

Washington SECC Meeting Minutes

March 7, 2023

The meeting was called to order at 9:30 AM by Chair Ted Buehner followed by roll call. The minutes from the previous meeting were approved and posted [here](#). There were no additions to the agenda.

Announcements

Lowell is working on the FCC ARS submission for WA-PAWS. He is using the information that the State of Idaho provided. He plans to have it done soon.

The National Weather Service will phase in the adoption of a new upper limit for the alert duration of NOAA Weather Radio All Hazards SAME Alerts. All NWS Weather Forecast Offices will enable the use of the 99.5-hour alert duration by July of 2023.

There have been issues with the DASDEC boxes not being updated. This will be required before the new FCC rules go into effect in December. A FAQ for DASDEC users is being created.

The date for filing the ETRS Form One has passed. Many people encountered problems on the FCC end. If you missed the February 28th deadline, or have updated information, the FCC encourages you to still file. For more information, see the Public Notice [here](#).

There is a new update to the FCC EAS Handbook. Find it [here](#), near the bottom of the page. It is an FCC requirement that a copy be kept at the main control point of a broadcast station.

Old Business

The next meeting of the SECC is scheduled for May 9. The plan is to meet in person in Ellensburg. Details will be on the remailer. Zoom will also be available.

Updates to [WA-PAWS](#), the new state Emergency Alerting plan continues. This is a living breathing document subject to frequent updates. If you see something that needs an update, please share that on the remailer.

TAB B-1 Bylaws: Still being worked on.

FAQ: DASDEC info should be done soon. Any suggestions for any technical subjects should be shared with Scott Sipe.

New Business

The National Weather Service sometimes uses non-EAS Codes. The recent example was a Snow Squall Warning that tended to confuse some EAS ENDECs.

The Central Puget Sound local area plan is being updated and is nearing completion. Confidential information in the plan itself will be in appendices and distributed separately to stakeholders. The rest of the plan will be available on-line. The updated Clallam Local Area plan applied the same strategy. This concept needs to be considered when a local plan is being updated.

A firmware update for the SAGE ENDECs is planned to be available in June to be in compliance with new FCC rules effective December 12, 2023. The firmware will involve a modest cost.

Ted will be giving a presentation at the Partners in Emergency Preparedness Conference in April on the change from EAS to WA-PAWS in Washington State.

Committee Reports

Tech: Besides KOMO, other organizations might have to experience of going from one ENDEC to another.

Training: FEMA has scenarios on their website for events other than weather, such as hazmat, active shooter, train derailment, wildfires, earthquakes, and volcanoes. They have quarterly organized exercises. See [here](#). Please make other suggestions for the new tabletop exercise tab for WA-PAWS to Ted.

RMT: Roland has been sending out reminders to RMT originators. They are appreciated and seem to be helping. We will start working on the 2024 schedule in September with the goal of having it finalized by the November meeting.

Local Area Reports

The Coastal area has had an LECC Meeting and is focused on updating their local plan and their local relay network. Their next meeting is in June. They expect to have everybody in Grays Harbor County on their relay network this year, then will work on Pacific County.

The North Central area had their first LECC Meeting in some time and was hosted by Chelan County Emergency Management. They agreed to meet twice a year. Grant County Emergency Management was supposed to originate the March RMT. It was being used as a training exercise. It got interesting when it was

discovered that they could not connect to the FEMA IPAWS site. They tried to have state duty officers originate the RMT, but they require three days' notice.

They contacted RIVERCOM, the other originator for the area, and they were able to do the RMT on short notice. The problem was resolved by reloading their FEMA credentials back into their Everbridge software. This issue should be checked periodically. Chris from Washington Emergency Management said that they will discuss their 3-day policy to differentiate between an originator not planning to do their assigned RMT and having an emergent last minute problem crop up.

Note that FEMA Certifications have an expiration date and might have to be re-entered into an organization's alert software when renewed. Organizations that originate alerts should track and be aware of their certification's expiration date.

In the Okanogan, emergency management has established good relations with the local radio stations. Maurice will contact them during an emergency and give them information they can use on the air.

In Yakima, the LECC met in February. They expect to have 5-6 meetings this year. Besides the broadcasters and emergency management, they have invited other groups that would enhance their emergency messaging. The last meeting covered information from the last SECC Meeting. They also looked at less than successful emergency messages from the last 50 years. It provided some context about how challenging emergency messaging can be.

