

**Sangamon County Multi-jurisdictional Natural Hazards Mitigation
Plan Task Force
Meeting Minutes
November 14, 2007**

	Oct.	Nov.
TASK FORCE MEMBERS		
SSCRPC – Mike Galco, Chair	X	X
Auburn – Mike White	X	X
Buffalo – Charles Thaxton	X	X
Cantrall – Brian Oliver	X	
Curran – Chris McDaniel	X	X
Dawson – Jamie Sponsler	X	X
Grandview – Colleen Dallaus	X	
Illiopolis – Rayeana Stacey	X	
Jerome – Greg Hashman	X	X
New Berlin – Terry Nydegger	X	X
Pleasant Plains – Kevin Kesselring	X	X
Riverton – Rich Pottier	X	X
Rochester – Derrick Pehlman	X	X
Sherman – Jay Timm		X
Southern View – Hilda Mangiaracina	X	X
Springfield – Al Pinter	X	X
Thayer – Brian Wood		
Williamsville – Paul Osman	X	X
Sangamon County – Linda Fulgenzi	X	
Abraham Lincoln Capital Airport – Tim Franke		X
Ameren – Craig Gilson		X
American Red Cross – Amy Eden & Colleen Stone	X	X
CMS – Diane Hoots	X	X
CWLP Water Division – Ted Meckes		
IL Emergency Mgmt. Agency – Ron Davis	X	
Mid IL Medical District Commission – Michael Boer		X
Rural Electric Convenience Cooperative – Louis DeLaby		X
Sang. Co. Dept. of Public Health – James Henricks	X	
Sang. Co. Dept. of Zoning and Bldg. Safety – Mike Ashenfelter	X	X
Sang. Co. Farm Bureau – Craig Hall	X	
Sang. Co. GIS Dept. – Tracy Garrison		X
Sang. Co. Highway Dept. – Brian Davis	X	X
Sang. Co. Office of Emergency Mgmt. – David Butt		X
Spfld. Building & Zoning Dept. – Suzann Weissberg	X	X
Spfld. Homebuilders Association – Steve Sturm	X	X
Springfield Park District – Chuck Smith	X	
Spfld. School Dist. #186 – Dave Smith	X	
Spfld. Metro Sanitary District – Bob Leinweber	X	
UIS – Don Mitchell	X	X
Jeff Ehrlich – Citizen Member	X	
Greg Michaud – Citizen Member	X	X
Carolyn Patterson – Citizen Member	X	
STAFF:		
Linda Wheeland	X	X
Abby Johnson	X	
OTHERS:		
Steve Sullivan		X
Sheila Sullivan		X

Call to order:

Chairman Mike Galco called the second meeting of the Sangamon County Multi-jurisdictional Natural Hazards Mitigation Plan Task Force to order.

Approval of minutes:

Galco entertained a motion to approve the October meeting minutes. Chris McDaniel made a motion to approve the October minutes. Don Mitchell seconded this motion. The vote to approve was unanimous.

Updates:

Linda Wheeland welcomed the Village of Divernon to the task force as well as new technical partners the Mid-IL Medical District Commission, Abraham Lincoln Capital Airport, Sangamon County GIS Department, Rural Electric Convenience Cooperative, CWLP Water Division and the Springfield Mass Transit District.

Wheeland explained the meaning of the logo for the task force. Greg Claxton, who did a lot of work on this project before he moved to Texas, designed it. The idea behind the logo is that the outline of Sangamon County is surrounded by the color red indicating unsafe areas, and green within the county lines indicating safe areas as a result of this plan.

Wheeland announced that the "List of Documents" form should be submitted to her if not tonight, prior to the next meeting.

Wheeland announced that the Village of Jerome had included a link to the Hazard Mitigation Plan website (<http://www.co.sangamon.il.us/NHMP>) on their website. She pointed out that any community that has done this should let her know because this counts as community participation. She thanked those communities that have done so already.

Wheeland announced a display had been handed out to each community to be put up at the locations they choose. There is an example in the hallway for everyone to see. There is a flood map for each community to include in the display. Also, the citizen surveys should be made available with the display. She also asked the communities to submit any changes on their critical facilities maps.

Report of Risk Assessment Committee:

Greg Michaud served as the spokesperson for the Risk Assessment Committee. He started out by describing the meaning of a risk assessment. He explained it is merely the likelihood of a natural hazard to cause damage to human health and property within Sangamon County. The risk assessment that the committee discussed will be outlined in four steps.

The first step is identifying the hazard and determining which hazards are more likely than others to occur in central Illinois. Tornadoes, severe winter storms, floods, severe storms and extreme heat are the most common natural hazards the risk assessment committee has identified. Earthquakes, drought, dam failure and mine subsidence have been included also.

