

Jefferson County Homeland Security and Emergency Management

All Hazards Mitigation Plan and Risk Assessment Update

October 23, 2012 2:00pm

Meeting Minutes

Attendees: Doug Britvec, JH Consulting (via telephone); Jennie Brockman, Jefferson County Planning and Zoning; Mason Carter, Jefferson County Department of Engineering; Terri Mehling, Jefferson County Homeland Security and Emergency Management; Barbara Miller, Jefferson County Homeland Security and Emergency Management; Sallie Edwards, Citizen; Jessica Gormont, Jefferson County GIS Department; Sandy Hite, Jefferson County Health Department; Matt Piepenburg, Jefferson County Public Service District; Jeff Polczynski, Jefferson County Emergency Communications Center; Neal Nilsen, Ask Neal; Debbi Palmer, Eastern Panhandle Chapter American Red Cross; and Nancy Williamson, Harpers Ferry Job Corps Center

Terri Mehling provided attendees with a copy of the minutes from the September 18, 2012 meeting; Pages 10 thru 29 of the 2008 version of Volume 1 – Action Plan; and the 2012 Annual Review of the Risk Assessment and Mitigation Plan.

The attendees were requested to review the Action Plan section and provide any additional information/ suggestions on the data included in this portion of the document.

Ms. Mehling has notes on certain goals/objectives/strategies that she would like to discuss. Following are comments that were made in regards to any changes that should be considered. Also attendees provided insight as to where some information may be found and the organizations that can be contacted to access additional data.

Ms. Mehling asked Doug Britvec whether the 2013 document will be considered a new document where all previous comments/revisions are deleted. Mr. Britvec said that status information will be included in the analysis section of the document to show mitigation strategies that have been identified and completed.

Objective 3.6

3.6.1 -- Ms. Mehling noted that the Map Modernization Program is complete and a new strategy from FEMA needs to be included – Risk Mapping, Assessment, and Planning (Risk MAP). Risk MAP builds on flood hazard data and maps produced during the Flood Map Modernization (Map Mod) program. Mr. Britvec will research this topic.

Objectives 4.1 and 8.1

Ms. Mehling discussed public warning notification. JCHSEM is currently implementing an account via NIXLE whereby citizens can sign up to receive notifications that are issued from the JCHSEM. JC ECC is in the process of implementing Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) within the next nine months which may also include the capability for Reverse 911 notifications.

Objective 4.2

Mason Carter noted that laminated glass is not a requirement in the building code in new buildings. It will be revised to encourage the use of laminated glass in new construction.

Objective 7.1

7.1.1 – This was determined as a new strategy in 2008. The Land Use Map from the Planning Department may be helpful. This strategy should stand as it is and note that funding has not been identified in order to complete this strategy.

7.1.2 – This strategy will be deleted as recommended by the committee.

Objective 8.1

8.1.4 – Ms. Mehling will contact Charlotte Hernandez-Velez, the County's IT staff person, to find out if this strategy has been completed.

Objective 9.3

9.3.1 – Debbi Palmer provided some information on this strategy. Shelters are not wired to accommodate generators. She is discussing with the Senior Center to have a Briggs & Stratton generator installed. The generator was donated to the Red Cross. This is considered as a whole house generator but Ms. Palmer did not have the specifications of the generator. This is ongoing. Sandy Hite would like the Status Notes to be revised to remove the POD site designations of T.A. Lowery Elementary School and Wildwood Middle School. Also reword to not be specific to Pandemic Flu but rather any health related emergency.

Objective 11.1

11.1.3 – This strategy needs to be reworded due to the elimination of the color code DHS threat level system. JCHSEM will coordinate with local media to alert the public to any threats that may be imminent in the County. This is an ongoing strategy.

Objective 11.2

11.2.4 – Sandy Hite provided information pertaining to the Health Department working on a Mass Fatalities Plan that may be completed within two years and hope to hold a conference in Fall 2013 on the topic.

Objective 13.1

13.1.2 – Materials to be developed would be a product of the Convention and Visitors Bureau. A new director has been hired and should be contacted to pursue this strategy. Mr. Britvec noted that the text in the Funding column should be revised to read "...\$3,000 for generation of materials"

13.1.5 – Reword to show that Red Cross classes include Adult, Infant and Child CPR, AED, Basic First Aid, and basic disaster classes. This is ongoing.

13.1.9 – Flood Mitigation Materials should be distributed via Town Halls. This would need to be coordinated with each town/mayor.

Objective 13.2

13.2.1 – There is now a Regional Animals in Disaster Plan and JCHSEM has been able to purchase a Pet Response Trailer with equipment through grant funding. JCHSEM is seeking funding sources to conduct training for volunteers in the implementation of a pet shelter. The training would be conducted by the Humane Society of the United States (HSUS).

Objective 13.5

13.5.3 – Mason Carter will check into the status of this strategy. **NOTE:** Mr. Carter followed up with Ms. Mehling that nothing has changed or been revised in the county's plans.

Objective 13.7

13.7.1 – Ms. Miller clarified the strategy. The LEPC wanted to expand it's mission to encompass all hazards however, it's mission is determined at the federal level. Expanding the mission from hazardous materials to all hazards was struck down. Ms. Mehling will ask John Mills, President of the LEPC if this strategy can be deleted or reworded. **NOTE:** Ms. Mehling spoke with Mr. Mills on 11/20/12 and discussed this strategy. Mr. Mills agreed that the wording should only reflect expansion of the membership of the LEPC and not the mission at this time.

Objective 13.8

13.8.1 -- Revise according to 4.1 and 8.1 that CAD will be implemented within nine months to one year.

Objective 13.9

13.9.2 – This strategy should be deleted.

Objective 13.10

13.10.1 and 13.10.2 – The Mayor of Harpers Ferry and the Director of the Harpers Ferry National Park Service have been sent an email from Ms. Mehling asking for input on this strategy. Ms. Mehling will follow up.

A discussion of possible new strategies occurred. Ms. Mehling suggested the following:

- Encourage agricultural producers and dairies to plan for power outages and install backup power supplies. This should include an assessment of the applicability of renewable energy sources as a potential backup power supply. Coordinating agencies would be Farm Services Bureau, WVU Extension Office, JCHSEM. Mitigation Type: Prevention, Structural Project

There was some discussion about dam failures, however dam plans are the responsibility of the dam owner and plans do exist. Law enforcement is responsible for any evacuation efforts. This will be reflected in the risk assessment plan.

A discussion on solar flares occurred. It was decided by the committee to not include solar flares as a hazard being that there is not a mitigation strategy that can be implemented.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 3:15pm. The next meeting will be November 27 at 2pm.

Each municipality needs to have one active goal, objective and strategy.

The meeting adjourned at 4:00pm.