

Hazard Mitigation Planning Committee Meeting

Date | time: 6/10/2019 10:00 AM

Location: NC Admin Center

Meeting called by: Hazard Mitigation Team Leader
Type of meeting: Planning Committee
Facilitator: Eric C Wendt
Secretary: Tiffany Kaseman

Committee Members:

Doug Diehl, Steve Jeffery, Tiffany Kaseman, Lori Smoogen, Keith Ayers, Jason Zimmerman, Chuck Hopta, Jeffery Fetterman, Eric Wendt, Maryrose McCarthy, William Bradford

Agenda Items

Topic	Presenter	Time allotted
<input type="checkbox"/> ⇒ Yearly Review Process <ul style="list-style-type: none">◆ Updates or Additions - Discussion plus action items below<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Shamokin Coal Twp JSA Project	Eric C Wendt	30 Minutes
<input type="checkbox"/> ⇒ Action Items <ul style="list-style-type: none">◆ Action 18 – Opioids<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Rep report to HMT – meetings and website◆ Website - Actions 46 & 33 and Manufactured Homes Inst.◆ Action 22 – Create a process to accomplish this?◆ 1,2,3,33,43,46,58,64,69 – Create a Facebook Campaign for these◆ Action 45 – GIS can work on◆ Action 47 and 49– Reach out to Municipalities that have not adopted yet?◆ Map new Tornadoes and Landslides \ update tables◆ Action 56 – I will update with Meetings◆ Action 59 – Do we do this?	Eric C Wendt	20 Minutes
<input type="checkbox"/> ⇒ Contact other Counties to do a regional Training with PEMA\FEMA <ul style="list-style-type: none">◆ Actions 34 - SEDA-COG ??	Eric C Wendt	10 Minutes

Other Information

Observers: None

Other Invites: None

Resources: None

Special notes:

NORTHUMBERLAND COUNTY

HAZARD MITIGATION

PLANNING COMMITTEE

MEETING DATE: JUNE 10, 2019

PRINT NAME	REPRESENTING (IF APPLICABLE)	TITLE (IF APPLICABLE)
1. Lori Smoogen	Public Safety - Finance	Finance Manager
2. Stephen J. Jery	Public Safety -	
3. Keith Agers	GIS	GIS
4. Maryrose M. Ersky	Commissioner	Chief Clerk
5. Bill Bradford	SEDA-COG	Flood Resilience
6. Eric C. WENDT	IT	IT
7. Chuck Hopta	North'd County	Engineer
8. Tiffany Kaseman	Assessors	Chief Assessor
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PLEASE REFER TO SIGN IN SHEET FOR ALL ENTITIES IN ATTENDANCE

Eric Wendt (forward referred to as EW) began by referring to the agenda and starting with the yearly review process, updates and additions. EW said he and Keith Ayers are going to be working on new or updated maps for the plan, particularly because of the significant weather events that have taken place recently. EW asked Public Safety for help with event dates.

EW said that Mark Lyash called about the SCTJSA project asked if they have to provide any information for the Hazard Mitigation Plan. Steve Jeffery (forward referred to as SJ) said that they recently had to have the fire department come in to pump them out after the last significant rain that caused localized flooding. SJ said they are looking to upgrade their pumping system and they are asking about being added into the HMP so that they can seek FEMA/PEMA funding in the future. SJ said they were sending letters to the municipalities they serve looking for endorsement for their upgrades. EW said we have two other authorities, we should probably add SCTJSA as a responsible agency.

EW moved to the action items and started with asking for an update from the members who participate in the County opioid coalition. Tiffany Kaseman (forward referred to as TK) and Maryrose McCarthy (forward referred to as MM) had said the United Way had already created the website we were attempting to build, so we are just going to add a link to that to our website instead of continuing with building this site for the county. MM said the bad news is that we are on track for more opioid deaths this year than ever before, even with the great strides we are making. TK said we have a housing problem that is helping to continue our opioid problems. MM said there are places that are being sought for sober living. TK said there is also a recovery club that is trying to get started in the coal region; the club would foster sobriety and provide resources for continuing sobriety. TK also said there is a recovery walk coming in September, there have been Narcan trainings and events to provide the rescue supplies to the public, and there is a Suboxone clinic that is opening in Mt. Carmel. TK asked SJ to confirm that Narcan is now being made available to all first responders. TK said the training for it is 30 minutes and well worth the time. EW said we should go back to this section of the plan and make some heavy updates; TK said she plans to do those edits, but statistics are the problem because it's very difficult to find good solid data with the resources we have available to local government. EW asked SJ if there is training that helps operators to make better judgment on how to log calls. MM said the TAC is always willing to support training. MM said there is a TAC event on June 28 in Williamsport. EW and SJ pointed out that data is difficult to get flowing both ways; there is not an easy way to get further data on events that start with Public Safety, so that they can review the history of an event and make coding changes. SJ mentioned talking to Katie at LAPC, to see if she has data to share.