Michaud explained the second step in the risk assessment process is profiling the hazard. This will include putting together a base map to show where these hazards occur.

The third step Michaud noted is to identify and inventory all assets. This is where the help of all the communities will come into play.

The fourth step is putting a value to these assets. This is a difficult task and one option the Risk Assessment Committee discussed was to take an average dollar amount per square foot based on the

use of the building. If assessed value is available in the property tax records this amount converted to market value will be used. This will require help from community members and those on the task force. Michaud explained that an individual from the insurance business would be important in this step as well as help from any FEMA resources. Michaud welcomed questions and there were none. Wheeland explained that the risk assessment will hopefully be complete by the January meeting and at that point it will be important to begin working on the goals for this plan.

Mission Statement

Wheeland asked the task force if there were any recommendations for change to the sample mission statement that was handed out at the first meeting. David Butt mentioned adding “and the County as a whole” to the end of the mission statement. Wheeland noted that the County is considered a participating community. Galco entertained a motion to approve the mission statement as it originally read. Butt made a motion to approve the mission statement. Greg Hashman seconded the motion. The vote to approve was unanimous.

Citizen Survey

Galco noted that it would be best to go through the citizen survey question by question.

Hazards & Experiences Table: Derreck Pehlman suggested adding tornadoes and mine subsidence.

Question #1: Mitigating natural hazards means reducing the damage/hardship that can result from them. What actions do you think could be taken by individuals or the community to reduce damages/hardships caused by natural hazard events? On question number one, Colleen Stone said that “mitigation” is a term that not everyone understands. She suggested adding a definition at the beginning of the survey. Diane Hoots thought flipping the first sentence in order to define “mitigation” would be a good idea. Butt noted that the first sentence should be at the top of the page, omitting this sentence from question number one altogether.

Question #2: Where do you go for information when a natural hazard occurs near you? Rich Pottier suggested adding the internet as an option. Brian Davis asked specifically what is gained from this question. It seems that there really is no point to this question since all of the boxes will most likely be checked. He thought rating these responses would be more helpful. Butt suggested checking the top three or top five. The task force agreed. Question number two will be changed.

Question #3: Who do you trust for information about preparing your home and family for natural hazards? Wheeland suggested adding Red Cross. Hoots noted that putting an example “such as, etc.”. Wheeland pointed out that it might be a good idea to replace “government” with “federal agencies”. Pottier suggested adding “public works” to utilities. Wheeland will add “public works” in the “such as” example.

Question #4: Did you consider the possible occurrence of any natural hazards when you bought/moved into your current home? A member of the public, Sheila Sullivan, suggested adding “built” to this question. Wheeland pointed out that if any member of the task force doesn’t see some of these questions as necessary, please speak up.

Question #5: Have you volunteered during disaster recovery efforts after past natural hazards? Stone noted that this question seems to focus on response and this isn’t what this task force is trying to accomplish. Wheeland noted that the intent of this question was to gauge volunteer experience. Galco questioned whether number five is even needed in this survey. Stone does not think it is needed. Steve Sturm suggested it stay for quality assurance.

Question #6: Would you consider volunteering to help your community prepare for natural hazards? Pehlman noted that if people check “yes” they are left with nowhere to go with this question. Wheeland said at this point there aren’t any activities in place as far as the plan goes. Wheeland said the point of number six is to gauge whether or not communities can rely on their citizens to help implement these activities. McDaniel suggested adding, “if yes, contact your local officials”. Sturm suggested adding a signature line. Davis was not sure what would be gained from question number six. Paul Osman said he didn’t think number five and number six should be on the survey. Suzie Weissberg said that question number five and six are only asking if people have volunteered during a natural hazard emergency and if they would be willing to volunteer prior to such an emergency. Hilda Mangiaracina agreed and thought this question will give the communities a good idea of what to expect in the event of a natural hazard. Charles Thaxton stressed this is a survey and leaving these questions in would be beneficial. Galco asked the task force if the consensus was to include number five and number six in the citizen survey. The group agreed and the questions will remain.

Question #7: What other issues/ideas should the Sangamon County Multi-jurisdictional Natural Hazards Mitigation Plan Task Force consider in developing this plan? There was no comment.

Next Meetings

Wheeland announced that the next meeting would be January 9, 2008 at 5:30pm in the County Board Chambers. Small groups generating goals will be the focus of this meeting. She stated that a suggestion had been made to have a meeting in December with only the community representatives. After taking a vote, it was decided there would be no community only meeting. Wheeland also announced that although the County Board Chamber had been reserved for the February and April meetings a conflict had arisen because two County Board meetings had to be rescheduled to these same dates. She will keep everyone posted on where these meeting will be held.

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Adjournment

Galco entertained a motion to adjourn. Thaxton made the motion and Davis seconded it. The vote was unanimous.

Respectfully Submitted,

Abby Johnson