

BARRON COUNTY LOCAL EMERGENCY PLANNING COMMITTEE

Thursday, January 26, 2023 9:00 AM Meeting Minutes

Barron County Justice Center, Emergency Operations Center, 1420 State Hwy 25 North, Barron, WI 54812

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Members present: Louis Okey, Barron County Board. Craig Turcott, Barron County Board. Mike Judy, Barron County Emergency Management Director. Laura Sauve, Barron County Public Health Officer. Melissa Miller, Mayo Barron Hospital. Nate Dunston, Barron County Emergency Management /Medical Examiner. Sue Dau, Barron Electric. Barry Kuenkel, CUFD. Dave Paulson, McCain Foods. Dale Hanson, Community Representative. Michael Hover, Rice Lake Fire Department. Luong Huynh, American Red Cross. Aimee Wollman Nesseth, NWWI Healthcare Emergency Readiness Coalition. Chris Straight, West Central Regional Planning.

Call to order by Louis Okey at 9:03 AM.

Public Notification: Read by Louis Okey.

Public Comment: None.

Approve Minutes from October 27, 2022 meeting.

Motion Made by Craig Turcott to approve minutes, Seconded by Barry Kuenkel.
Motion Carried (Unanimously).

Spill Reviews.

October 29, 2022 - Manure Spill 5,000 Gal.

October 31, 2022 - Accidental mixing of Lysine and Termin-8.

December 10, 2022 - Gasoline Spill 6 Gal.

Response Reimbursements: None.

Hazard Mitigation Plan Update:

Chris Straight, West Central Wisconsin Regional Planning, gave an update on the Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan. Discussion items included: Project Timeline, Barron County Hazards Risk & Vulnerabilities Survey Results, and the Issues & Opportunities Exercise.

LEPC Member Updates: None.

Future Agenda Items:

Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan Update

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Next Meeting Date: April 27, 2023 at 9:00 in the Emergency Operations Center.

Adjourned Motion: (LO) to adjourn at 10:32 a.m. Carried.

Meeting minutes posted in draft form. Minutes not official until approved at the next committee meeting.



Barron County Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan Update Project Timeline

2022

- Oct-Dec - press release via Facebook on project & inviting participation
- commence data gathering, GIS & risk analysis, & development of community profile
- Oct 27 **Steering Committee Meeting #1 (abt. 60 minutes)**
 - project overview, planning process, & scope
 - highlights of community profile; discuss lifelines, & implications
 - review declaration data, general threat discussion, & climate trends
 - risk prioritization survey

2023

- Jan 26 **Steering Committee Meeting #2 (abt. 30-60 minutes)**
 - brief progress report & highlights from activities to date
 - risks & vulnerabilities survey results & select hazards of significant risk
 - hazard event history – discuss related plans & mitigation alternatives
 - review/update plan goals
- Feb-Mar - complete C&V meetings, St. Croix Chippewa Tribe meeting, & stakeholder interviews
- Barron Co. Fire Chiefs and/or Law Enforcement Associations presentations & survey
- complete hazard assessment; compile mitigation alternatives
- conduct school/college survey (general info, plan participation, risks, strategies)
- Feb 27 presentation to Towns Association & mail town surveys
- Mar-April - mitigation alternatives homework completed by Steering Committee (& others?)
- mail draft C&V strategies, maps, etc.
- WCWRPC completes initial draft plan; provides to Steering Committee for review
- April 27 **Steering Committee Meeting #3 (abt 60-90 minutes)**
 - discuss/finalize mitigation strategy recommendations
 - discuss plan coordination, maintenance, & updates
 - review other plan sections & discuss any other plan changes
- May-July - additional Steering Committee Meeting if needed
- WCWRPC finalizes draft plan
- notice published for 30-day public comment period on draft plan
- draft Plan to WEM for initial review → modify plan if needed
- optional 4th Steering Committee meeting if needed
- July-Sept County Board adopts the plan → obtain FEMA approval
- Sept-Nov City, Village, & School/College adoptions → obtain remaining FEMA approvals (approvable pending adoption, once County adopts)
- Nov-Dec Print & Distribute Final Plan (once all adopted & FEMA approval letters received)

Note: Per the grant agreement, the draft plan must be provided to WEM by 8/31/23 and approved by FEMA by 11/30/23, unless an extension is requested & approved.

