

**Mitigation Advisory Task Force
May 12, 2005 Meeting**

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

David Bergdahl	Kankakee Regional Planning Commission
Robert Bleyle	Momence
Joe Buono	Herscher
Jerry Charter	Bonfield
Bill Carnahann	Herscher
Ray Cummins	Buckingham
Elden Dubuque	Chebanse
Scott Fitts	Grant Park
Carl Gerdovich	Iroquois County ESDA/ Radio Station WCFA
Norm Grimsley	Aroma Park
John Haley	Kankakee Community College
Robert Hart	Chebanse
Dan Jay	Essex/Bradley
Paula Karlock	Farm Bureau/Soil and Water Conservation District
Craig Long	Kankakee County ESDA
Jill Magnuson	French & Associates
Verlene Mullen	Hopkins Park
Shawn O'Brien	Floodplain resident
Dennis Peters	Kankakee Regional Planning Commission
Gary Preston	Bourbonnais
Alan Ramsey	Kankakee Valley Fire Chiefs Association
Eric Sadler	Kankakee County Planning Department
Rosalind Sallee	Hopkins Park
Bonnie Schaafsma	Kankakee County Health Department
Vicki Senesac	Manteno
Mike Spilsbury	Kankakee Regional Planning Commission
French Wetmore	French & Associates

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

3. Planning Step 1 – Organize:

French Wetmore displayed a chart which indicated the status of municipal involvement. All of the municipal resolutions, BCEGS reports, and Mitigation Measures sheets have been received.

Kankakee Community College and the Farm Bureau were added to the list of non-municipal representatives. French mention that it would be nice if more organizations were added to this list. A copy of the executive summary will be sent to each of these organizations with a request for their comment and input on the plan.

4. Planning Steps 4 and 5 – Hazard Assessment and Problem Evaluation:

The critical facilities list on page 1-8 was reviewed. A master copy of the list was passed around for committee members to review and to write in changes. It was also decided that the critical facilities list would not be published in the final draft of the plan because of safety concerns.

The building counts on pages 3-2 and 3-3 were reviewed. French asked the municipalities to review these lists and to send him any changes right away.

5. Planning Step 6 – Goals:

The goals in draft Chapter 4 were reviewed. The goals were drafted by French from the goal-setting exercises that were completed by committee members at the April 14 meeting. An informal vote was taken and the group unanimously accepted the drafted goals.

6. Planning Step 7 – Review mitigation strategies:

French reviewed and summarized Chapter 6 – Property Protection. He discussed that property protection was usually implemented by individual homeowners and explained the different options that were discussed in the chapter. French asked the committee members to let him know if they were aware of any property protection activities that have taken place in their community so that this information could be added to the plan.

A Commonwealth Edison tree program was mentioned. French said that he will contact them and then add a paragraph to Chapter 6. French also asked the committee to review the table on page 6-11 to make sure that the number of buildings in the floodplain is correct for each community. The conclusions and recommendations for Chapter 6 were then discussed. There was a general consensus on the drafted conclusions and recommendations.



French then reviewed and summarized Chapter 7 – Emergency Management. This chapter walks through the process of what happens when an emergency situation occurs. Kankakee County and Manteno were the only municipalities with a formal Emergency Management Plan. There was a discussion of how often gauge heights for the water level in the river were read and if more monitoring points were needed where the Kankakee and Iroquois rivers come together. French said that he will ask the National Weather Service about adding a gage at that location.

Committee members also showed an interest in further using a Geographical Information System (GIS) flood stage forecast map to guide flood response activities. French said he might know of a grant opportunity to help fund this and will bring information about it to the next meeting. Warning sirens were also discussed. Craig Long mentioned that the KANCOMM system will test the sirens for municipalities if they are interested. He also has example ordinances that require sirens for new development. Because there was so much discussion on this chapter, French will update the recommendations and bring them to the next meeting.

Chapter 8 – Flood Control was summarized and reviewed by French. French asked communities to send him information about problem bridges so the information could be added to the chapter. The annual volunteer cleanup of the Kankakee River was mentioned as something that should be added to the plan. The conclusions and recommendations were discussed and approved by the committee members.

7. Assignments for Next Meeting:

French said that he will revise the chapters discussed and they will be sent out along with the new chapters for the next meeting. These will both be mailed at the end of May.

Communities were to review the information asked and should send any changes or input to French as soon as possible.

8. Adjourn:

The meeting adjourned at 7:00 p.m.