Stakeholder Reports

WASHINGTON EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT DEPARTMENT (WEMD): They are considering a change in IPAWS providers due to cost increases with their current provider.

WASHINGTON STATE ASSOCIATION OF BROADCASTERS (WSAB): Keith Shipman, along with some Washington broadcasters and other state broadcaster associations, met with the FCC Commissioners lately. The focus was local journalism, but they also touched on EAS. Keep in mind that, even though our state plan is WA-PAWS and covers many different types of alerting, the FCC is only interested in EAS.

The meeting ended at 10:35 AM.

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

The next meeting will be on Tuesday, May 9, 2023, at 9:30 AM, possibly in-person in Ellensburg and via Zoom.

2023 SECC MEETING DATES	LOCATION
Tuesday Jan 10	Anticipate SECC Meetings will remain virtual via Zoom until further notice, apart from perhaps a few well-advertised exceptions.
Tuesday Mar 7	
Tuesday May 9	
Tuesday July 11	
Tuesday Sept 12	
Tuesday Nov 14	

Notes –

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

To subscribe to the Washington State EAS remailer, follow this [link](#).

SECC Members

POSITION	NAME	PRESENT
Chair	Ted Buehner	X
Vice Chair	Lowell Kiesow	
Chair Emeritus	Clay Freinwald	
WEMD Chair	Kevin Wickersham	
WEMD A&W	Chris Phillips	X
WEMD Multilingual	Lewis Lujan	X
NWS	Reid Wolcott	
WEA	Bill Peters	
Amber Coordinator	Carri Gordon	
Eastern WA Leaders	Sandi Duffy	X
	Charlie Osgood	X
Data Base Manager	Simone Ramel-McKay	
FEMA Reg 10	Lloyd Kimball	X
Technical Committee	Lowell Kiesow	
Comm Systems Chair	Phil Johnson	X
Cable TV - Comcast	James Casson	
Administrative Assistant	Scott Sipe	X
Recording Secretary	Terry Spring	X
Amateur Radio	Monte Simpson	X
Test Coordinator	Roland Robinson	
WSAB	Keith Shipman	X

LECC Chairs

OPERATIONAL AREA	NAME	PRESENT
Central Puget	Phil Johnson	X
Clallam	Anne Chastain	
Coastal	Pat Anderson	
Columbia Basin	Sean Davis	
Cowlitz/Wahkiakum	John Mackey Beau Renfro	
Inland N.W.	Simone Ramel-McKay	
Kittitas	Brad Tacher	
Lewis	Ross McDowell	
Mason/Thurston	Sonya Kroese	
North Central	Charlie Osgood Brady Aldich	X X
No. Puget Sound	Dan McDermott Dave Halloran	
Okanogan	Maurice Goodall John Andrist	X
Yakima	Angela Brown Mike McMullen	X

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE

NAME	AFFILIATION	PRESENT
Liz Jessee	Walla Walla Co. EM	
Jerry Olson	KBPX Spokane	
Arthur Willetts	KWDK	
Bryan Clark	KITCOM	
Jim House	Coalition On Inclusive Emergency Planning	
Peter Tassoni	TC EM	
Scott McDougall		
Hans Kahl	Skagit DEM	
Joshua Atkins	Pierce Co. DEM	X
Jason Shirron	King County OEM	
Hannah Cleverly	Grays Harbor EM	
Cindy Braunheim	Sinclair	X
Ed Taylor	City Of Lacey	
Dave Turnmire	Idaho SECC	
Barry Mishkind		
Pascal Schuback		
Justine Chorley		
Megan Woods		
Patrick Purcell	Walla Walla CTY EM	
Arianna Topbjerg	COTEM	
Whitney Maxwell	Yakima	X
Lisa Figueroa	City Of Redmond EM	X
Andrew Bigelow	Yakima Valley EM	X
Tyler Heinemann	Bainbridge Prepares/Bainbridge BEARS	X
Nick Falley	Grays Harbor County EM	X
Anna Piasecki	Jefferson County DEM	X
Tammi Wright	Mason County EM	
Brady Aldrich	Northwest Public Broadcasting	X