EW moved on to an action item that Doug Diehl (forward referred to as DD) wanted to talk about. DD sent EW information with regard to policies for installation of manufactured homes. DD thinks that this should be added to the HMP website, as well as encouraging residents to participate in the NFIP and CRS, and also encourage residents to install proper ventilation and devices to control and monitor radon concentrations. EW said he thinks the NFIP and CRS should be directed at municipalities.

EW moved to the action item regarding regular inspection of critical facilities. EW asked SJ if this is a county policy already, and what critical facilities are being referred to. SJ said they have copies of emergency plans for many critical facilities, in fact many of the schools are updating theirs now. EW

asked if we could review some of the plans. TK asked if the copies of the plans are digital. SJ said no, TK asked if we could possibly scan all the plans and create a digital library to share for the group. Bill Bradford (forward referred to as WB) asked if the county has emergency plans for county owned critical facilities and asked who polices the plans. EW said he assumes the planning department has that, SJ said we have not looked at the COOP plan since the prison fire. Lori Smoogen (forward referred to as LS) said the only county owned critical facility is the prison, but no one is aware if there is an updated plan for the new prison or for the entire complex in Coal Township. MM said there used to be a plan for kids in foster care when there was a countywide event, but she is not sure if that is current.

EW moved on to the topic of a Facebook campaign which would satisfy at least nine action items that have to do with disseminating information to the public. EW asked if we could do monthly awareness posts to engage the public on “current” topics. EW said Public Safety already has a great following from the public and thinks they would be the best outlet for sharing monthly updates. LS said we should consider posting photos to help people search quickly. EW said we should rely on ready.gov for info and just spread their existing data. SJ said their system is set to automatically push emergency updates to Facebook when Public Safety issues a message.

EW moved on to the action item for developing evacuation routes and plans. EW asked SJ if they have any maps or plans that he and Keith can start with. SJ said they rely heavily on their contact with PennDOT for each event to know what road closures occur. SJ said annually they meet with PennDOT, usually for their winter program updates. But a PennDOT rep is available if the EOC is activated and they are available as needed for emergencies. EW asked if SJ knows what the plans are for raising the Sunbury City levy at the southern end of town; both agreed this should be added to the plan. SJ said the new levy systems up river are of constant concern for our county even though the Army Corp of Engineers projects that there should not be a significant impact. WB said the new preliminary FIRM for Selinsgrove shows their base flood elevations going up 18 inches. SJ said there is a conference call coming up that is going to address these projections.

EW moved on to the action item requiring all of the county’s municipalities to create and adopt an emergency operations plan. EW asked if SJ has copies of these plans; SJ said yes but he can’t guarantee the municipalities are keeping them up to date. Chuck Hopta (forward referred to as CH) asked how many municipalities have not adopted the county plan. WB had a copy of the page from the plan but no one said an actual number during this meeting. WB asked if SJ had good contact information for all of the municipalities; SJ confirmed but said it’s still difficult to make contact with some. CH asked what the plan is for attempting once again to get these municipalities to adopt the plan. WB made a point of mentioning the majority of property damage incidents that occurred last year were because of flash flooding and not because of living in close proximity to major waterways. SJ brought up the fact that Delaware Township never made an effort to participate and they had significant flooding in a low area near a creek that they may not be able to get funding for. LS mentioned the instance of flash flooding in Mt. Carmel Borough because of a change in storm water drainage pipe that are too narrow. *several conversations broke out at this point, and it was discussed that Knoebels has excellent emergency and disaster response plans and staff* SJ said he is preparing for Storm Ready training and would like to make that available sometime in the future.

EW moved on to the action item with review to annual review, and said he was just going to update this with the meetings that have been held already.

The last action item EW had on the agenda was regarding conducting routine inspections, tests and maintenance on emergency equipment. EW asked SJ if there is procedure in place and conducted to maintain emergency equipment. SJ said there are few actual sirens existing and he tries to stay in contact with municipalities if they experience problems with them. LS said the towers have backup generators that auto test weekly.

EW moved on to the possibility of regional training with FEMA/PEMA that could be held by SEDA-COG. WB said he has been in contact with FEMA/PEMA and he is actually awaiting information from those contacts about possible training. *a conversation broke out about the previous plan and its problems because of it being outsourced* WB asked if there is any type of training that we would like to offer. WB wanted to make the topic appealing because it's difficult to get people interested. SJ asked about flood plain management, debris clean up and substantial damage training. MM said while attempting to get training, SJ should publicly advertise what is needed from residents to help with disaster relief. LS said it's hard to make people understand that they have to document and share the results of an event if they want help getting disaster relief. TK said that we hand out catastrophic loss forms and we'd be happy to share any info we get or even add info to the application if there's something Public Safety wants us to add. WB pointed out it's hard for us to get people to document problems when there are relief teams that are showing up and actually trying to get damage repaired immediately. SJ said they enter damage information as soon as possible and they could work with us to make a team effort to hit an area immediately. WB said the FEMA app is a great help for disaster response. SJ said you can document through the app in the field. CH said the first step should absolutely be to make the public aware they need to take pictures of all damage they have sustained. *at this point the conversation turned to drones being used in disaster surveillance*

EW asked if there were any other points of interest to discuss or if there were any questions; there were none.

EW adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Tiffany Kaseman