

**GREEN RIVER AREA DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT
HAZARD MITIGATION COUNCIL MEETING**

November 3, 2022

M-I-N-U-T-E-S

The Green River Area Development District (GRADD) Hazard Mitigation Council met on Thursday, November 3, 2022, at 10:30 AM at the GRADD office.

The following persons were in attendance:

MEMBERS PRESENT

Buzzy Newman, City of Henderson
Vicki Hughes, City of Island
Mary Wallace, Ohio County, EM
Randy Greenwell, City of Morganfield
Andy Ball, Daviess Co. EM

Betty Howard, City of Sacramento
Jeremy Moore, Webster County, EM
Garrett Gordon, RWRA

GUESTS PRESENT

Joanna Shake, GRADD
Colie Smith, GRADD
Cheyton Pendley, GRADD

I. CALL TO ORDER

Jeremy Moore called the meeting to order at 10:32 AM and noted there was a quorum.

II. OLD BUSINESS

A. Approval of Minutes

The minutes from the February 12, 2021, meeting of the GRADD HMPC were presented for approval. A motion was made by Andy Ball & seconded by Mayor Howard to approve the minutes from February 12, 2021. A vote was taken and the motion carried.

III. NEW BUSINESS

A. CISA Pilot Project Update

Colie Smith presented an overview of CISA/GRADD partnership. Phase I (drafting IRPF) has been completed and phase II is underway. Phase II approach consists of system interviews, data analysis, council meetings (Water Management and Hazard Mitigation), county level project meetings, and finally drafting risk assessment add on for the GRADD Hazard Mitigation Plan.

Mr. Smith shared the preliminary findings: strengths discovered include a high level of cooperation between utilities and supply chain resilience. Vulnerabilities by sector, defined as infrastructure dependencies without an existing mitigation strategy, include three (3) for the Energy sector, nine (9) for the communication sector, and six (6) for the transportation sector.

B. Infrastructure Resiliency Planning Session

Colie Smith led a discussion with members about projects to address preliminary findings as well as other ideas to make infrastructure more resilient.

- Portable generators
 - Mayor Greenwell brought up the topic of needing portable generators for lift stations (wastewater collection).
 - Disparity noted during system interviews that wastewater systems have a slightly higher vulnerability from the energy sector since they don't have as many backup generators, as well as the nature of their systems (number of lift stations vs pump stations, etc.).
 - Consensus among committee is portable generators that can move between lift stations to pump them down during power outages is most cost-effective approach to mitigate vulnerability.
 - Generator requirements/considerations: size and type of generator (phase/kW), having lift stations equipped with quick connects.
- Interconnects with neighboring drinking water systems
 - Mayor Howard suggested having backup water sources by having interconnects that allow communities to access drinking water from multiple sources (water treatment plants).
 - GRADD is already working to identify current system interconnects with the goal of pursuing a regional water system model to assess drinking water system resilience.

- Prepositioned contracts
 - Buzzy Newman brought up the topic of having prepositioned contracts for catastrophic or likely failure points within utilities.
 - The Council discussed the necessity to have contracts executed and on file for disaster response needs. Example of Henderson Water Utility having a contract on file for a river barge/excavator/crane in case they have a catastrophic failure of their raw water intake from the river.
 - Joanna Shake shared current efforts at the state level (being led by Judge O'Nan) to create language to allow for mutual aid between local governments during a disaster.
 - Andy Ball briefly discussed past arrangements through Kentucky Emergency Management that allowed for mutual aid between emergency management agencies. KYEM Region 2 created a regional agreement after state agreement expired. Efforts ongoing with new KYEM director to reestablish statewide mutual aid agreement.
- Raw Water Intakes
 - Colie Smith explained raw water intakes and the different considerations between different types (rivers, lakes, aqueducts).
 - The council discussed the types of raw water intakes used by regional water treatment plants and if it would be worthwhile to classify the different risks associated with each method and the type of repair/restoration necessary in the event of a catastrophic failure or natural disaster.
 - Consensus among council members was yes, this should be investigated further. This item will be added to the upcoming county level meetings associated with Phase II.
- Fire protection
 - Andy Ball brought up concern about how emergency services sector (fire protection) is impacted by a failure within the water sector.
 - Colie Smith stated this issue is not something actively discussed during Phase II to date, but it will be added to considerations going forward, especially in the Phase II county level meetings.
 - Current alternate fire protection plan is pumper trucks but there isn't a contingency or emergency plan to account for this risk.

IV. OTHER BUSINESS AND OPEN DISCUSSION

Andy Ball brought up the benefits of local governments having a debris management plan on file before a disaster. Discussion between council members and GRADD staff about the recent case studies of the Western KY tornadoes and the Eastern KY flooding highlight the difficulties associated with debris management and complying with FEMA guidelines. Further discussion on this topic will take place at the next Hazard Mitigation Council Meeting (date TBD), and this issue will likely be a priority of the council for 2023.

Jeremy Moore thanked Colie Smith for his assistance since joining GRADD and mentioned Webster County Courthouse is going to receive a physical security assessment in early December with the goal of providing documentation for a homeland security grant in 2023.

Jeremy Moore opened the floor for further discussion of any other business. There were no questions/comments.

V. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to come before the council, Mayor Greenwell made a motion to adjourn that was seconded by Buzzy Newman.