SIRIUS/XM EAS TEST SCHEDULE

<u>Date</u>	<u>Time (ET)</u>	<u>EAS Test Type</u>
Thursday, December 29, 2022	10:46 AM	Weekly / Weekly Salvo
Friday, January 6, 2023	2:16 PM	Weekly / Weekly Salvo
Tuesday, January 10, 2023	11:46 PM	Weekly / Weekly Salvo
Wednesday, January 18, 2023	10:46 AM	Monthly / Jan Monthly Salvo
Thursday, January 26, 2023	2:16 PM	Weekly / Weekly Salvo
Tuesday, January 31, 2023	3:46 AM	Weekly / Weekly Salvo
Monday, February 6, 2023	2:46 PM	Weekly / Weekly Salvo
Thursday, February 16, 2023	10:46 AM	Weekly / Weekly Salvo
Wednesday, February 22, 2023	2:46 AM	Monthly / Feb Monthly Salvo
Sunday, February 26, 2023	11:46 PM	Weekly / Weekly Salvo
Tuesday, March 7, 2023	3:46 AM	Weekly / Weekly Salvo
Monday, March 13, 2023	2:46 PM	Weekly / Weekly Salvo
Wednesday, March 22, 2023	11:46 AM	Monthly / Mar Monthly Salvo
Friday, March 31, 2023	10:46 AM	Weekly / Weekly Salvo
Thursday, April 6, 2023	11:46 PM	Weekly / Weekly Salvo
Tuesday, April 11, 2023	3:46 AM	Weekly / Weekly Salvo
Wednesday, April 19, 2023	3:46 AM	Monthly / Apr Monthly Salvo
Sunday, April 23, 2023	2:46 PM	Weekly / Weekly Salvo
Monday, May 1, 2023	10:46 AM	Weekly / Weekly Salvo
Tuesday, May 9, 2023	11:46 PM	Weekly / Weekly Salvo
Thursday, May 18, 2023	3:46 AM	Weekly / Weekly Salvo
Wednesday, May 24, 2023	10:46 AM	Monthly / May Monthly Salvo
Saturday, June 3, 2023	2:46 AM	Weekly / Weekly Salvo
Friday, June 9, 2023	10:46 AM	Weekly / Weekly Salvo
Tuesday, June 13, 2023	11:46 PM	Weekly / Weekly Salvo
Wednesday, June 21, 2023	2:46 AM	Monthly / Jun Monthly Salvo
Thursday, June 29, 2023	3:46 AM	Weekly / Weekly Salvo
Friday, July 7, 2023	2:46 PM	Weekly / Weekly Salvo
Saturday, July 15, 2023	10:46 AM	Weekly / Weekly Salvo
Wednesday, July 19, 2023	11:46 AM	Monthly / Jul Monthly Salvo
Sunday, July 23, 2023	11:46 PM	Weekly / Weekly Salvo
Tuesday, August 1, 2023	3:46 AM	Weekly / Weekly Salvo
Monday, August 7, 2023	2:46 PM	Weekly / Weekly Salvo
Tuesday, August 15, 2023	10:46 AM	Weekly / Weekly Salvo
Wednesday, August 23, 2023	3:46 AM	Monthly / Aug Monthly Salvo
Thursday, August 31, 2023	11:46 PM	Weekly / Weekly Salvo
Friday, September 8, 2023	3:46 AM	Weekly / Weekly Salvo
Saturday, September 16, 2023	2:46 PM	Weekly / Weekly Salvo
Wednesday, September 20, 2023	10:46 AM	Monthly / Sep Monthly Salvo
Sunday, September 24, 2023	10:46 AM	Weekly / Weekly Salvo
Monday, October 2, 2023	11:46 PM	Weekly / Weekly Salvo
Tuesday, October 10, 2023	3:46 AM	Weekly / Weekly Salvo

Wednesday, October 18, 2023	2:46 AM	Monthly / Oct Monthly Salvo
Thursday, October 26, 2023	2:46 PM	Weekly / Weekly Salvo
Friday, November 3, 2023	10:46 AM	Weekly / Weekly Salvo
Saturday, November 11, 2023	2:46 AM	Weekly / Weekly Salvo
Tuesday, November 14, 2023	3:46 AM	Weekly / Weekly Salvo
Wednesday, November 22, 2023	11:46 AM	Monthly / Nov Monthly Salvo
Thursday, November 30, 2023	2:46 PM	Weekly / Weekly Salvo
Friday, December 8, 2023	10:46 AM	Weekly / Weekly Salvo
Tuesday, December 12, 2023	11:46 PM	Weekly / Weekly Salvo
Wednesday, December 20, 2023	3:46 AM	Monthly /Dec Monthly Salvo
Thursday, December 28, 2023	10:46 AM	Weekly / Weekly Salvo