

**Columbia County**  
**All-Hazard Mitigation Plan Update**  
**Mitigation Action Workshop Meeting Minutes**

**DATE:** June 9, 2016

**TIME:** 6:00 pm

**LOCATION:** 700 Sawmill Road  
 Bloomsburg, PA 17815

The following people were in attendance:

| Name                   | Organization/Affiliation                    |
|------------------------|---|
| 1) Tracy Miller        | Beaver Township EMA                         |
| 2) Dan Jankowski*      | Benton Borough EMA                          |
| 3) Cassandra Mowery    | Berwick Borough/Briar Creek Borough EMA     |
| 4) Belinda Deleon*     | Bloomsburg University Public Safety         |
| 5) Harold Kern         | Briar Creek Township EMA                    |
| 6) Michael Lindenmuth  | Catawissa Borough EMA                       |
| 7) Kirsti Kritzer      | Columbia County Department of Public Safety |
| 8) Jessica Shoup       | Columbia County EMA                         |
| 9) Jennifer Long       | Columbia County EMA                         |
| 10) Tim Murphy         | Columbia County GIS                         |
| 11) Robert Aungst      | Columbia County Planning                    |
| 12) Rachel Swartwood   | Columbia County Planning                    |
| 13) Eric Stahley       | Columbia County Resiliency                  |
| 14) Linda Tarlecki     | Conyngham Township                          |
| 15) Jay Challingsworth | Fishing Creek Township Supervisor           |
| 16) Earnest Bogart     | Fishing Creek Township Supervisor           |
| 17) Alice Ringer       | Greenwood/Madison Township EMA              |
| 18) Melissa Matthews   | Hemlock Township Zoning                     |
| 19) Clayton Emery      | Jackson Township Supervisor                 |
| 20) Allen Breach       | Locust/Franklin/Roaring Creek/Cleveland EMA |
| 21) Tom Shuman*        | Main Township                               |
| 22) Joe Mullen         | Montour Township Supervisor                 |
| 23) Tammy Robbins      | Mount Pleasant Township Supervisor          |
| 24) Tom Clymer         | North Centre Township Manager               |
| 25) Erica Burkhart     | Orange Township                             |
| 26) Neil Shultz*       | Orangeville Borough                         |
| 27) Jim Brown          | Pine Township EMA                           |
| 28) Brittany Stastick* | Scott Township                              |
| 29) Dale Sneedman      | South Centre Township                       |

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|--------------------|--|
| 30) John Kline     | Stillwater Borough EMA                       |
| 31) Charles Fritz* | Director of Governmental Services Bloomsburg |
| 32) Emily Powell   | Columbia County DPS Intern                   |
| 33) Walter Gordon  | Benton Township EMA                          |
| 34) Rick Brown     | Mifflin Township EMA                         |
| 35) Jen Whisner    | Bloomsburg University Professor              |

\*Those names marked with an \* were unable to attend the meeting and either had an individual meeting or provided the required information from this meeting.

**MEETING HANDOUTS:** Handouts and forms that were given to each attendee included the following: Mitigation Action Review Worksheet, Mitigation Action Form, and Hazard Mitigation Techniques and Ideas,

## MEETING OVERVIEW

- **Welcome and Introductions**

Jessica Shoup, Columbia County EMA, started the meeting by introducing herself. Other Columbia County representatives to introduce themselves were Jennifer Long, Kirsti Kritzer, Emily Powell, Eric Stahley, Bob Aungst, Tim Murphy, Rachel Swartwood. Shoup let the group know that the county representatives were there to help in any way as the meeting participants worked through their mitigation action worksheets. The attendees were then asked to introduce themselves.

- **Project Overview**

Shoup started by explaining the hazard mitigation process to date. The capability assessment, hazard vulnerability analysis, the NFIP participation survey, the risk assessment and the goals and objectives worksheet that were previously completed were explained. Shoup explained that the mitigation action sheets that would be completed at the meeting that evening would be based upon the goals and objectives that had previously been reviewed.

- **Mitigation Strategy**

The mitigation strategy was explained. Shoup showed a picture of the floodwall project in Bloomsburg and explained that it was a perfect example of mitigation coming full circle. The meeting participants were told that their mitigation actions were like wish lists of what hazard mitigation projects they would complete in their jurisdictions if they had unlimited resources. It was explained that the actions then go into the plan and are considered when and if any hazard mitigation funding in that area is released.

The hazard mitigation goals and objectives were explained. Examples of these were given to further explain the mitigation action forms that would be completed later at the meeting. Next, the six hazard mitigation techniques were explained. It was explained that all mitigation actions needed to fall within one of the six mitigation technique categories. Finally, the mitigation action plan was explained as the complete range of specific projects that would be added into the plan

identifying the actions that each municipality wanted to complete.

The mitigation action form was explained in detail. Shoup explained that the forms should be filled out at the meeting if possible, but if they were taken home they should be returned within one week in order to meet the upcoming deadlines.

Meeting attendees were also asked to review their existing mitigation actions and make sure they were still relevant. They were asked to make notes on the form if they had completed projects or if the project was no longer feasible.

- **Planning Timeline**

The planning timeline was reviewed. Participants were advised the next meeting would be the Public Review of Draft Meeting that would be held near the end of August. The next step in the process would be the Public review comment period. Following that, the plan would be forwarded to PEMA and FEMA for review.

- **Mitigation Action Work Session**

The participants were asked to start work on their plans and find a county representative if they had any questions.

The meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

Meeting notes recorded by Jessica Shoup.