

Goodhue County All Hazard Mitigation Plan Update Public Meeting

August 27, 2009

Zumbrota City Hall – Zumbrota, MN

Attending:

Diane Richter-Biwer - Office of Emergency Management
Sarah Schrader – Goodhue County GIS Department
Marvin Ehlers – Zumbrota Township
Robert Benson – Stanton Township
Vince Cockriel – Stanton Township
Sandy Hadler – Zumbrota News
David Hadler – Minneola Township
Glen Roberson – Goodhue Soil & Water Conservation District
Gail Riemersma – Lake City EMS
Debbie Stark – Cannon Falls Township
Doug Sommer – Minneola Township
Bill Budensiek - Minneola Township
Beth Giesl – Cannon Falls School District
Dan Retchzigel – County Commissioner

7pm – Welcome and Introductions (Sarah Schrader)

Overview of Plan

- Brief review of Plan purpose, planning process, and timeline

Status of each section

- Updated maps are on display
- Results of hazard rank worksheet
- Results of goal survey

FEMA Grant information

- FEMA mitigation assistance programs listed and importance of including the project in the Plan emphasized
- List of FEMA eligible projects displayed and discussed
- Documenting damage from hazards is important for completing the cost/benefit review required when applying for FEMA money.

Explanation of available resources listing project ideas

- Individual lists of project ideas pertaining to cities, school districts, and townships are available. These lists incorporate ideas suggested in the survey, at the open house, and by jurisdictions.
- List of alternative funding sources

Upcoming Draft Review/Open House

- It was mentioned that in late September/early October the County will host an open house for policy committee members and the public to view a draft of the updated Plan. The date has not yet been finalized but information will be advertised in the local newspapers and participants will be contacted by letter or email. All worksheets and project ideas should be submitted to county staff by mid September to be included in the final draft.

7:30pm: Time to review resources, complete worksheets, ask individual questions, and discuss with other committee members regarding mitigation goals and project ideas

- A suggestion was made to request that all townships provide information regarding any large equipment such as trucks that they own. This information would be helpful to know in the event of a disaster so that more local resources could be used first before paying private companies for services.
- There is much concern in Minneola township regarding flooding. Township representatives feel that additional dams could greatly reduce the amount of flooding in the township.
 - o FEMA currently will not provide funding for dams through the Hazard Mitigation funding sources. County staff will still include this information and mitigation strategies related to this in the plan. It is possible that other funding sources become available in the future and it would be helpful to note these concerns now.
- Questions were raised about whether plans are currently in place regarding the H1N1 flu (Swine flu). Yes, Goodhue County's Emergency Management office has been working closely with State agencies who have compiled procedures in case there is an outbreak of this flu.
 - o Information about any specific plans in place and an overview of the H1N1 flu will be added to the County's Hazard Mitigation Plan.
- Questions were raised regarding the County's new 800mhz radio system and the location of towers around the county. A suggestion was made that each township should be provided one 800mhz radio in order to use to communicate with law enforcement and emergency personnel in the event of a disaster. This item will be added to the plan as a mitigation strategy. County staff will also work with law enforcement regarding the possible mapping of the 800mhz towers in the county.

8:45pm: Meeting ended