

Flood Control Committee
September 4, 2014

SCANNED

The **Flood Control Committee** met Thursday, September 4, 2014, at 6:00 p.m. in the City Hall Conference Room. Present were Committee Chairperson John Hollowell, Committee Members Dwayne Andrews and Ken Gardner. Also present was Floodplain Administrator Sam Malenovsky, Councilperson Sue Galbraith, EAP Coordinator/Dam Safety Outreach Adam Powers, Mayor C.A. Grenz and Recorder HR/Payroll Officer Billie Burkhalter. Sheena Martin was excused.

1. Request of Citizens/Public Comment

-None.

2. Discussion of Letter of Map Amendment (LOMA) in the floodway for Milwaukee Park Addition, Block 4, Lots 1-6 and 17-22 (on Truscott Street)

Floodplain Administrator Malenovsky explained to the Committee that for certain letter of map revisions a "Community Acknowledgement" form is needed, such as in the case of Kathy Doeden's property. Administrator Malenovsky would need to sign off on this form to allow Mrs. Doeden to proceed in getting a LOMA in the floodway. Administrator Malenovsky presented the Committee with the packet that would be presented to FEMA. She then questioned the Committee if they wanted to have input on these situations prior to her signing the Community Acknowledgment form. Administrator Malenovsky stated the fill and one of the structures were done pre-FIRM (Flood Insurance Rate Map) and done correctly in the 1970's. Mrs. Doeden stated she is not below BFE (Base Flood Elevation) in certain areas of her land, as shown on the survey report, and has had HKM Engineering prepare the application.

Committee Member Andrews and Gardner both stated that they did not have a problem with the Floodplain Administrator signing the Community Acknowledgment form as everything has been done correctly and is pre-FIRM. Chairperson Hollowell instructed Administrator Malenovsky to proceed.

3. Discussion on Joint Project with Silver Jackets Concerning an Emergency Action Plan for Levee and Table Top Exercises.

Adam Powers, EAP Coordinator / Dam Safety Outreach introduced himself to the Committee and explained that his expertise is in emergency preparedness and creating emergency action plans. He explained the Silver Jackets program is essentially a combination of Federal, State and local partners. They have a wide breadth of coordination activities that they try to incorporate in dealing with mitigation of flood problems throughout the state. Part of their job is to find out who is the best agency to take the lead on a project in a community and to move projects forward.

EAP Coordinator Powers stated that Miles City's biggest concern is that the levy system is not certifiable between the CORP and FEMA, which results in rate increases. He explained the Project Assessment for Miles City will take years but, in the meantime, his department and the Silver Jackets want to work on lowering insurance rates in the community. Part of this process is to get points towards the Community Rating System (CRS). One way to do this is to create an Emergency Action Plan (EAP) for the levy system. This plan would pinpoint potential failures in the levy, determine what critical infrastructure would be impacted, establish evacuation zones, and implement notification and warning systems. The final portion of the plan would be to conduct a walk-through exercise for the Community.

To start the process of the EAP, he has submitted an application to the Corp of Engineers for its assistance in mapping scenarios of a levy breach. The EAP would also incorporate numerous other agencies, such as the Department of Natural Resources (DNRC), County Emergency Management, and the Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC). Administrator Malenovsky stated that she also plans on involving the Program for Public Information (PPI), along with Public Works Director Scott Gray, Public Utilities Director Al Kelm and Planner-in-Training Dawn Colton.

Administrator Malenovsky stated implementing this Emergency Action Plan would be well worth the City's time, and effort. It would not require any additional funding from the City, only the employees time.

Committee Member Andrews stated the Floodplain Administer has always done very well in building CRS points for the City, and questioned how many points this would be worth. Administrator Malenovsky explained that between the levy system and having a floodplain response plan, it would be around 600 points. She further stated that this would get Miles City to the next level, plus another 100 points. Administrator Malenovsky stated Miles City is currently a "Class 8", but she will be submitting more information this month to the Insurance Services Office (ISO), which she believes will bring Miles City to a "Class 7."

Administrator Malenovsky explained to the Committee that along with the Flood Assessment Study, they are also looking into conducting a Hazard Mitigation Plan (HMP,) which is separate from an Emergency Action Plan. Mr. Powers explained that there are significant differences between a Hazard Mitigation Plan and an Emergency Action Plan. The Hazard Mitigation Plan comes down to what actions a City can take to create mitigation measures, and reduce or eliminate the hazard. The Emergency Action Plan is an operation based plan and establishes what action a community is going to take to shore up water if there is a failure.

Administrator Malenovsky explained both plans will give the City CRS points to lower flood insurance rates.

4. **Committee Members' Comments**
-None.

5. **Adjournment**

** *Committee Member Andrews moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Committee Member Gardner and passed unanimously, 3-0.*

There being no further business, the Committee adjourned at 6:35 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Flood Control Committee Chairperson



Billie D. Burkhalter, Recorder



John Hollowell, Chairperson