

Flood Resiliency Plan Symposium Notes

April 29, 2025

Introduction

- Matthew Blackwood
 - o EMD in TC Energy for 14 more months due to new owners of building.
 - o Job Openings
 - o It is important to participate in today's event.
- Bob Martin
 - o Think of why you are here, not just today but why you do the job you do.
 - o Serve your community
- Ed Martin
 - o Five questions for this review process.
 - o Collect input from attendees to contribute to the review of the plan.

Flood Resiliency Plan Overview

- The original plan was over 300 pages long and hard to navigate.
- Can navigate the document in several ways online.
- Authorization and Document Guide Overview
- Executive Summary
 - o The original review symposium was with Pew.
 - o Multiple objectives for each goal.
 - o As relative today as it was in 2004.
- General potential actions
- Monitoring Trends to guide Future Resilience
- Prioritization of Actions
 - o Hazard Mitigation Plan
 - o Comprehensive plans
 - o List of plans and programs
- Employing a multi-benefit approach
- Potential Actions by Sector and Organization
 - o Read what you need section
 - o Please think of the nine sectors
 - Do they need to be broken down more?
- Reserved Sections
 - o Come up with potential actions for reserved entities.
- Positive feedback regarding "Do you think this plan is good and a good place to start and build?"
- It is important to have a document that everyone can advocate for.

Flood Resiliency Plan Review Question Discussion

WVUGIS Technical Center Presentation

- Four primary tools make up the Flood Resiliency Framework
- Stakeholders
- WV Flood Risk Index
 - o Overall Flood Risk is based on different risk indicators.
- Analytical and Visualization Tools at multiple scales
 - o Political scales
- WV Risk Explorer
 - o Online suite of tools for flood risk, mitigation, etc.
 - Risk communication tools
 - o Mitigation Assessment tools
- Statewide Flood Risk
- Discussed the recent February 2025 flood event
 - o McDowell and Mingo County examples
 - o Discussed results of risk assessments.
- Regional flood risk assessments for regions 1 and 2.
- WV Flood Dashboard
 - o Risk Assessment
 - o Mitigation
 - o Fatality rates
- McDowell County is ranked three out of 55 counties for risk.
- Can compare county risk indicators
- wvfrf.org
- Reports can be printed or saved as a pdf
- McDowell- lowest median property value in the floodplain (\$14,000)
 - o The national percentage of mobile homes occupied residential units 5.9%
 - o Percentage of WV 14%
- Building level flood risk tools
 - o Significant structure risk
- www.wvfrf.org/wvre
- WVUGIS would like to do more training, also looking for funding to maintain and update.
- WV Flood Tool
 - o Section 202- Corps authority to design and implement flood control measures (structural and non-structural)
 - o Non-structural
 - Buyouts and elevations
 - o Mingo

- Used visual and example of trailer that was destroyed (non-compliant)
- Number of churches- Borderline Baptist (4-5 foot of water in the sanctuary)
- 29 Hatfield Bottom- new cabin built in compliance and 2025 flood got into the structure.
- Most places are built based on 100-year flood levels.
- Open space parcels- a park can be put into these areas but cannot build a home.
 - County audit should be done to determine if deed is restricted.
- Stokes Street
 - 1977 flood protect level
- o Statewide Mitigated Structures inventoried
- o GIS will be discussing more tools for floodplain managers at the upcoming Floodplain Managers Conference.
- o Communities are responsible for damage assessments.
- o Buyouts are done through hazard mitigation
 - Resident must indicate that they want to be bought out (or business owner)
- o Multiple programs are out there.

Flood Resiliency Plan Review Question Discussion (continued)

Emergency Management Division Presentation

- Individual Assistance- Ehrin Starcher
- Changes – must input the date of the event.
- Barriers- connectivity issues, high population of elderly.
- Long term recovery groups
 - o Community based
 - o Local Houses of Worship
 - o Large denominational groups
 - o Community services, etc.
 - o No one plan can cover all the disaster-related recovery needs of the hardest impacted individuals and homes.
 - o Case management plans normally depend on having LTRGs.
 - Volunteer case management training?
 - Disaster case managers (state)
 - o Executive Board
 - Construction management
 - Spiritual and emotional care
 - Case management
 - o Votes on expenditure “pooled” funds

- o Must have a fiduciary
- Public Assistance- Josh Kirwan
- Debris Operations
- FEMA may or may not pay for your debris removal.
- Reimbursement program based on eligible expenses.
- Goals
 - o Get communities back to five minutes before disaster occurred.
 - o Provide accurate information
 - o Know the player who can provide assistance.
 - o Understand permitting requirements
 - o Collect necessary documentation
- Overview of debris eligibility
- Topics of concern
 - o Procurement
 - o Permitting
 - o Documentation
 - o Separation
 - o Staging
 - o Monitoring
 - o Quarantine Zone
 - o Businesses