

Chittenden County All-Hazards Mitigation Plan Review/Update Committee Meeting
DRAFT MINUTES

Date: **Wednesday, June 8, 2016**
Time: **2:30 p.m. – 3:50 p.m.**
Location: **Main Conference Room, CCRPC Offices, Winooski**

Attendees: Dan Albrecht (CCRPC), Regina Mahony (CCRPC), Lee Krohn (CCRPC), Emily Nosse-Leirer (CCRPC), Karen Purinton (Colchester), Greg Duggan (Essex), Ken Belliveau (Williston), Daryl Benoit (Charlotte), Staci Pomeroy (ANR), Ben Rose (Vermont Division of Emergency Management and Homeland Security)

1. **Call to Order, Introductions and Changes to the Agenda**
2. **Public comments on items not on the Agenda** – No one from the public was in attendance.
3. **Review and Action on Minutes of February 10, 2016** – Staci Pomeroy made a motion, seconded by Ken Belliveau to approve the February 10, 2016 minutes. MOTION PASSED.
4. **Current status of Multi-Jurisdictional (aka County) AHMP and local AHMPs and anticipated review and adoption process in coming months.**

Dan Albrecht indicated that staff has begun submitting rough drafts to the Vermont State Hazard Mitigation Officer for review. We've received feedback on the Westford Plan and we've been incorporating those comments into the other annexes. The County Plan was submitted on May 11th. Lauren from DEMHS will provide us with comments, we will incorporate those, send them back to Lauren and she will send them to FEMA. FEMA will ultimately say "approval pending adoption". Then we will bring them to the Legislative Bodies. Dan indicated that it is likely that we will not get that okay from FEMA before the August expiration date. However, the State considers the submittal of drafts to DEMHS as sufficient to meet the ERAF standards. Ben indicated that the State actually has a 30 day period, so it isn't necessary to rush to get the annexes in if another week can make it a better more complete product. Ben reiterated that the municipalities will be in okay shape even if the process drags on. The 5 year clock will start with the first municipal adoption, so it is best if we can get them adopted around the same time.

5. **Review County Key Hazards and Vulnerabilities**

Dan Albrecht walked through the draft currently under development and to obtain feedback with a focus on Sections 2 and 4 of the Plan. Ben asked why the invasive species are listed as a technological hazard. Dan explained that it could be there or under Natural Resources. He listed under it Technological as invasive species arrive to due to man-made actions such as canals.

Dan described the level of FEMA declared events over the last three 10 year time periods starting in 1990. The latest decade (which isn't even complete) has more declared events. Dan described the differences between the vulnerabilities of the 2011 plan with the new proposed plan. This plan has more high ranked hazards including severe storm events and extreme temperatures.

Greg asked if we've included data breach vulnerability. We don't talk about that specifically, but we do talk about terrorism.

Dan described the potential losses in the SFHA table. Ben asked what the \$52,000,000 of commercial property in Milton in the SFHA? Is this a typo, or one of the dams located in the town? CCRPC will look into this. Staci asked about water pollution vulnerability and the mitigation strategies more broadly. What is the area that this is addressing? Drinking water, or recreation? The title and what it is trying to capture makes sense, just try to figure out what hazard it is trying to address. There may need to be a broader explanation of why we are doing all that we are for the lake.

Karen asked what is CLA? Lee explained that it means, “common level of appraisal”. It is the difference between assessed value and sale prices. The State keeps track of this because if these are off you want to bring them more closely inline. These numbers are aligned when the CLA is 1.00.

Staci asked if there is really only one structure in the SFHA in Westford? CCRPC will check this.

6. **Review County Mitigation Strategies**

Dan Albrecht started to reviewed the strategies. There was some discussion about the goals, and particularly goal number 1. The intent is unclear and it isn't written as a goal. Perhaps it should just be a descriptor and not a goal. CCRPC will re-write based on feedback that we get from DEMHS.

Ben stated that they had a lot of buyouts outside of the SFHA which FEMA rejected for funding. However, there is another metric that FEMA uses regarding landslide vulnerability. He isn't sure if it needs to be in the Plan but folks should be aware.

Dan reviewed the tweaks that Staff made to the strategies (section 5.4.3 of the County Plan) including clarifying edits and removal of specific Tactical Basin Plan timelines, added a task to help build project tables (Ben indicated that these are intended to be rolled into the State hazard mitigation plan so there should be assistance to help with these projects), and removed similar language in the “shovel ready” project task (because language wasn't as clear as new task and they are basically the same), Strategy 5 follows closely with our typical transportation work, and Strategy 6 covers the ERAF criteria.

There was some discussion regarding changes to ERAF to obtain the 5% bonus via the adoption of River Corridor or River Corridor Protection Area standards that will be in place once the early adopter status lapses. Ken asked if this will be an easy fix since most of these areas are already protected by existing regulations. It depends on the existing regulations and if they meet the intent of river corridor protection. The existing setbacks may do all that is needed (especially if the setbacks can be waived).

7. **Monitoring Implementation of the Plan**

Dan Albrecht provided an overview of the proposed activities to monitor implementation of the Plan from 2016-2021 (Section 6 of the County Plan). We will do an annual survey of the municipalities to see what has been done (CCRPC has not done a very good job of this previously). CCRPC will do a thorough review of the strategies and actions every two years. We will ask this Committee to meet once a year starting in 2018.

8. **Next Steps**

- a. Selectboards will see a draft form of the Annex for the municipality before it goes to FEMA for final approval in July/August. Then we anticipate the legislative bodies will formally adopt the County level plan and the Annex in early Fall. Ben indicated that FEMA has been taking two months. The first drafts of the remaining municipal Annexes will be sent to the DEMHS in the next 10 days and we should receive comments back on the County plan soon. We will then submit the draft County Plan and Annexes to the municipalities and ask if they would appreciate a presentation. Then we will plan to give a presentation once the final drafts are sent to FEMA.
- b. There is a public meeting to review the County plan on June 29th here at the CCRPC.
- c. Next Meeting of this Committee. Unless VDEMHS requires extensive edits to the County plan or to the local AHMP template, the Committee will likely only hold a short meeting sometime in the next few months immediately after the time that the Planning Advisory Committee meets.

9. **Adjourn**

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 3:50pm.

Respectfully submitted, Regina Mahony and Dan Albrecht