

Hardin and Pope Counties Multi-jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan Committee Meeting #2

9 to 11am December 5, 2023

Gospel Mission Tabernacle, 166 State Hwy 146, Golconda, IL

I. Introduction

- There were more than 15 participants in the meeting with representation from Hardin County, Hardin County School District, City of Golconda, City of Rosiclare, Village of Cave-in-Rock, Village of Elizabethtown, Village of Eddyville, Pope County, Hardin County General Hospital, Southern 7 Health Department, Illinois Emergency Management Agency, and Southeastern Illinois Regional Planning and Development Commission (SIRP&CD). See the sign-in sheet at the end of this document.
- Some Committee Members are having issues accessing/editing/printing the documents on SharePoint. SWCA will work with the Committee Members to determine a solution.
 - Committee Members were encouraged to reach out to Kelley Blake when this type of issue occurs in the future.

II. Review of Planning Process and Introduction Drafts

- Committee Members were provided draft sections of the Introduction and Planning Process sections of the HMP document on November 28th. Committee Members were encouraged to review each section and provide feedback in track changes or by providing comments by December 12th.
- The Planning Process section outlines the various outreach and engagement efforts agreed upon at Committee Meeting #1 including hosting open houses, setting up kiosks, publishing press releases, and setting up informational pages on participating jurisdictions' website.
 - It also provides an overview of the various participants in the planning process: Jurisdictions, Committee Members, Subject Matter Experts, Stakeholders, and Community Members.
- The introductory Press Release was published November 29, 2023, in the Herald Enterprises and on November 30, 2023, in the Hardin County Independent. The Press Release will be sent directly to stakeholders by December 8, 2023.
- SWCA will send the Committee Member, Subject Matter Expert, and Stakeholder lists following this meeting to allow Committee Members to provide feedback on existing contacts or provide new information.
 - Committee Members can edit these lists directly in SharePoint or email potential contacts to SIRP&CD or SWCA.
 - The Committee suggested the following be included as Stakeholders
 - Pope County School District
 - University of Illinois Agricultural Center
 - U.S. Farm Service
 - Southeastern Illinois Electric Cooperative and Southern Illinois Electric
 - In efforts to engage socially vulnerable populations; local housing authorities, Golden Circle in each County, and Arrowleaf.
 - Committee Members were asked to consider if there were any larger business interests in the area to add to the Stakeholder list.

III. Hazard Identification

- Hazards to profile were selected per discussion in Committee Meeting #1 and responses to the Hazard Screening Tool. Some hazards were determined not to have known damage estimates in National Centers for Environmental Information (NCEI) and new hazards like fluorspar mine subsidence were identified.

- SWCA did not send draft sections on Flood, Levee Failure, or Mine Subsidence yet, as these hazards require additional research.
- The Committee provided direction to include frost/freeze and extreme cold/wind chill in the Winter Storm category.
- SWCA will figure out a better section numbering system to decrease the amount of numbers for each subsection (i.e. 1.2.3 instead of 1.2.3.4.5).
- Committee Members were asked to include information on historic knowledge for each hazard that may not be available in the national database.
 - Some databases only go back a few decades.
- When considering future weather patterns and the impact on hazards, the Committee was presented with several approaches to consider. One option was to include data from the Climate Mapping for Resilience and Adaptation platform, another option was to use data from Headwaters Economics 2023, and a third option was to use both.
 - The Committee indicated that using only one dataset would be less confusing and they prefer the Climate Mapping for Resilience and Adaptation platform. If the two sources contradict each other, the Committee wants to include narrative describing the information from Headwaters Economics.
- The Committee was asked if they wanted to include all previous occurrence data in the body of the document or in an appendix.
 - One suggestion was to include occurrences before a certain cutoff date (i.e., not before 1950), but that may also yield a lot of information.
 - When the next hazard profiles are sent for review, a format will be proposed that presents the priority information in the main body of the document and additional previous occurrence information in the Appendix.
- One question from the Committee related to how the State Hazard Mitigation Plan (HMP) defines the hazards, and how does it account for the individuality of region throughout the State.
 - The State HMP looks at mine subsidence in the terms of coal mines, which are not a priority concern for Hardin and Pope Counties. Fluorspar mine subsidence is the main mining-related hazard for Hardin and Pope Counties.
 - The Committee wants to ensure that the risk is evaluated locally rather than looking at a state-wide level like the State HMP does. One example provided by the Committee was that Chicago and its suburbs are better equipped to deal with a massive snowstorm than rural communities like those in Hardin and Pope Counties.
 - The Committee decided it would be helpful to identify data on missed days of school and late starts due to weather. Hardin County Schools District will research to see if this information is available. Pope County School District will be asked to research similar information.
 - The Committee thinks it would be helpful to ask the local electric companies for data on severe storms causing power outages. It would be helpful to have data on the hours or number of days without power plus the population impacted for each event.
 - Hardin and Pope Counties are served by two electric companies (Southeastern Illinois Electric Cooperative and Southern Illinois Electric). Both will be included as stakeholders.
- The Committee wants to use one probability calculation based on annual frequency over all recorded events and one based on annual frequency over the most recent 5-years. This 5-year calculation will allow for an analysis of change to frequency in recent years when compared with frequency based on all records. In addition, the 5-years coincides with the 5-year MHMP update timeline.

