

MINUTES

Kansas Hazard Mitigation Team Meeting

Date of Meeting – March 29, 2018

Attendees – See Sign-in Sheet (attached)

Introductions – Jake Gray, KHMT Chairperson opened the meeting with introductions. Attendees introduced themselves around the meeting room.

DWR Updates –

Steve Samuelson briefed. Several new projects included in previous update, including the Salina flood plain management plan which will go into effect this month. Also mentioned a new project in Wilson County.

State Hazard Mitigation Plan, SHMP –

Jeanne Bunting provided status. Dams and Levees, this meeting. She provided four handouts on goals, and actions. Comments due May 1.

—Dam Failure,

In 2013, there were 6,000+ statewide dams. Due to legislation, changed the measurement from the spillway, reducing the number now to about 4,500.

4 have High vulnerability

Suggested actions state wide inundation

—Levee Failure

Vulnerability: Take data, analyze, and come up with the vulnerability. Census population considered.

Sedgwick Co. has highest for total exposure in 1000 for vulnerability.

Action: Comprehensive list of all Levees in Kansas – USACE numbers are not consistent (3 total numbers). USACE is go-to place (Congressional)

FEMA FAST database and USACE NLD

Vulnerability-Building Exposure

Suggestions, total list

—Flood

Sample used is 1% losses to predict vulnerability. Crop insurance payments: Used 2012 Agriculture census, which is most current. Flash Flood Events also done, eastern Kansas has highest events

NFIP Losses sample given

Repetitive loss properties – 509 repetitive properties, and 133 have been mitigated. 376 unmitigated properties remain. The ongoing Silver Jackets project, Repetitive Loss Update, is to enhance this information. Building and income impacts.

Local/Regional Plan Goals: All 12 Regions reflect the same goals and strategies as the State Hazard Mitigation Plan. 100% integration.

State of Kansas Owned Facilities: # of State-owned facilities went down by 169 from 2013 to 2018, resulting in decrease in insured value and savings in rent.

Mission (2013 Plan Update): To create a disaster-resilient Kansas through the implementation of a statewide comprehensive mitigation strategy. Accepted? Yes

Goals

1. Minimize the vulnerability of the people, property, environment and economy of Kansas and its communities to the impacts of natural and manmade hazards – Accepted? Yes
2. Build the mitigation capabilities of local govt....Accepted – Yes
3. Promote a state policy framework – Accepted – Yes
4. Improve education and training....Accepted – Yes

Actions: All but one in a continuous status from the 2013 plan. 27 to 24 actions (reduction)

New Mitigation Actions: 24 brought from 2013 plan.

If new ones are added, make sure it is really needed. Don't add for the sake of adding. Add because you think it will get done, it has the political and technical criteria.

Mitigation actions: Handouts were provided with goals, objectives, and current actions for carry-forward. Need to be back by May 1st. Draft available for review on June 1, 2018. Will be sent to FEMA by July 20th.

Crop insurance payments

NCDC 2006-2016

Rep loss, 12 elevations, 3 removed (buyouts?), 376 unmitigated remain

Each category has county based maps showing most significant priority areas

Regional HMP goals, all integrated...ie. all reflect same goals, etc

State owned facilities

Discussion on Goals, 1-4 all have consensus in the meeting

Mitigation Actions, down from 27 to 24 action compared to 2013 SHMP.

USACE Silver Jackets –

Brian Rast briefed the current projects. He provided insight on the way to connect the dots between floodplain management and flood mitigation, as he showed circle graphics for the full menu of flood risk management measures. He listed the past, current, and ideas for future proposals, and he used his

connect the dot graphics to identify measures the KHMT has used in recent years via Silver Jackets. The intent is to help implement measures that are good solutions, and provide technical services. Many different solutions to mitigate floods, and Silver Jackets helps organize this process. All communities are unique with their own set of actions.

He then briefed status on current projects. Ken Wade stepped up to comment on Repetitive Loss and Recurring Flood ID projects. For the former, Ken has been going through state, finding locations, and checking the data to ensure that the structures haven't been changed or moved from the property. Using Google Earth. He has completed Kansas City, WY, and now working on Sedgwick County. Going back 10 years to track changes on the property. For Recurring Flood ID, he summarized that communities throughout the state have areas of severe reoccurring flooding. Finding those areas, working with National Weather Service, directly improving forecasting for the areas, and forming a database for use in mitigation and strategic planning. Signs, per NWS's Turn Around Don't Drown campaign, are available from the USACE Kansas City District Silver Jackets project to go up throughout the state, indicating potential flooding. Areas with known historical flooding can be contacted and connected to flood plan management agencies.

Brian then presented slides on the High Water Sign project, as he shared the example sign for Lawrence. Currently have 18 communities that have applied, with the potential up to 40. Key things to note when creating the story on the sign: high water marks from the past, and then re-characterizing them as depths or as flood levels on well-known landmarks. Community decides where they want to locate it, ideally close to where the flood happened. He showed the coming sign for Marion, illustrating the need to have specific key messages ready for special circumstances, and the Marion sign has one about levees. Any community can find the application for a FREE sign off the Kansas Silver Jackets web page. Brian, Steve Samuelson, and Ken Wade are pursuing more signs, as during the governor proclaimed Flood Awareness Week, Brian developed a special outreach graphic tying to the Severe Weather Awareness Week with NWS. Steve is urging Rossville, Mulvane, and Manhattan among others to apply for the sign.

