



**PALM BEACH COUNTY
LOCAL MITIGATION STRATEGY
WORKING GROUP
MINUTES**



**June 15, 2022
10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.
Juno Beach Town Center**

- I. **Call to Order – Welcome – Ralph Wall, Chairperson**
- II. **Roll Call – Ronnie Heen, PBCDEM**
 - Agency representation will be available upon request
- III. **Presentation – Ronnie Heen, PBCDEM**
 - LMS PPL Spring 2022 – Ronnie Heen, PBCDEM
 - Evaluation Period April 15 – 29, 2022
 - All documents located on our LMS Webpage pbcgov.com/dem
- IV. **Presentation – Jake Leech, PBC Office of Resilience**
 - Make municipalities aware of the funding available from state. Grants for vulnerability assessments then can apply for implementation funding. Vulnerability assessments June 22. July 1st – 21st for implementation. “Hundreds of millions of dollars”
 - Juno Beach received a million dollars through this grant
 - County got additional \$500,000 for an existing project
 - Ralph – Q: With PPL there are a lot of projects expecting the 75% match. Can this funding be used for the local match? Jake A: not sure, I’ll find out.
- V. **PPL Project Status and Discussion – Ronnie Heen, PBCDEM**
 - PPL – PBC Evaluation Panel just finished grading plans, discussed other resources available on pbcgov.com (LMS page)
 - Trying to get all info in one place. This is the place to check for meeting minutes from past meetings. New PPL, asterisks indicate whether new addition (project) or a rescore. Trying to capture if a project was removed and why. If project is removed or funded, trying to capture that information so we can tell how we are doing. Ex: Briny Breeze got a resiliency grant. Adding a column for notes about each project timeline and funding. Ronnie will be reaching out to check with project submitters to keep this list more up to date. Sometimes the person who submitted the project is no longer with the organization and no movement is occurring on those projects.
 - Projects that were “replaced”/rescored mostly went up in scores



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- Boynton has three projects in the top ten on the PPL – They did a good job submitting all needed documentation. Sometimes projects are not funded because they don't have good documentations. Many are missing CBAs (cost benefit analysis)
- For projects that are removed Ronnie is trying to note why/status– abandoned? Funded?
- Ralph Wall: PPL and the application/scoring process – documentation is important but the CBA is where you can really get a lot of points and it is the first thing that's evaluated when it goes to the state. If not CBA, the state will throw it out of consideration.
- Also, WP grant for new police station was just changed to 90/10 funding.
- It's good that Ronnie is tracking the money we are bringing into the county to show that we are the ones facilitating this money coming in

- Ronnie: With better tracking we'll be able to see how the county is doing overall. This information is not readily available now. Notes will include how the project is affecting the community. Sometimes projects are removed from the list because they are rolled into larger programs
- At the end of April, the state issued new guidance that will take effect in 2023. LMS policy guidance. Towards the end of the year, we will do more outreaches. Are Hazards and Threats still relevant or are changes needed to address new Hazards and Threats. Resiliency is the new buzz word with FEMA. Capture the right information so our plans meet the states requirements. When the state issues a new plan we will also issue a new plan to match the information in the state plan. We're not using resources well enough. Most questions we have are answered in these resources.
- Ronnie is trying to get state to conduct and LMS workshop at PBC EOC. That way the people that are grading our plans will be the ones sharing the information.
- Ralph: The last cycle, the county LMS (?) scored one of the highest scores ever submitted because we followed the 10 step process, step by step. Many of the smaller communities use the county's LMS plan so this will help their score. Discussed the importance of having projects on the PPL.
- Q: Ronnie to group – How does everyone feel about having meetings in person? Where we have meetings the facility doesn't always have the capability of conducting the meetings virtually.
- A: Juno- the more we do this and get back into the routine, the more people will get used to it. The benefit of being in person outweighs the convenience of virtual.



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- Vote2: agree with in person. May have less attendees but more participation
- Vote 3: Ken – agrees with in person.
- Ralph agrees with in person however...we try to move the meetings around to meet everyone and see where they're working...there is a requirement that in order for the LMS committee to support project, first thing needed for project approval is a letter from the LMS saying you are in good standing. That requires meeting attendance. Must have attend two meetings, if not you are violating what the commission adopted and committed your agency to.
- Suggestion: 4 meetings so do 2 in person and 2 virtually.
- Ralph: If you want to be considered for reimbursement for a declared disaster, 1st question is are you participating in the LMS. If you're not attending it will put your jurisdiction as risk of not receiving funding. Agrees with 2 in person and 2 virtually.
- Riviera Beach – Thinks we should be in person but jurisdictions shouldn't be penalized if they're not "allowed" to attend.
- Ronnie: Discussed the difficulties of a hybrid (in person and virtual) – Doing both at the same time causes us to miss some things.
- Q: does the meeting have to be live or can they be recorded?
- A: Ronnie – that makes interaction difficult and we have to make copies of meetings available for public records. Can't verify that someone watched a recording of the meeting.
- A: Ralph – if you are going to be a member of the LMS, you have to participate. Our LMS says you have to attend two meetings. If you want project funded, you have to attend. Your jurisdiction adopted this LMS so you have to comply with it.
- Q: Dave – It goes back to touching base with all municipalities, have to go back to the beginning. Notifications don't always go to the right person. Biggest problem is turnover at municipalities.
- A: Ronnie – We have an EM rep group.
- Dave – Our EM group several years ago was not participating in the EM calls. If they're not participating information does not get disseminated within jurisdiction.
- Ronnie – We give out notifications to the two EM reps from each municipality. If the two people from the muni are not disseminating information it can be frustrating
- Ralph – The mayor has to sign CRS for recertification letter. When they issue the finding of points it goes to mayor. When you announce a meeting, send to the mayor and the two EM people. In the letter to the mayor, suggest including



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the language from the LMS that mandates attendance and have the mayor be responsible.

- Q: Can you issue letters to the jurisdiction telling them they are no longer in good standing?
- A: That's a good idea..... Ronnie: will try to get letters about standing to the EM reps
- Comment: you need to watch diversity. Attended the national FEMA conference and that was the focus.
- Ronnie: New program – If submit the same project for a well off community vs. non – will get 90/10 funding.

VI. **Trainings Available – Ronnie Heen, PBCDEM**

VII. **Questions/Comments – Ralph Wall, Chairperson**

VIII. **Next Meeting Date: September 14, 2022, at 10:00 am (West Palm Beach)**

IX. **Adjournment – Ralph Wall, Chairperson**



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