

Section 4

Meeting Summaries

Meeting 1

The first meeting of the Core Committee was held at 1:00PM, on February 18th, at the Wayne County Emergency Management Agency. Attending members included:

- County Commissioner
- Emergency Management Director
- Planning Dept. Director
- County Fair Board member
- Soil and Water Conservation District member
- Engineer from private firm

The scope of the meeting covered the reasons for the Committee's formation and the general purpose of creating a Hazard Mitigation Plan. The Committee discussed the overall goals of the County in order to determine the foundation and direction of the Plan. The discussion of these priorities was used to evaluate the current state of the County and determine in what areas future plans should be directed. A list of sixteen options was presented to the Committee and members were asked to vote on which sectors they felt were important. Members were given five votes to be used in any combination: one per priority, all on one priority, or any variation in between. The list below includes only those priorities that received votes along with the number of votes received.

- Protect people's lives- 5
- Public health- 4
- Protect property- 4
- Protect critical facilities- 4
- Improve quality of life- 3
- Control development- 2
- Stimulate business growth- 2
- Improve public services- 1
- Improve schools, education- 1
- Protect natural resources- 1
- Improve roads, highways-1
- Provide more recreation areas- 1
- Make community more disaster resistant- 1

Many of the sixteen options presented were similar to one another, but the exercise was simply intended to get the Committee to discuss what the long-term goals and focus for the All-Hazards Mitigation Plan would be. These priorities would also be used when analyzing possible mitigation measures to determine if they are in keeping with the goals of the Plan.

The Committee's next task was to analyze and rate the hazards that could affect Wayne County. The Committee ranked eleven hazards on a scale of one to five, with a score of five representing a severe impact on the County and a score of one representing the lowest impact. The votes for each of the eleven hazards were then totaled up to determine which of the hazards possessed the highest perceived risk. All six of the members present participated in this survey, making the highest possible score for any one hazard a value of thirty (30). The results of this survey were then used to create an overall rank of perceived hazard threat.

- Flood- 29
- Severe winter storms- 29
- Tornadoes- 27
- Hazardous materials spills- 24
- Thunderstorms- 19
- Hailstorms- 15
- Drought- 14
- Dam failure- 9
- Subsidence- 9
- Wild fire/forest fire- 6
- Earthquake- 6

This ranking, along with historical information that was presented to the Committee, provided a clear picture of what the Committee considered to be the hazards most threatening to Wayne County. With this information, the Committee could then begin to assess potential mitigation actions pertinent to the hazards most likely to affect the County

Meeting 2

The second Core Committee meeting was held at 9:00AM, on March 30th, at the Wayne County Emergency Management Agency. The two major areas of focus for this meeting were Mitigation Actions and Public Participation. The Committee reviewed and discussed potential mitigation actions during an open forum in which each member was allowed to discuss whichever activity they wished.

The Committee then discussed ways of involving local officials not already involved with the Core Committee in the process of identifying and prioritizing potential mitigation activities. It was the intent of the Committee to utilize the local officials' expertise in order to choose which mitigation activities would prove the most useful and practical. This intent was based on the idea that local officials would have a better understanding of the specific risks imposed on their individual communities. As such, these local officials would be able to suggest mitigation actions best tailored to their communities' individual needs.

The meeting finished with a discussion on how to bring the Plan to the attention of the public and how to best gain public participation. The options considered by the Committee were holding public meetings, posting the Plan on County websites, strategically placing the Plan within the Community, and using local officials to inform the public. The Committee opted against holding public meetings to discuss the Plan, as they felt that it would prove to be a less than ideal way to involve the public. Though it was discussed, the Committee also decided against posting the Plan on a website, as they felt that it would be too difficult to determine whether or not the Plan would reach its intended audience.

The two courses of action that the Core Committee decided to utilize the most were to heavily advertize the Plan and to use local officials to inform the public about the Plan. It was also decided that public meetings would also be held, but only when the time came for individual jurisdictions to actually adopt the completed Hazard Mitigation Plan.

Meeting 3 – 2010 Revision Cycle

The draft revision of the Wayne County Mitigation Plan was submitted to the Wayne County Planning Commission for Intergovernmental Review and public comment on May 19th, 2010. The Plan was posted on the Wayne County Planning Department's website and letters were sent to public officials asking them to review and comment on the Plan. The officials were also asked to spread the word for public comment and the Wayne County Planning Department's website was online for public comments.

The Wayne County Planning Commission voted to grant clearance through the Intergovernmental Review process for the Wayne County Mitigation Plan at a public meeting on June 9th, 2010. There were no public comments received to be incorporated into the plan.

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