

Meeting Minutes – Monday, October 14, 2024
Bladen-Columbus-Robeson RHMP Kick-Off Meeting
10:30am EDT

Online (Virtual) Attendees	In Person Attendees
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Austin Brinkley, Senior Planner, Insight Planning & Development • Danielle Taliaferro, Administrative Manager (scribe), Insight Planning & Development • Mayor Robert McDougald, Town of Rowland NC (Robeson County) • Benton Rogers, Town of St Paul's, Asst. Public Works Director • Carl Baker, NCEM, Hazard Mitigation Planner • Renee Babson, Admin Assistant, Bladen County EM • Victoria Carter, Town of Pembroke Stormwater and Special Projects Program Manager • John Mello, Hazard Mitigation Planner, NC Emergency Management • R. Crosby, Town of Chadbourn, Finance Director • 919-649-7426 • Joey Coleman, Bladen County EM • Bobbie Faircloth, Project Manager, Town of Fair Bluff • Angela Pitchford, Town Manager, Town of Maxton 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Justin Hunt, Robeson County EM • Josh Ward, Tabor City, town of Brunswick • Nola Viles, Columbus County • Duella Hall, Columbus County • Walter Powell, Town of Marietta • Stephanie Dollinger, St. Pauls • Michael Owens, St Pauls Police Department • Tammy McKell, Lumberton EM • James Edwards, Town of Marietta

Begin Meeting (Austin Brinkley)

- I. Opening/Introductions/Objectives/Agenda Review
 - a. Engage Community
 - b. Gather Input
 - c. Educate
 - d. Enhance Relevance
- II. What is Mitigation
 - a. Definition Reviewed
 - b. Hazard Mitigation
- III. Types of Mitigation
 - a. Prevention
 - b. Property Protection
 - c. Natural Resource Management
 - d. Structural Projects
 - e. Emergency Services
- IV. Purpose of Update
 - a. Reflect on changing risks
 - b. Increase community resilience
 - c. Compliance and funding

- d. Ensure Preparedness
- V. Changing Risks
 - a. Pop. Increase & community growth
 - b. More manmade hazards
 - i. Technological, Civil Disturbances or Terrorism
 - c. Climate change
 - d. Development Patterns
 - i. More infrastructure and assets at risk
- VI. Increase Community Resilience
 - a. Identification of new vulnerabilities
 - b. Adopting effective mitigation strategies
- VII. Compliance and Funding – 5 year update – required to be updated per Hazard Mitigation Act of 2000
 - a. Plan needs to be in place and compliant in order to be eligible for funding
 - b. Ensure compliance w/ federal and state requirements
 - c. Maintain eligibility for disaster mitigation funding and assistance programs
- VIII. Step One – Organize Results (today's approximate status)
 - a. Organizing resources
 - b. Reached out to communities in the region
 - c. Identifying stakeholders
 - d. Coordinating with departments to finalize stakeholder lists
- IX. Step Two – Risk Assessment
 - a. Hazard identification
 - i. Previously identified
 - ii. Identify new hazards
 - b. Vulnerability Assessment
 - c. Capability Assessment
 - i. How prepared are we?
 - ii. Identify gaps
- X. Previously identified hazards from 2020
 - a. Hurricanes
 - b. Droughts
 - c. Dam/Levee Failure
 - d. Will be able to reevaluate to determine the likely hood of a recurrence
 - e. Develop best strategy based on the region
- XI. Step Three – Develop Mitigation Plan & Set goals
 - a. Drafting an action plan
- XII. Step Four – Adoption and Implementation
 - a. Seek approval from relevant authorities
 - b. Manage resources
 - c. Identify actions
 - d. Monitor along the way
 - e. Self-assessment and prepare for next update
- XIII. Project Schedule
 - a. Project Kickoff Date – 7/8/2024
 - b. Larger Stakeholder Meeting – 10/14/2024
 - c. Public Mtg. #1 – TBD

- d. Proposed Delivery of draft - 4/6/2025
- e. Public Mtg. # 2 – TBD
- f. Existing Plan Expiration Date – 10/6/2025
- g. Little under a year from adoption and implementation

XIV. Project Website

- a. Can be used to access survey
- b. Plan updates
- c. Meeting announcements
- d. Can be used for public outreach

XV. Next Steps

- a. Share public survey
- b. Select date/location for first public meeting
- c. Need as much input as possible
- d. Update status of existing action plan
- e. Engage smaller communities
- f. Missing contact information – will seek recommendations following meeting

XVI. QR Code/Link for survey

XVII. Questions/Open Floor

- a. Carl – Couldn't hear introductions from folks in the room
- b. No tribal representation at the meeting today
 - i. Asked that folks reach out and try to get a hold of tribal representatives – get them engaged in process
 - ii. Reminder about underserved populations as well – get them engaged and part of update process
- c. Review of Four Steps again – Step 1 will conclude around public meeting wrapping up.
 - i. Should have public meeting scheduled in the next month or so. Keep momentum.
- d. Will share PPT with minutes

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