Table 11. Barron County Hazards Risk & Vulnerabilities Survey Results (December 2022)

0 -- none; extremely low	3 -- moderate; substantial
1 -- low; minimal	4 -- high; serious
2 -- some; of concern	5 -- very high; extreme

2023 Plan	Hazard	Risk	Vulnerability	Average	Ntl Risk Index	NWHERC HVA Relative Threat	in 2012 Plan ?	section of 2017 plan	
Natural Hazards									
X	Riverine or Overbank Flooding	2.17	2.83	2.5	V. Low	59-61%	X	flooding	
X	Overland or Stormwater Flooding	2.13	2.83	2.5			X		
X	Heavy Snow Storm and Blizzards	2.75	3.0	2.9	Mod.	33-55%	X	winter storms & extreme cold	
X	Ice Storms and Sleet	2.75	3.5	3.1	Mod.	50-53%	X		
X	Winter Kill of Crops	2.08	2.67	2.4			X		
X	Extreme Cold/Cold Wave	3.17	2.5	2.8	High	56%	X		
	Forest or Wild Fire	1.83	2.5	2.2	Low	38%	X	wildfire	
X	Tornadoes	2.54	3.67	3.1	Low	48%	X	tornadoes	
X	High Winds	2.96	3.17	3.1	Mod.		X	thunderstorms & high winds	
X	Thunderstorms, Lightning, Hail, etc.	3.13	2.83	3.0	Low	35%	X		
	Extreme Heat/Heat Wave	2.25	2.33	2.3	Mod.	56%		no	
	Drought	2.42	3.17	2.8	Mod.	32%	X	drought	
	Landslides or Sinkholes	0.83	2.17	1.5	Low	37%		no	
	Earthquakes	0.25	1.67	1.0	V. Low	24%		no	
	Fog	2.08	1.5	1.8					
Technological Hazards									
	Haz Mat Incident - Fixed	2.58	3.5	3.0		35%	X	Haz Mat spills	
	Haz Mat Incident - Transportation	2.75	3.5	3.1		55%	X		
	Groundwater Contamination	3.33	4.17	3.8		56%	X	in other plans	
	Animal Waste Management	2.33	2.33	2.3				w/ groundwater	
	Long-Term Power Outage	2.5	4.17	3.3		25-65%	X	L.T.P.O.	
	Nuclear Power Plant Incident	0.92	2.33	1.6		22%	X	in other plans	
	Dam Failure Flooding	1.75	3.33	2.5			X	flooding	
	Aircraft Accident	1.42	2.33	1.9					
	Railroad Accident	1.71	3.0	2.4		37%		no	
Manmade/Intentional & Other Hazards									
	Pandemics/Zoonotic Disease	2.92	3.5	3.2		65%	X	in other plans	
	Agri./Livestock Pests & Disease	2.92	3.5	3.2			X	ag pests & dis.	
	Invasive Species & Diseases	3.08	2.83	3.0			X	in other plans	
	Active Shooter/Active Threats	2.75	4.33	3.5		67%	X	active shooter	
	Terrorism, Domestic	1.79	3.33	2.6		29%		no	
	Terrorism, International	1.42	2.5	2.0					no
	Terrorism, Critical Infrastructure	2.08	3.67	2.9					
	Cyber Attacks	3.25	4.0	3.6		49-64%	x	no	
	Civil Unrest or Institutional Riot	1.08	2.17	1.6		58%		no	
	Large Structural Fires	1.92	2.83	2.4		22%			

FEMA guidelines require that mitigation plans describe all natural hazards that can affect the jurisdictions in the planning area, and provide the rationale if omitting any natural hazards that are commonly recognized to affect the jurisdictions in the planning area. FEMA defines natural hazards as a source of harm or difficulty created by a meteorological, environmental, or geological event.

Issues & Opportunities Exercise

Write down 1-2 issues and 1-2 opportunities regarding hazard threats and emergency management in Barron County.

This may include specific hazards, at-risk areas or populations, or related capacity/capabilities to mitigate, prepare for, respond to, and recover from a disaster event.

