

BALDWIN COUNTY
HAZARD MITIGATION PLANNING COMMITTEE
MINUTES
AUGUST 19, 2021
BALDWIN COUNTY EMERGENCY OPERATIONS CENTER
ROBERTSDALE, ALABAMA
WebEx Virtual Platform

ATTENDANCE

Members present (Via WebEx) were: Danon Smith (BCEMA /HMPC Secretary), Karen Giordano (BCEMA), Brandan Franklin (City of Gulf Shores), DJ Hart (BCC Planning & Zoning), Rachel Keith (City of Foley), Adam Byrd (Baldwin E- 911), Janie Joiner (BCC Building Department), Jessica Walker (City of Fairhope), Nicole Warner (City of Orange Beach), Jason Padgett (North Baldwin Utilities), Josh Newman, (City of Daphne), Matthew Brown (BCC Planning and Zoning).

Brandan Franklin called the meeting to order at 09:09am

OPENING COMMENTS

Brandan Franklin gave opening remarks.

OLD BUSINESS

Brandan asked Danon Smith to give report on the status of the Hazard Mitigation Draft Plan and HMGP DR-4563. Danon reported that the APA letter is posted on the Hazard Mitigation page of the Baldwin County EMA Website. She also reported that she had received Resolutions from the City of Bay Minette (Bay Minette being the first to submit a completed Resolution Adoption which started the clock on August 9th for the 5-year restart of the Plan), Baldwin County Commission, City of Daphne, City of Fairhope, City of Foley, City of Spanish Fort, and City of Orange Beach. All that had been sent in thus far had been sent in to AEMA through Diane Burnett (SARPC). Danon reported that Diane Burnett was not able to be on the meeting this morning due to a previous commitment. Danon reported that these should all be in to the AEMA by September 15th. Danon expressed excitement about everyone's hard work, cooperation, and participation in getting the Draft Plan finalized. Brandan Franklin also thanked everyone for their work in getting their plans completed, thanked Danon for her help in the process and SARPC for their help as well.

Brandon reported that Gulf Shores would have their plan adopted on August 23rd and offered to assist other jurisdictions, cities and towns that may be having problems or struggling with this after that time.

Danon reported that the State deadline has been extended to October 15th for the HMGP DR-4563 applications. Danon stated that Baldwin County Commission set an internal goal of submitting by the end of August and encouraged all jurisdictions to proceed with getting submissions in so AEMA will have time to review them prior to the deadline. Brandon stated that with Covid-19, an active storm season, and other factors, it was making the process difficult for some applicants. Danon stated that Baldwin County had been allocated approximately 36 million dollars and that some projects been cancelled due to utilizing other funding sources, thus leaving allocated funds available for application and potential award by others. She encouraged every jurisdiction with an LOI on file to pursue their projects and offered assistance if anyone needed it.

Danon reported that although the 20/21 FMA announcements had not been made, she had received notification that some projects were getting further review by FEMA, which was a good sign. FY21/22 notice of funding availability had come out and the state must apply for local needs. She anticipates a notice of funding availability for Baldwin County to be made later this Fall. Danon stated that she is receiving new calls about FMA Grant funding from individuals that have purchased homes /property knowing that it floods and wanting to pre-mitigate through FMA Grants. She is taking their information to help them when these funds become available.

Brandon asked if there was a possibility of having some type of session or discussion- type workshop on the different types of FEMA Grants to help private individuals and Jurisdictions understand the process of application. Danon stated that she would be happy to set up some type of talk or curriculum to help educate those interested about Hazard Mitigation Grants and offered to do a discussion-type training. Danon also stated that she had put a video on the Hazard Mitigation Section of the EMA website about questions concerning Grants and Hazard Mitigation. Danon asked for feedback on this video. Danon mentioned that she can post FEMA courses that may be helpful as well as other resources for those interested.

NEW BUSINESS

Brandon asked about the voting process for electing someone to replace Lannie Smith on the Executive Committee. Danon stated that there had been nominations made. She will send out a ballot via an email on Everbridge. Danon stated that existing members must approve the replacement and the replacement would be presented at the next meeting.

The 2022 HMPC Meeting Schedule was discussed, and it was agreed that it would be moved to a quarterly meeting schedule. HMPC meetings will take place on the 3rd Thursday of every quarter. The first meeting being January 20, 2022. Danon advised that she will continue to email meeting reminders and would do so prior to the January meeting. Danon proposed different types of meetings if necessary, such as small group meetings.

There were no further questions or comments brought forward.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion: Nicole Warner

Second: Rachel Keith

Ayes: 12

No: 0

Abstain: 0

Motion Passed

Meeting adjourned at 09:41am.

Minutes for this meeting approved during the January 20, 2022, meeting of the Baldwin County Hazard Mitigation Planning Committee.

Brandan Franklin, Chairperson Baldwin County HMPC

Date