- The Committee agreed that “Changing Weather Patterns” would better suit their communities’ needs than terminology that may appear to have a political interpretation.
- The Committee agreed to use emissions data from early- and mid-century and not include data from late-century when considering impact to natural hazard from changing weather patterns.
- The Committee indicated that long term planning is not something often discussed in this region and anything beyond 2050 is “too far” in the future.

IV. Risk Assessment

Critical Facilities

- There are 20 layers associated with different infrastructure types in the current draft legend on the Critical Infrastructure Map for each County.
- The Committee agreed “Critical Infrastructure” is the most appropriate term to use for this data and mapping.
- The Committee provided direction on critical infrastructure layers
 - Add schools
 - Add U.S. Housing and Urban Development funded Housing Units
 - Add facilities serving socially vulnerable populations. The Committee will add these to the draft maps to identify locations.
 - Add Shelter locations
 - All National Shelter System locations in Hardin and Pope Counties are currently listed as closed, so there is currently mapped information on shelter locations. The Committee would like to see the closed shelters included on the map so they can decide if it is appropriate to include those locations.
 - The Committee will identify locations for temporary informal shelters if they deem it is appropriate, or the Committee may choose to describe the shelter locations in narrative.
 - Temporary shelters in Hardin and Pope Counties are typically schools and churches.
 - Pope County High School is used as a temporary shelter
- For any points that the Committee wants added to the maps, they should identify the narrative they want in an attribute table. Examples would include the name of the facility or building, address, management agency, construction type, age of facility, contact information, and similar.
- The Committee expressed some concern about publicizing specific locations of critical assets for safety reasons.
 - It was explained that some critical facilities do not need to be shown on the maps, but the vulnerability analysis can still include those facilities. The narrative description would focus on the impacts and not the location.
 - It was explained that the complete MHMP does not need to be a public document. Certain aspects of the MHMP could be included as a separate appendix that would only be made available upon request. For example: The Levee section doesn’t need to be made public.

Damages

- Two options were presented for identifying damage and impact estimates:
 - FEMA’s National Risk Index (NRI) for each hazard
 - Illinois State HMP Loss Estimate Methodology for each hazard
- The presentation included the pros and cons of using the different options.
- The Committee agreed to use the NRI damage data for buildings, population equivalent, and

agriculture. The Committee does not want to use the NRI national average information; since population is always part of the equation, “it’s like comparing apples and oranges.”

- The Committee agreed that they did not want to use the State HMP ratings as some were not realistic for the actual hazard impacts to Hardin and Pope Counties.

