



**PALM BEACH COUNTY
LOCAL MITIGATION STRATEGY
STEERING COMMITTEE
AGENDA**



February 15, 2023

9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.

Palm Beach County EOC – Broadcast Studio

- 1. Call to Order – Welcome and Introductions/Roll Call – Ralph Wall, Chairperson**
 - Meeting commenced at 09:04 a.m.
 - Introductions around the room completed. (See the sign-in sheet for a complete list of attendees)

- 2. LMS Member update – Ronnie Heen, PBC DEM**
 - Defined what comprises the LMS steering committee.
 - Ronnie asked the group if they were a part of any other committees that could assist the LMS committee.
 - Ralph suggested collaborating with the Sustainability Group which for Palm Beach County is the Office of Resilience. The work they do parallels with the LMS, PPI, and CRS to assist with points multipliers.
 - Office of Resilience has information that can assist all with updates to LMS and PPIs.
 - Ralph wants to encourage the Office of Resilience to be a part of the LMS steering committee. Motion made by Ralph to have Office of Resilience join the LMS Steering Committee. All approved and none opposed.
 - Ronnie commented that the Office of Resilience can always come to the group for anything they need.
 - Ralph added that the Office of Resilience should designate a primary and secondary member.

- 3. FY23 LMS Calendar & PPL – Ronnie Heen, PBC DEM**
 - All the schedules for meetings/committees have been put out for FY23.
 - Asked if anyone is interested in hosting LMS meetings. No response from the committee.
 - Letter going out today from Ronnie with approval from the committee regarding LMS submission reviews, their due dates, etc. Ronnie reviewed the submission, review, evaluation, and committee timeline for the incoming LMS submissions.



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4. Survey Results – Ronnie Heen & Bethany King, PBC DEM

- Survey was sent out to the LMS committee regarding the meetings and what could be improved.
- Survey was sent out to 120 stakeholders, and only 35 answered.
- The biggest challenge for attending meetings according to the survey results were other obligations.
- Other questions in the survey included meeting times, meeting locations, how participation could be improved, and what future topics stakeholders would like to be discussed.
- Comment that a full picture should be presented to municipalities to show countywide issues that have the potential to impact individual municipalities and it could possibly increase participation and engagement. Suggested that the League of Cities may be an outlet to communicate this and that the LMS committee can be a good resource to assist smaller municipalities.
- Nicole – We need someone to present overall hazards for the county. Suggest a County speaker (Mary?) present to the League of Cities or EM Municipal Group and discuss about how we can collaborate if the County has an overall goal, focus for mitigation and a muni doesn't have funding to do their part of an overall project. Could possibly identify that a more well-funded muni could help fund the projects if they benefited from the completion of a project in a less funded muni.

5. LMS 5 Year process – Ronnie Heen, PBC DEM

- **10-Step Process Review (CRS)**
 - Plan is due October 2024. The LMS committee will be going through the 10-step process for the next year and a half.
 - A lot of the steps (steps 1-7) are already being done through the Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan. Making it easier to update the plan.
 - Draft the plan, adopt the plan, and then implement, evaluate, and revise. (steps 8-10)
 - The plan is to create a draft and open it up to the public. Make revisions and open it up to the public again. The end result is to get all the communities as many points as possible using their input.
 - Ralph commented with the operation of the PPI, you use it to update and manage flood management plans, CRS, etc. Getting all the community people in the room allows you to make sure your plans and processes are tied in and responding to the real world.



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6. Questions/Comments – Ralph Wall, Chairperson

- **Question:** How are vulnerability assessments conducted? **Answer:** Each city applies individually, and some cities collaborate with others to ensure they meet the state requirements. There is also a grant available to assist with providing funding for consultants to assist the municipality in reaching the requirements for the vulnerability assessment.
- Ralph commented that he prefers the face to face meetings versus virtual ones and that the meetings are beneficial in person. However, some of the smaller municipalities that are run by up to 3 people or are short staff could benefit from virtual, and the group should consider adding a virtual component.
- Ronnie added that it's not always easy to host a meeting virtual/hybrid meetings where you have a mix of people in person and online. This is because not all rooms are equipped to work virtually where those that are virtual can't hear the comments in the room.
- Discussion to incorporate a virtual component to the meetings due to the overwhelming number of survey respondents who mentioned wanting this option to help increase their participation in the LMS meetings. Ralph Wall agrees but is not sure how to implement virtual meetings. Suggest hosting a virtual meeting as part of the rotation of locations where the meeting is hosted.
- Ralph also added that 3 locations within the county are equipped to handle hybrid meetings. Ralph will share the locations with Ronnie and Bethany.
- Comment that Room # VC-1W47 used by the Construction Board of Adjustments and Appeals is a location that is set up for hybrid meetings.
- Ralph emphasized looking into scheduling a hybrid meeting in any of the above locations offered.
- Future conversations will be had regarding hybrid/virtual meetings.
- Bethany advised the committee that the PBCDEM is hosting G2302 the first week of May, if anybody is interested.
- Ronnie also advised if anybody has projects to put them in or start drafting their plans before the deadline.

7. Next Meeting: May 24, 2023 at 9:00am

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