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

November 14, 2023
M-I-N-U-T-E-S

The Green River Area Development District (GRADD) Hazard Mitigation Council met on Tuesday, November 14, 2023, at 1:00 PM at the GRADD office.

The following persons were in attendance:

MEMBERS PRESENT

Jeremy Moore, Webster County EM
Curtis Dame, McLean County Fiscal Court
Chris Cunningham, Daviess County EM
Joe Schepers, Regional Water Resources Association
Patsy Mayfield, City of Whitesville
Jamie Harkins, City of Providence
Lee Baird, Union County EMA
Charlie Shields, Ohio County EM
Randy Norman, Webster County and City of Dixon
Lance Wilson, McLean County Regional Water Council
Scott Clements, City of Morganfield
Jake Powers, City of Hawesville
Trey Pedley, Owensboro Metropolitan Planning Commission
Lelan Hancock, City of Owensboro
Monte Davenport, City of Sebree
Kenny Garrett, Henderson, EMA

GUESTS PRESENT

Phytos Neophytou, OMU
Austin McLimore, OMU
Russ Evans, OMU
Sean Sheffer, Union County EMA
Denise Bell, EMA

Colie Smith, GRADD
Dana Garrett, GRADD
Therese Payne, GRADD



Steve Henry, Chairman | Adam O'Nan, Vice Chairman | Johnny "Chic" Roberts, Secretary | Curtis Dame, Treasurer | Joanna Shake, Executive Director

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I. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Jeremy Moore called the meeting to order at 1:00 PM and noted there was a quorum.

II. OLD BUSINESS

A. Approval of Minutes

The minutes from the July 19, 2023, meeting of the GRADD Hazard Mitigation Council were presented for approval.

A motion was made by Trey Pedley and seconded by Kenny Garrett to approve the minutes from July 19, 2023. A vote was taken and the motion carried.

III. NEW BUSINESS

A. Water and Wastewater Risk Assessment

Colie Smith, GRADD Regional Resiliency Coordinator, explained GRADD, in partnership with Kentucky Emergency Management (KYEM), participated in the development of the Infrastructure Resiliency Planning Framework (IRPF). GRADD planners utilized the IRPF to evaluate the water and wastewater infrastructure sector in the region and produced a risk assessment add-on for the GRADD Hazard Mitigation Plan.

Mr. Smith shared the planning process and findings of the risk assessment. The following conclusions were determined from the assessment:

- Water emergencies can bring local communities to a standstill within hours and could trigger regional impacts if an incident impacts a water treatment plant or water sources.
- Mitigation actions for the water and wastewater sector have focused on protection from its reliance on the energy sector by installing secondary power sources (generators).
- Gaps and vulnerabilities of equal concern exist from interdependencies with the transportation and communications sectors.
- Critical personnel and critical nodes within the water sector also warrant attention for future mitigation efforts.
- A total of 72 new local hazard mitigation strategies were identified because of this planning effort.

Chair Jeremy Moore asked the Council for a motion to add the results of the risk assessment to the GRADD Hazard Mitigation Plan.

A motion was made by Charlie Shields and seconded by Chris Cunningham to add the results of the risk assessment to the GRADD Hazard Mitigation Plan. A vote was taken and the motion carried.

B. Owensboro Grain Bank Stabilization Project

Colie Smith shared the Owensboro Grain Bank Stabilization Project applied for Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC) funding in Fiscal Year 2021 and Fiscal Year 2022. The Fiscal Year 2021 application was deemed ineligible, but FEMA provided a list of additional technical information required to fund construction and suggested a phased project. Staff used the notes provided by FEMA for the Fiscal Year 2022 application, and it was considered technically feasible and cost effective. However, the project did not receive funding. GRADD intends to submit another BRIC application in Fiscal Year 2023.

Mr. Smith explained frequent flooding of the river has caused severe erosion along the riverbank. Slope creep has resulted in structural movement and damage to critical infrastructure in the project area. A phased project solution to mitigate the issue has been selected. Phase 1 would include studies to confirm feasibility, technical design development, refinement of benefit cost analysis and engineering. Phase 2 would include the construction of a sheet pile wall and stormwater infrastructure to arrest slope movement, prevent a bank failure, protect against extreme rainfall and flooding events, and withstand seismic event along the approximately 1,400 feet of riverbank. The total cost for the project is \$16 million.

The Council discussed impacted populations, particularly those farmers who sell to Owensboro Grain who will be impacted by a shut down during mitigation. They also discussed environmental impacts and suggested reaching out to the Army Corps of Engineers for more environmental analysis.

C. FEMA Planning Guidance Update

Colie Smith shared FEMA released new guidance in April of 2022 that went into effect in April of 2023 which stressed active participation and buy-in from community leaders, stakeholders, and the public in planning efforts. Mr. Smith asked who should be added to the Council to have meaningful involvement of a wide variety of stakeholders and community lifelines. Members suggested judges appoint a designee on the Council in addition to the emergency managers.

D. HMC Bylaws Discussion

Chair Jeremy Moore asked the Council how membership could be increased. As suggested earlier, judges could appoint a designee in addition to emergency managers from each county. Charlie Shields suggested a voice from the medical field from each county would be beneficial as well. Chair Moore asked if a set day and time for meetings would be preferred

and the Council agreed. Colie Smith and Chair Moore will bring all proposed changes to the bylaws before the Council at the next meeting for approval.

E. Regional Energy Resilience Project Update

Colie Smith shared the purpose and results thus far of the Regional Energy Resilience Project. So far, the response rate has been 37 percent, with more participation in some counties than others. Moving forward, GRADD will explore the possibility of mailing a flyer to critical facilities to gather more responses. Mr. Smith asked emergency managers if they lived in a county with a low response rate, to please share the survey with critical facilities in their community.

IV OTHER BUSINESS AND OPEN DISCUSSION

None

V. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to come before the Council, Charlie Shields made a motion to adjourn that was seconded by Chris Cunningham. The meeting adjourned at 1:51 PM.



Jeremy Moore, Chair