Social Vulnerability

- Social Vulnerability is a required component of the MHMP per FEMA guidance.
- The narrative and data presented in the social vulnerability section will focus on populations with characteristics that may influence the ability to prepare, respond, cope, or recover from a hazard event.
- The Committee agreed to use the Community Resilience Challenge Tool platform to identify vulnerable populations in Hardin and Pope Counties.
- Different social vulnerability characteristic information can help inform the approach to preparedness and mitigation activities like education, outreach, shelter accessibility, project locations/need, and similar.
- The Committee Members provided direction on the approach to Social Vulnerability
 - The overall score will be represented as a map for each census tract.
 - Add the number of households without a vehicle. This indicator associated with access to healthcare would be very helpful information.
 - For unincorporated communities, the Committee would like to see the comparison represented as a percentage of each county and not split 50/50 between the two tracts.
 - Arrowleaf and the local housing authorities will be the stakeholders for this particular section.
- Potential mitigation action needs were discussed
 - Neither Hardin County nor Pope County have reverse 911.
 - Sirens are not generally used in this area because most of the population is in rural areas. Rosiclare just installed their first siren.

Priority Risk Index

- SIRP&DC will draft the Priority Risk Index.
 - Each community will have their own risk assessment.
 - Alene will send the matrix that was used in Saline and Gallatin Counties.

V. Next Steps

- SWCA follow-up
 - By December 8th; distribute meeting notes, presentation, sign in sheet; SME, Stakeholder Contact Lists; Critical Infrastructure Maps
 - By December 20th; provide Flood, Levee Failure, and Mine Subsidence hazard sections; provide Community Profile Sections
- Committee Activities
 - By December 12th; input on Committee Members, Subject Matter Experts, and Stakeholders; direction on critical facilities, damage estimates, social vulnerability approach; provide feedback for Introduction, Planning Process, and Hazard Profiles Sections
 - By January 5th review Flood, Levee Failure, and Mine Subsidence Hazard Profile Sections and Community Profile Section
 - Review Vulnerability Sections prior to Committee Meeting #3.
- Schedule date and time for next Committee Meeting
 - Most Committee Members agreed that February 6th at 9:00 AM would work best. The meeting is planned to be in Rosiclare.

SIGN-IN SHEET

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Name	Agency/Organization	Title	Phone	Email	Salary federally funded? (Yes/No)
Zachary Krug	IEMA	HM Manager	217 306 6179	Zachary.Krug@illinois.gov	
Jeffrey Thompson	IEMA	Disaster Services Planner DSP	217-557-0234	jeffrey.thompson@illinois.gov	
Alex Carr	SIRPDC	Executive Director	618-252-7463	acarr@sirpdc.org	
Jessica Chaney	SIRPDC	Regional planner	618 252 7463	jchaney@sirpdc.org	
Bobi Covins	STHD	Emergency Preparedness Coordinator	618-634-2297 x71123	bcovins@sthd.org	
Erin English	Pope Co EMA	Admin Assist	618-683-8101	e.english76@outlook.com	Y
Tony Eckert	Golconda City Planning	DUDE	618-841-9865	karibbeanoul@hotmail.com	NO
Ira Cruson	Hardin Co. School	Dean of Students	618.518.7425	icrusonehardin@net	
LARRY RICHARDS	POPE COUNTY EDDYVILLE	COMMISSAR	618-841-4244	LARRY.RICHARDS4244@GMAIL	

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Name	Agency/Organization	Title	Phone	Email	Salary federally funded? (Yes/No)
Joshua Light	Rural Pope County / Pope Ambulance Fire Prot Dist / Hardin Ambulance	Chief / EMT	618-638-4015	light13.2000@yahoo.com	No
Andy Atkinson	Rosiclave Fire Chief	Fire Chief	618 499 6806	atkinsonandy91@yahoo.com	No
Marcy Kaylor	CAVE IN ROCK	VILLAGE PRESIDENT	618 844 4615	marty@caveinrockkaylors.com	NO
Kim McDowell	CAVE IN ROCK				No
Todd Carr	Village of Elizabethans Hardin Co General Hosp	Village Pres CRO			No
Kathy Prouty	Hardin Co Ambulance W/HC General Hosp.	Amb. Coordinator	618-499-5954	Kathy.gibson@ilhcn.org	No
Kelley Blake	SWCA	APM	815.250.2516	Kelley.blake@swca.com	No
Wendy Blackwell	SWCA			wendy.blackwell@swca.com	NO