

# Minutes

## WAVOAD General Membership Meeting April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2025 at NOAA facilities, Seattle

DATE	April 1, 2025
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TIME	10:13 AM
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MEETING CALLED TO ORDER BY	Kathy Bryson
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### IN ATTENDANCE

Kathy Bryson, UMCOR; Jim Mahon, Churches of Scientology Disaster Response; Carlene Anders, OKG LTR; Christie Merrill, American Red Cross; Lisa Arellano, Salvation Army; Sean Jones, Salvation Army; Chris Aronen, FEMA; Taylor Dietz, WA EMD; Jill Watson, City of Seattle ESF 6; Reid Wolcott, NOAA (host); Terri Cooper, Mayor Medical Lake; Mike Reidy, Sound Transit

**THE MINUTES FROM FEBRUARY MEETING HAD BEEN PREVIOUSLY SENT OUT AND REVIEWED. JILL FROM CITY OF SEATTLE HAD A FEW REVISIONS WHICH KATHY WILL MAKE. CHRISTIE MOVED TO ACCEPT, LISA ARELLANO SECONDED. MINUTES FOR FEB. MEETING APPROVED AT 10:20**

### FINANCIALS

Via email Treasurer Ray Sherjven presented the balances; Savings - \$5,148.70; Checking - \$17,542.83.

One new expense is WAVOADs own business Zoom account, moved over from Jewish Federation account we had previously used.

Jim Mahon moved to accept the financials; Christie Merrial seconded, financials were approved.

### REPORTS

President Kathy Bryson thanked everyone for attending and NOAA for hosting. All in attendance introduced themselves and the group they represented.

She also updated us on past President Marty Grisham's condition, still fighting Influenza A, some days are better than others. He should be in our prayers and well wishes.

Next to discuss was the upcoming NVOAD Conference in Nashville, May 19<sup>th</sup> -23<sup>rd</sup>. WAVOAD is granting 2 scholarships, one for Lisa from SA and one for Ray from ---also attending will be Carlene Anders Kathy Bryson and?.new paragraph

Also reported was a grant from resolution for Walmart online form for April

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The Mountain West forward conference will be in Idaho. Jim Cooper from United Way will be attending. It will be also attended by our Salvation Army reps as the convention or conference itself will be on a Salvation Army site. Joava Good from Utah Church of Scientology will be the Mountain West chair.

The partners in emergency preparedness we're having their conference on May 15th through the 17th. It had been slated to be an in person event but was changed to a virtual event still at the same price. Christy Merrill from the American Red Cross was planning to attend.

Washington State Emergency Management association we'll have their conference on September 22nd through the 25th at Northern Quest resort and casino near Spokane.

There will be a fire recap May 12 -13 in Ellensburg with WAS DNR, a free event that is also hybrid.

Report outs:

Jill from City of Seattle – NIH HIS conference was cancelled. Accessibility and Functional needs Conference, free, May 6-7 in Seattle.

World Renew – Randy Bode has moved and Jay DeBoer returns (!).

Our new member at large is Lary Maze from Adventists. We look forward to having Larry on the Leadership team.

Next we had a report out on our government resources. Taylor from Washington EMD told us of an e-mail delivery system at the bottom of the Emergency Management website where you could subscribe for information on Washington state.

LTR report from Spokane LTR those of eight homes rebuilt 2IN stages, 12 more seeking funding and help dollarFEMA award.

The state legislature as a wildfire caucus working on more fire detection, prevention etcetera as well as recovery period also setting up a reserve fund.

We had reports now from members in attendance.

Sean Jones from Salvation Army said they will be at the Mountain West since they were Co hosting. They will have their own conference in Montana in September, also one for Southern Idaho and Eastern Oregon. DCM project is ending in June. Current wildfire preparation mode and creating intenseSs. There are also preparations for internal COOP Continuity of Operations – plan that should be ready in a year or so.

American Red Cross will be in June and with their smoke alarm program plus education on wildfires for the rest of the state.

Jim from churches of Scientology disaster response updated us on their ability to deliver CPR certification and training, which now entails an online course that must be done first but means that it doesn't take so long for the in person delivery part..

Jim from Churches of Scientology Disaster Response response updated us on their ability to deliver CPR training. The process now in an online course that must be done prior to the in person training, which makes for a much shorter time to deliver.

Carlene Anders from OK LTR reported that Alta Dena has red line problems; Maui is finally going well. There are problems with the process of getting and establishing DCRM s across the country; she is helping with establishing a COAD in Okanogan, In Colville, a fire in December took out some guardrails and there is some problems resolving who's going to pay-the state or the tribe or?

Kathy updated us on UMC activities. They had an emergency training response class for about 20 people. They're still waiting to hear back on the Spokane LTR grant. They have hygiene and muck out kits that they can share. UMC Still very active on the LA recovery hand Maui.

Jill Watson from City of Seattle reported that the all the long range planning is for the World Cup in 2026. There will be many components and they must have teams picked by June 7<sup>th</sup>. They're also going to involve more counties than just King County to get a plan for the region and building off of each other's experiences.

Chris from FEMA told us of several changes of course in their agency; lots of freezes though not on IAs. Not sure exactly when grant review gets done. There is an engagement freeze and he must get logistics and financial approval before engaging or even coming to a meeting like ours. Internal budget is frozen and there is a hiring freeze. No permanent administration changes. They may be doing a survey meeting talking about the future of FEMA.

Taylor from Washington state E MD told us of the state budget deficit and the new governor was reducing funding 6%. There is hope that they'll be able to use an Emergency Management fund set up by the legislature. Funding for the bomb cyclone is being stretched up to June 30th the end of the fiscal year. They are also involved in preparations for the World Cup in 2026 extreme weather grant has expired and Zach from the department will be going to Mountain West conference.

Mike Reidy from Sound Transit reported that they are of course highly involved in preparations for the World Cup dealing with mass care, heat, and hydration and setting up cooling stations. They are looking at setting up incident command system certification and establishing a COOP. Anyone can attend their next board meeting at Union Station, Seattle, in May.

Our host from NOAA, Reid Wolcott, was next. They were holding heat workshops on May 14th and 15th. The outlook is for moderate drought, June through September we'll have an increased risk as usual. Re: the Alaska volcano eruption he directed us to the NOAA website. The wildfire outlook is normal for Washington state. There is no good signal right now, hard to predict the timing. He explained that the winds following the bomb cyclone we're downslope winds that did the damage and not the cyclone itself which occurred several hundred miles off the coast.

He shared with us the 24/7 support for on duty meteorologists at [nws.seattle@noaa.gov](mailto:nws.seattle@noaa.gov). And also his information [reid.wolcott@noaa.gov](mailto:reid.wolcott@noaa.gov). He shared a new PDS red flag warning system for Particularly Dangerous Situations When conditions are extreme as in above the 99th percentile. This will require collaboration with as an emergency managers to make sure there is a consistent message appropriate to the situation.

We then all got to go out onto the floor and see the facilities with each no a person having five monitors in their workstation to stay on top of any activities or events. We were all impressed with the scope of the facilities and the agencies ability to coordinate with other stations in real time to get a handle and prediction on whether events since whether knows no boundaries. NOAA Was b by our president, Kathy, for hosting us and being part of our resources. With that the meeting was adjourned at noon.

- Review of upcoming fiscal year
- Employee education programs – trainings & opportunities
- Patent application process – in progress

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Date and venue for the company holiday party have been confirmed. More details coming soon.

## **NEXT MEETING**

October 28<sup>th</sup>, conference room A