

**Mitigation Advisory Task Force
April 14, 2005 Meeting**

1. Introductions: The meeting began at 5:00 p.m. with introductions. In attendance were the following committee members:

Ralph J. Bailey	Sun River Terrace
Robert Bleyle	Momence
Jerry Charter	Bonfield
Ray Cummins	Buckingham
Elden Dubuque	Chebanse
Scott Fitts	Grant Park
John R. Haley	Kankakee Community College
Robert Hart	Chebanse
Dan Jay	Bradley
Paula Karlock	Farm Bureau/Soil and Water Conservation District
Alan J. Labaj	Momence Township
Craig Long	Kankakee County ESDA/Sheriff's Department
Jill Magnuson	French & Associates
Dennis Millirons	KRPC—Community Development Subcommittee
Shawn O'Brien	Property Owner
Alan Ramsey	Kankakee Valley Fire Chiefs
Eric Sadler	Kankakee County Planning Department
Mike Spilsbury	KRPC—Community Development Subcommittee
Mike Van Mill	Kankakee County Planning Department
French Wetmore	French & Associates

2. Audience to visitors: There were no visitors present.

3. Planning Step 2—Public Involvement:

Jill Magnuson gave a brief summary of the Open House that was held on March 10, 2005. Approximately 40 people signed the sign-in sheet and 10 people handed in a comment sheet. The comment sheets did not have any negative comments. The most popular and helpful booths were the Federal Emergency Management Agency, Kankakee County Planning Department, Kankakee County CERTS, University of Illinois Extension Office, the Red Cross, and the Kankakee County Health Department. A summary of the comments sheets and some photos are attached to these minutes.

It was also mentioned that minutes and agendas for previous meetings may be viewed online at the Kankakee County Planning Department website.

3. Review of Draft Chapter 1—Introduction:

It was suggested that the National Resources Conservation Service should be added to the list of stakeholder organizations.

Several communities had updates for the critical facilities listed in Chapter 1. These communities were asked to list the names and exact addresses for facilities that need to be added and send them to French by April 29, 2005.

Someone asked what the communities that are not participating in this Hazard Mitigation Plan will be losing by not being involved. French answered that these communities will not receive credit under the Community Rating System, which means their flood insurance premiums will not be reduced. These communities also will not be eligible to receive funding for mitigation activities from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA).

4. Planning Steps 4 and 5—Hazard Assessment and problem evaluation:

Review of Draft Chapter 2—Hazard Profile:

There was some discussion as to what criteria are used to determine a major tributary of the Kankakee River. Some people felt that important creeks were not listed, such as Wiley Creek. French explained the Flood Insurance Rate Map. This map is from 1979 and needs to be updated. The shortcomings of this map need to be noted in this chapter; plans to fix the mapping errors will need to be discussed in the mitigation chapter.



Committee members review the flood maps

Someone then asked how a flood is measured. French explained that historical flood heights, historical rainfall levels, and watershed surface conditions are used to determine the amount of water expected at different levels of probability (e.g., the 1% chance flood). This amount is routed through a computer model of the stream and overbank area to calculate the height of the flood. This height, or elevation, is then plotted on a map. Concern was shown about sediment being deposited in the Kankakee River and whether or not this would affect flooding. French answered that sediment typically has little effect on the 100-year flood level, but can adversely impact smaller flows that are mostly carried in the channel.

Several Committee members mentioned that the tornadoes on April 20, 2004 did cause significant damage that was not listed in the “Kankakee County Tornado Events” table. French noted this and said that it would be further investigated and the table and map would be updated.

Committee members also noted that the June 28, 2004 earthquake in Ottawa needs to be listed in the “Recent Earthquakes Felt in Illinois” table. Someone then asked if there were any information regarding how Kankakee County would be impacted from an earthquake in southern Illinois, for example, the loss of a natural gas line or other important utility. French said that he would see if the Illinois Hazard Mitigation Plan had any mention of this.

A committee member from mentioned they have had damage from microbursts. French asked them to fill out a Hazard Collection Form indicating the dates and amount of damage and to send this to him by April 29, 2005.

A committee member mentioned searching for brush fires in the National Fire Incident Report System. This information could be obtained from the State Fire Marshall.

Review of Chapter 3—Vulnerability Assessment:

Several communities had updates to the “Buildings in Kankakee County” table. They were asked to send the new numbers to French by April 29, 2005.

The health hazard in the “Overbank Flood Vulnerability” table was changed to high for Bradley, Bourbonnais, and Manteno because they are serviced by the same water system as Kankakee, which has a water treatment plant in the floodplain.

The economic impact in the “Winter Storm Vulnerability” table was changed from low to moderate because of the cost of snow removal to the municipalities.

There was a discussion regarding the economic impact from Drought and Extreme Heat. Some felt that it should be changed from moderate to high. It was suggested that crop damage needs to be incorporated into economic impact. French asked Mike Van Mill about information regarding which communities are on well water and how a drought might affect them.

Section 3-10 on wildfires will be updated as more information is received.

5. Planning Step 6—Goals:

Two goal-setting exercises were passed out at the meeting. These were filled out by committee members and handed in at the end of the meeting. French will bring the results of these sheets to the next meeting for discussion.

6. Assignments for Next Meeting:

The next meeting is set for Thursday, May 12 in the 4th floor County Board Room at the Kankakee County Administration Building at 5:00 p.m.

All committee members will submit additional information they have regarding the discussions of this meeting to French & Associates by April 29, 2004. French & Associates will revise the chapters discussed this evening.

The meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.



County of Kankakee

Planning Department

Hazard Awareness Open House Comments

A total of ten people filled out and returned the open house comment sheet. The following is a summary of their comment forms.

1. Which of the following best describes your house's or business' foundation?

0 Concrete slab 5 Basement 1 Crawlspace 2 Bilevel/trilevel 2 Manufactured home

2. What hazard(s) are you most concerned about? (check all that apply)

0 overbank flooding 3 local drainage flooding 3 sewer backup flooding
1 earthquakes 5 thunderstorms, high winds 3 lightning
4 hail 5 tornadoes 0 wildfire
1 drought, severe heat 3 winter snow/ice storms 2 other: radon, toxic mold

3. Has your house or property been flooded or been damaged by a natural hazard, such as wind, lightning or hail? 4 Yes 6 No

4. If yes, in what year or years? 1993, 1994, 1996, 1998, 2004

5. Were there any exhibits that you found particularly helpful? 9 Yes 0 No

If yes, which ones?

5 FEMA 2 CERTS 2 Planning Department 2 U of I Extension Office
1 Red Cross 1 Health Dept 1 Pro-series Backup Pumps 1 Basement Damp Proofing

6. Were there any exhibits that you thought were not appropriate? 0 Yes 10 No
If yes, which ones?

7. What kind of additional information could you use to better protect your family and property from harm by a natural hazard?

-Who to contact for each city/village to assist in flooding and sewage issues (the County cannot help since I live in Bourbonnais)

-TV/Radio warning systems, local town warning sirens, publication of flood areas in my town, and location of underground water tables

8. Please note any other comments you have on the other side of this form.

-I was surprised there was not any SBA flyers since flood disaster homeowners can apply for loans currently in Watseka.

~~ Please leave this form at the Registration Table. Thank you for attending. ~

Open House Photos