Brian had Jennifer Wood, USACE Levee Safety Program project manager substitute, brief on recent success with the Salina Levee Safety project. The project team, with notable facilitation by Hannah Stambaugh, at Salina County, held a levee safety tabletop exercise in Salina in March. It included federal and state agencies, as well as community entities. It gave the City a better idea of what a flood event would look like.

Brian touched on the Manhattan Levee Safety project. The team intends to focus on the public communication strategy, through the tabletop exercise. In the process of being scheduled.

For the Florence Nonstructural Assessment, Brian noted Stantec, working with DWR, has almost finished the water surface elevation per a FEMA Risk MAP project. The Silver Jackets project elements will steer property owners towards other measures that need action in the community. A standard Risk MAP meeting with the City is planned for the summer, following City staff briefing. Decertification of the levee will be a significant event for the structures within the leveed area. The National Nonstructural Committee flood risk management matrix is being applied to the homes, which USACE land survey was done last August.

The last thing Brian covered was a reminder on the future Silver Jackets Interagency Nonstructural Projects. The call for proposals is out, due May 22. A short discussion occurred on conceptual proposals,

including tabletop exercise, road overtopping data, and how to help the riskiest communities. Brian will work with Steve and Dane to develop proposals.

USACE Levee Safety –

Jennifer Wood explained the current events in the Levee Safety Program. The **National Levee Database (NLD)** will see a face lift rolled out in May. The effort stresses the importance of doing risk communication, and she explained this is what **Levee System Summaries**, which are intended as the focal point for public outreach, will do. The NLD include all levees in the nation, not just USACE levees. This meets the Congressional mandate from 2014 creating one, central, online database. The NLD assembles risk screening, inspection/field collection, federal/state/tribal, engineering, condition and risk, and offers a dashboard. She also mentioned the Levee Inventory and Review, a onetime chance for the states to address levees not in the Corps or FEMA databases.

Jeanne Bunting asked for clarification on the number of levees in Kansas. Some confusion appeared, possibly due to the combination of the FEMA MLI data. Another source of confusion could be the Kansas City District levee units vs those in Kansas as a whole, including Tulsa District's. The new National Levee Database face lift will be more user friendly and help to query data, although users can access the database now.

— National Levee Database (NLD)

Jennifer covered the framework for decision making to inform actions: Risk=f(hazards, performance, consequence). The risk is a function of those three, and the levee sponsors should be working with communities on the risk management options (slide 9 of Jennifer's PPT) as relates to individual levees' risk drivers. Many of the activities that will help address consequences are the nonstructural measures for which the Silver Jackets proposals may provide technical assistance. More importantly, Local Hazard Mitigation Plans should capture the levees with moderate to high risk levels in upcoming revisions, because the needed risk management options are the equivalent to flood mitigation actions. The risk levels are the **Levee Safety Action Classifications**.

Continuing her brief, Jennifer explained how screenings were done at once, although as periodic inspections continue, communication of risk information is a major step this year. This process takes communication with levee sponsors and will lead to the uploading of **Levee System Summaries** and risk characterizations for every levee to the NLD. These are being written very simply to foster public understanding. USACE districts want the levee sponsors buy in to these descriptive tools.

NLD didn't come out last year since not all risk data in it. The schedule due out is now May/June.

NLD for public, but also has areas that are for official use only, too.

Brian noted the risk assessment results serve to complete the KS SHMP's Dam and Levee discussion here earlier. He noted the shared responsibility with state and communities should be happening in their Local Hazard Mitigation Plans (LHMPs), for communities serious about resilience and helping their communities thrive.

FEMA MLI database is part of NLD.

—Levee Inventory & Review

The Levee Inventory & Review is a smaller part of the Levee Safety effort. This is a voluntary program for states. Timeline: Will start in 2018, is expected to be a multi-year effort. The plan is to do about 70 inspections and risk assessments nationwide each year.

Hazard Mitigation Project Updates –

Jake Gray provided this update. Grant Program – 4 disasters that have application periods open.

—HMGP

Disaster Resolution

DR-4287, closes next month

DR-4304, June

last two late in 2018

—PDM/FMA Update

Thinking of not applying, because there are still \$ available in 4319, and are still searching for new projects. For FY17, 5 projects were put in for – 4 PDM, 1 FMA. 3 PDMs were approved, FMA is still in the process. The unfunded PDM (regional plans) will go through 4319 for funding.

FMA

New applications

One is \$15 million

New and Unfinished

No discussion was needed.

Presentations / Training for next meeting

Kansas Forestry could be good speaker, wildfire impact. Kansas Fire Marshall to speak after the fire season has ended, reporting on acres burned, etc. Best practice from Beatrice, NE that could be shared.

Next meeting May 30

December meeting 10th, date change? [Latest email from Darrell: he meant 11th.]