

**St. Lucie County Unified Local Mitigation Strategy
(LMS)
Steering Committee Meeting
Minutes
March 30, 2007**

Attendants (Members):

Larry Nadeau, Chair
Bill Hoeffner, Coordinator
Danita Morgan, City of Fort Pierce
Crista Razem, City of Fort Pierce
Jane LaBombard, NSLRWCD/FPFWCD
Richard Daniels, City of Port St. Lucie
Alane Sisilli, City of Port St. Lucie
Karla Lenfesty, SLC Extension Service
Joe Spataro, Florida Division of Forestry
Jim Moses, SLC Health Department
Gary Perdew, SLC Fire District
Olive Wedderburn, American Red Cross
Sharon Rayner, American Red Cross
Bob Massa, SLC School District
Rogelio Gonzalez, Council on Aging
Ken Justice, SLC Grants Department

Attendants (Other)

Stefanie Myers, SLC Community Services
Angel Gillette, SLC Community Services
Tom Christopher, SLC Public Safety
Walter Fauth, FPSBA

Eleven of Twenty-Three organizations composing the Steering Committee were represented at the meeting. A quorum was not present.

Meeting Announcement: An email was sent to known members of the Steering Committee. Public notice was posted at the Press Table in the St. Lucie County Administration Building. The agenda was posted on the Board of County Commissioners' calendar on the St. Lucie County website. The meeting was conducted at the Hurricane House.

1. **Minutes of 1/26/2007 Meeting:** The minutes of 1/26/2007 were reviewed, but could not be approved due to the lack of a quorum. Approval of the minutes will be tabled until the next meeting.
2. **Update on HMGP funding for Hurricane Frances and Hurricane Jeanne Projects:** It was reported by Mr. Nadeau that nearly all of the projects that fell within the County's funding allocation have received notice that funding has been approved. However, Mr. Hoeffner reported that only four projects have received contracts. These are the two projects for St. Lucie Village and the two projects for Fort Pierce Utilities Authority. Mr. Hoeffner also pointed out that all four of these projects were submitted by Mr. Thiess. Ms. Razem reported that the City of Fort Pierce's Moore Creek project was delayed due to it being confused with another project. Mr. Hoeffner asked that he be notified of any project that receives a contract. Mr. Nadeau encouraged members to contact FEMA and the Division of Emergency Management to expedite the receipt of grant contracts.

3. **Report of the LMS Webpage Committee:** Mr. Hoeffner stated the LMS Webpage is up and running. To access the site go to:
- www.stlucieco.gov
 - SLC Online
 - St. Lucie Information
 - Local Mitigation Strategy (LMS)

The site lists four categories:

1. LMS Members
 2. LMS Projects
 3. LMS Meeting Information
 4. Unified Local Mitigation Strategy Documents
4. **Hurricane Mitigation Measures – Report of the Shelter Committee:** Mr. Christopher reported the Shelter Committee had not met. He additionally reported the County currently has sixteen shelters – three new ones located in Treasure Coast, Westgate and Oak Hammock schools.

Mr. Hoeffner suggested the Committee review its current list of hurricane mitigation projects to evaluate whether the listed projects adequately prepare the community for the next severe hurricane. He provided members with a listing of the hurricane mitigation projects that are currently included in the LMS list. He pointed out that most of these projects are flood mitigation projects and raised a question about whether additional projects are needed. A discussion was held regarding this and also regarding how to incorporate LMS projects into jurisdictions' comprehensive plans and comprehensive plans. Mr. Daniels suggested the Committee invite Katherine Boer of the Treasure Coast Regional Planning Council to discuss this since she has been assigned responsibility for disaster mitigation planning. Mr. Hoeffner agreed to contact her.

5. **Update on Proposal to Change Project Scoring:** Mr. Hoeffner pointed out that all three of the latest projects to be added to the LMS achieved the highest score of 45, providing further evidence that the current scoring system does not provide adequate discrimination. A discussion was conducted and it was agreed that Mr. Hoeffner would seek input from other counties to determine how they are scoring LMS projects.
6. **Steering Committee Membership - Quorum:** A quorum was not present for the meeting, underscoring a need to revise the present membership. Mr. Hoeffner informed the Committee that he again sent letters to member organizations who have not been attending. The letter advised them that failure to attend would result in their being removed from the committee. This was the third letter that had been sent to each organization. It was the consensus of those present that the organizations who have not been attending should be removed the LMS committee. These include the following: Salvation Army, Adelpia, Comcast, St. Lucie County Chamber of Commerce, St. Lucie Medical Center, Lawnwood Hospital, St. Lucie County Builders Association, and the St. Lucie County Tourism Committee. Mr. Hoeffner was asked to develop a new membership proposal.
7. **Scoring of New Mitigation Project – Fort Pierce Farms Water Control District:** Due to a lack of a quorum, this issue was tabled to the next meeting.

8. **Announcements:**

Crista Razem of the City of Fort Pierce explained that, if an application for a HMGP grant has been approved but a grant contract has not been received, a letter to proceed with work can be obtained from Leroy Thompson, the Director of the Bureau of Mitigation Services.

Mr. Daniels announced a NIMS training class on 4/26 and 4/27 at the Port St. Lucie Community Center.

Mr. Daniels also announced a Hurricane Expo at the Fort Pierce Community Center on 5/19.

Ms. Myers announced a new Citizen Emergency Response Team (CERT) training class will begin on April 5th at IRCC's Indian River Academy campus. The classes are held Tuesday and Thursday evenings from 6PM to 9PM for four weeks.

9. **Next Meeting Date:** Due to the fact that Conference Room 3 is no longer available on the last Friday of each month, it was agreed the LMS meeting would be moved to the 3rd Friday of the month. The next meeting will be Friday, April 20th at 9:30 in Conference Room 3.