November 8, working with National Guard and their planning process for any potential civil disturbances

Work Session: DOH Medical Reserve Corps Bill Discussion

Andy Rose, Dept of Health

Andy Rose, Assistant Secretary, Washington State Department of Health made a presentation (see PowerPoint) on the Department of Health's Medical Reserve Corps Bill.

Chandra Fox asked if the DOH has given any thought to identifying partners to come in and work and staff a family assistance center following a mass casualty incident and creating a strike team that would support family assistance centers.

Andy Rose answered they've had that conversation about how to continue to help support building out that capability.

Quyen Thai asked how the volunteer capacity currently looks and does the DOH need volunteers?

Andy Rose answered there's always a need for volunteers. With the ability to support and provide that liability protection and deployment capability we can only focus on a very narrow set of clinical volunteers that the state Department of Health has the legal authority to register and deploy, depending on if we have a governor's proclamation or not.

- Trying to move to a more robust system.
- If you want to register, please do.

Work Session: WAMAS Membership

JoAnn Boggs, Mark Douglas

Mark Douglas, Logistics Section Supervisor, EMD, talked about the Interstate Mutual Aid Subcommittee, chaired by Robert Ezelle. Current members are Bill Gillespie and Kirk Holmes. A need for two volunteers to fill the vacancies within that subcommittee.

- Trying to make improvements to the interstate mutual aid program and how that process works and how we could better fund it.
- Recently updated and changed the operations and deployment guide. It's currently awaiting signature at this point.

Robert Ezelle added that this subcommittee has identified some very significant mutual aid shortfalls in the legislation. It's a great opportunity to partner with us to figure out how we make a system better and form it into something that is going to be beneficial to our partners across the state.

Work Session: EMC Chair Nominations

JoAnn Boggs nominated Chandra Fox from Spokane for EMC Chair.

Quyen Thai seconded the nomination.

EMC Chair nomination to be voted on at the December EMC meeting.

Closing Remarks

Robert Ezelle expressed his appreciation for the informative discussion and said we will keep you posted on the cyber grant as that evolves and anything else that's the interest to the community. Look forward to seeing you all at the next meeting.

Adjournment

Joann Boggs, Acting Chair

Meeting Adjourned at 9:54 AM

Attendees

EMC Members and Alternates

Position	Name	Council Position (RCW 38.52.040)	6-Oct
1	Fred Brink	Primary Association of WA Business	
Pos 1 Alt	VACANT	Primary Association of WA Business	
2	Stephanie Wright	WA State Association of Counties	
Pos 2 Alt	Gene Strong	WA State Association of Counties	
3	Chief Scott Engle	WA Association of Sheriffs and Police Chiefs	X
Pos 3 Alt	Chief Peter Fisher	WA Association of Sheriffs and Police Chiefs	
4	Chief John Batiste	Washington State Patrol	
Pos 4 Alt	Arel Solie	Washington State Patrol	X
5	Robert Ezelle	EMD Director	X
Pos 5 Alt	Sharon Wallace	EMD Deputy Director	X
6	Jim Pendowski	Dept of Ecology	X
Pos 6 Alt	VACANT	Dept of Ecology	
7	Chief Chad Cross (as of 11.2021)	WA State Fire Marshal's Office	X
Pos 7 Alt	Melissa Gannie	WA State Fire Marshal's Office	
8	Chief Michael Harris	WA Association of Fire Chiefs	X
Pos 8 Alt	Chief Brian Schaeffer	WA Association of Fire Chiefs	
9	Hilary Franz	Department of Natural Resources	
Pos 9 Alt	Casey Hanell	Department of Natural Resources	X
10	Chandra Fox	Washington State EMD Association	X
Pos 10 Alt	Kyle Bustad	Washington State EMD Association	X
11	JoAnn Boggs	Local Emergency Managers Directors	X
Pos 11 Alt	VACANT	Local Emergency Managers Directors	
12	Bill Gillespie	St of WA Search & Rescue Volunteer Advisory Group	
Pos 12 Alt	John O'Rourke	St of WA Search & Rescue Volunteer Advisory Group	
13	Andrew Rose	Department of Health	X

Pos 13 Alt	Ron Weaver	Department of Health	X
14	Quyen Thai	Washington Association of Building Officials	X
Pos 14 Alt	Ryan Mumma	Washington Association of Building Officials	
15	Greg Welch	Private Industry	X
Pos 15 Alt	Gary Chandler	Private Industry	
16	John Himmel	Washington State Department of Transportation	X
Pos 16 Alt	VACANT	Washington State Department of Transportation	
17	Kirk Holmes	American Public Works Association	
Pos 17 Alt	Jennifer Bailey	American Public Works Association	X
18	Martin Mueller	Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction	X
Pos 18 Alt	Mike Donlin	Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction	
19	Nick Henderson	Coroner/ME	
Pos 19 ALT	Dr. Nicole Yarid	ME/Coroner	X
20	Chief Jasper Bruner	Federally Recognized Tribe (Western Washington)	
Pos 20 ALT	VACANT	Federally Recognized Tribe (Western Washington)	
21	VACANT	Federally Recognized Tribe (Eastern Washington)	
Pos 21 ALT	VACANT	Federally Recognized Tribe (Eastern Washington)	