

**TOWN OF LA CONNER**  
**EMERGENCY MANAGMENT COMMISSION MEETING**

**August 22, 2023**

---

Commissioners present: Bill Stokes, Gerald George, Duane Carpenter, Doug Asbe (over zoom), James White

Commissioners absent: Jamie Throgmorton

Staff Present: Scott Thomas, Councilman Rick Dole also present

---

1. The Emergency Management Commission meeting was called to order at 4:37 PM in Upper Maple Hall.
2. The minutes of the August 8, 2023 meeting were unanimously approved.
3. Public Comment: Ted Taylor shared that he was excited to be here. He is the emergency management coordinator for Fire District 13.
4. Old Business:
  - a. Brian Lease is meeting with the Upper Skagit Tribe on September 1<sup>st</sup> to discuss flood protections.
  - b. Temporary Flood Measures: None of the approved expenses from last meeting went through. Brian Lease is working with the Dike district to see if he can borrow the sandbag machine. If unable to borrow the sandbag machine, he is looking into getting pre-filled sandbags.
  - c. Commissioners discussed who issues flood watch for the Skagit River. USGS or Army Corp issues the flood watch for Skagit River Flooding and warns the public of potential river flooding.
  - d. Commissioners decided to leave costal flooding on the agenda for future discussion.
  - e. Commissioners discussed heat events and triggers for cooling rooms. La Conner must ask permission of the school and library to allow community members inside to cool off during these heat events.
  - f. Commissioner George brought up the recent fires in Hawaii as an example of how important disaster recovery is to small communities. Commissioner Stokes spoke about ways to ensure that community members get adequate notice of emergencies. Commission discussed various methods of altering the community to disasters.
5. New Business:
  - a. Administrator Thomas spoke about how La Conner needs to come up with a strategic plan in order to establish a comprehensive emergency management plan.
  - b. Commissioners discussed a tide gauge and possible data collection on the Channel.

The next meeting of the Emergency Management Commission will be on September 12, 2023. With no further business the meeting was adjourned.



Chair



Date