

Wasco County Multi-Jurisdictional Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan Steering Committee Plan Maintenance Meeting Minutes	1 February 2017, 1:00 AM – 3:00 PM Emergency Management Conference Room 425 East 7th Street, Annex C The Dalles, OR 97058
Type of Meeting: Steering Committee Meeting	

Steering Committee Member Roll Call

In Person: Will Smith, Cindy Miller, Juston Huffman, Ryan Bessette, Kristin Dodd, Steve Kramer, Arthur Smith, Dustin Nilsen, Kelly Howsley-Glover, Angie Brewer, Steve Harris

Absent: Kathy White, Tyler Stone, Bob Francis, Frank Cochran, Robert Palmer, Tycho Granville

ITEMS

1. Introductions

Will welcomed the group and everyone went around the table identifying themselves and their organization.

2. Background

a. NHMP purpose

Will discussed the purpose of the plan which is described by FEMA as “To identify local policies and actions that can be implemented over the long term to reduce risk and future losses from hazards.”

Angie added some points about the importance of planning and the opportunity to use this plan to create some momentum for mitigation projects for each organization.

b. Previous Plans

Will asked who at the table was involved with the previous plan. Ryan Bessette was but everyone else is new to the process. There was some discussion about John Roberts having been involved and that he could be used as a resource if needed.

3. Objectives

a. Describe timeline/tasks to be completed during the update

- Meetings
- Update Requirements
 - Review Risk Assessment
 - Review Mitigation strategies
 - Review Plan Maintenance Process
 - Final Plan Preparation
 - Plan Implementation

Will began a discussion about the requirements for the update. Kelly asked if cities had been included and Will stated that only The Dalles City Planning had been informed of this meeting but that all the other cities in the County will receive notifications soon. Angie mentioned that she reached out to them in 2016 when she was preparing a letter to Christine Shirley about a Pre-Disaster Mitigation grant that is available from DLCD (ACTION ITEM: Angie, follow up on this letter) and only Maupin had responded. The discussion moved on to other agencies or organizations that should be notified for the opportunity to obtain their input throughout the update process. Dustin suggested TD city public works, PUDs, Wasco Electric, and all fire districts. It was mentioned that Bob Palmer from MCFR is on the Steering Committee but couldn't make it. Will agreed to contact him and determine if he is acting as a representative for all fire districts, but either way, all fire districts will be added to the partner agency list. (ACTION ITEM: Will, follow up with Chief Palmer).

Other suggested state, local, federal government or non-profit organizations that will be notified as partner agencies included: Red Cross, US Forest Service, ODFW, North and South Wasco County Parks and Recreation Districts, local tribes, Public Health, Hospital, Army Corps of Engineers, Gorge Commission, ODOT, WADOT, BPA, Port, National Guard, and MCCOG's Area Agency on Aging. It was also mentioned that other vulnerable populations should be contacted for their input such as children, the elderly (senior homes, veterans homes), and non-English speakers.

b. Identify roles and responsibilities of the committee

- Subcommittees
- Action Item review/updates
- Other Goals (any long term outcomes each agency wants to achieve?)

Will described the various potential roles and responsibilities of the committee. He mentioned some alternatives for sub-committees if the work load was too much for the Steering Committee as a whole. Organization will be further discussed at a later meeting. Will had passed out a sheet laying out the Action Items from the 2012 plan. He mentioned that the bulk of the work will likely be updating these by the various groups listed as "Coordinating Agency", determining which ones are still outstanding, and adding any new ones that the committee feels would be beneficial. He asked if there were any long term outcomes that those present wanted to see for their individual agencies and hearing none asked that this be in the back of people's minds moving forward.

c. Discuss public involvement strategies

- Road show
- Website
- Public Meeting (summer?)
- Survey
- Measure 56 notice

This plan update requires plenty of feedback from our community to ensure we are creating the best mitigation plan possible for our County. Toward that end there are several strategies to engage the public and seek input. Kelly discussed the Road Show that she will be heading up for the Planning Department this year as part of our Comprehensive Plan Update process. This will be a series of

meetings all around the County and the NHMP update will be included in the discussion there. To inform the County about these meetings, as well as the plan update, there will be a County wide notice going out that will include information about the NHMP, among other topics. The Planning Department is updating their website to have a NHMP specific page which will serve as a repository for information on the update for citizens and committee members. That will be up and running by mid-February.

Besides the Road Show meetings, at least one public meeting will be held that deals exclusively with the NHMP Update. This will likely be in mid-summer and may take the form of a strategic open house or workshop style rather than a presentation. Preparing for this meeting will likely require a small sub-committee group.

Juston suggested a presence at some local events may help also. He mentioned one called Ready The Dalles. Cindy said Red Cross holds an event at Home Depot every year for emergency preparedness as well. Angie mentioned one in Washington called First Night Out that might be useful to look into as well since emergencies here affect people there.

- d. Discuss community stakeholders/jurisdictions that should be involved*
 - *Suggestions? (Government agencies, non-profits, citizen groups, tribes, etc.)*
 - Steering Committee vs. Planning participant*
 - *Resource needs*
 - Grants? Personnel?*

These topics were discussed earlier in the meeting. See above.

- e. Overview of previous plan maintenance meetings that have occurred*

These topics were discussed earlier in the meeting. See above.

4. Next steps

- a. Next Steering Committee meeting (Late Spring)*
- b. Sub Committee meetings?*
- c. Other*
 - *Grants*
 - *Contacts*
 - *Tasks*

The committee discussed potential data sources. Angie asked if ODF had fire regime maps or condition class maps for forest lands. Kristin will look into that (ACTION ITEM: Kristin Dodd will see what data ODF has for fire risk areas in the County, Will will contact the US Forest Service about the same). There is also new LIDAR data that will be available soon through the GIS department as we are beginning the process of possibly updating FEMA flood and landslide hazard maps.

Kristin suggested that Justin could reach out to other Emergency Managers to see how they are updating their plans. Will mentioned that Hood River is on the same time frame Wasco is and their EM, Barb Ayers, had mentioned looking for

a consultant (ACTION ITEM: Justin will reach out to Hood River EM, as well as other counties to get an update on their plans).

Angie mentioned the Cascadia Subduction Zone earthquake that has been in the news a lot more since the last plan update. She wondered if there may be risk maps developed for that in this area that might show evacuation locations, shelters, or other areas of concern. (ACTION ITEM: Will can get in touch with Red Cross about shelter maps, and will research other CSZ maps to see if they are relevant).

Angie mentioned that the Planning Commission will be having a mega update meeting on April 11 and would like to have the second meeting complete prior to that so we can have an update ready for them. The Road Show kicks off soon after also. We discussed having a mid-March meeting. Will plans on sending out another doodle poll to set a time and date (ACTION ITEM: Will send out a Doodle Poll). Angie asked Justin if we had a confirmed date that this process needed to be finished by. He said our deadline is Jan 14, 2018. Moving forward everyone will review their action items, and more organizations will be contacted (ACTION ITEM: All review action items from previous plan. Will put together a list of partner agencies and contact them.)

Will adjourned the meeting at 2:15 PM.

ACTION ITEMS (TO COMPLETE BEFORE THE NEXT MEETING)

Angie: follow up on the Christine Shirley DLCD grant letter

Will: follow up with Chief Palmer

Kristin: see what maps or other data ODF has for fire risk areas in the County.

Will: contact the US Forest Service about fire risk area maps.

Justin: reach out to Hood River EM, as well as other counties to get an update on their plans

Will: send out a Doodle Poll

All: review action items from previous plan.

Will: put together a list of partner agencies and contact them