ISSUE/CHALLENGES

1. _____
2. _____

OPPORTUNITIES/"THINGS WE CAN DO"

1. _____
2. _____

Presidential Disaster Declarations that include Barron County

As of 12/31/22, there have been 6 Presidential Disaster Declarations involving Barron County:

Year	Month	Event Type	Public Assistance	Individual Assistance
1965	April	Tornados, Severe Storms, Flooding	x	x
2000	May- July	Severe Storms, Tornados, Flooding	x	
2001	April- July	Flooding	x	x
2002	Sept	Severe Storms, Tornados, Flooding		x
2019	July	Severe Storms, Tornados, Straight-Line Winds, Flooding	x	
2020	April	COVID-19 - Statewide	x	x

Presidential disaster declarations put into motion long-term federal recovery programs. Public assistance is for the repair of infrastructure, public facilities, and debris removal while individual assistance is for damage to residences and/or businesses or personal property losses.

As of 12/31/22, there have been at least 12 State or Federal Emergency Declarations involving Barron County:

1976	June	FEDERAL - Drought
1977	Oct	FEDERAL - Winds, Hail & Rain
2003	Aug	STATE - Drought
2005	July	STATE - Drought
2005	Sept	FEDERAL - Hurricane Katrina Evacuation
2006	July	STATE - Drought
2007	Aug	STATE/USDA - Drought
2009	Aug	STATE - Drought
2010	Aug	USDA - Agricultural Drought + Late Frost/Freeze
2012	July	STATE - Drought
2020	Mar	STATE - PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY - COVID-19
2020	Mar	FEDERAL - COVID-19

Emergency declarations are typically more limited in scope and without long-term federal assistance. A State Emergency Declaration is declared by the Governor and puts into motion State assistance programs.

National Climate Data Center (NCDC) Storm Events for Barron County

For all storm types listed below, the date range of 1/1/1993 to 12/31/2022 was used (30 years). The list below represents all the event types that have occurred in Barron County, WI according to NCDC:

Blizzard, Cold/Wind Chill, Dense Fog, Excessive Heat, Extreme Cold/Wind Chill, Flash Flood, Flood, Frost/Freeze, Funnel Cloud, Hail, Heat, Heavy Rain, Heavy Snow, High Wind, Ice Storm, Lightning, Thunderstorm Wind, Tornado, Winter Storm, and Winter Weather.

Tornadoes:

Event Type(s): Tornado

Total Events: 19	Number of Events Per Year: 0.63
Total Event Days: 17	Number of Event Days Per Year: 0.57
Total Injuries: 25	Total Deaths: 1 <i>(all injuries & death from 5/16/17 event)</i>
Total Event Days with Property Damage: 9	
Property Damage (from NCDC): \$12.395M <i>(\$10.1 mil. from the 5/16/17 event)</i>	
Property Damage (adjusted for inflation): \$16,143,981.88	

Funnel Clouds:

Event Type(s): Funnel Clouds

Total Events: 10	Number of Events Per Year: 0.33
Total Event Days: 7	Number of Event Days Per Year: 0.23
Total Injuries: 0	
Total Event Days with Property Damage: 0	
Property Damage (from NCDC table): 0	

Winter Storms and Extreme Cold:

Event Type(s): Blizzard, Cold/Wind Chill, Extreme Cold/Wind Chill, Frost/Freeze, Ice Storm, Winter Storm, Winter Weather

Total Events: 81	Number of Events Per Year: 2.7
Total Event Days: 80	Number of Event Days Per Year: 2.67
Total Injuries: 1	Total Deaths: 2 (<i>both deaths are related to extreme cold</i>)
Total Event Days with Property Damage: 0	
Property Damage (from NCDL): 0	

Thunderstorms, High Winds, and Hail:

Event Type(s): Lightning

Total Events: 3	Number of Events Per Year: 0.1
Total Event Days: 3	Number of Event Days Per Year: 0.1
Total Injuries: 0	Total Deaths: 0
Total Event Days with Property Damage: 0	
Property Damage (from NCDL): 0	

Event Type(s): Hail

Total Events: 148	Number of Events Per Year: 4.93
Total Event Days: 69	Number of Event Days Per Year: 2.3
Total Injuries: 0	Total Deaths: 0
Total Event Days with Property Damage: 4	
Property Damage (from NCDL): 30.555M (\$30 mil from a single event on 9/21/05)	

Event Type(s): High Wind, Thunderstorm Wind

Total Events: 126	Number of Events Per Year: 4.2
Total Event Days: 69	Number of Event Days Per Year: 2.3
Total Injuries: 9	Total Deaths: 0 (8 injuries from 8/7/10 storm)
Total Event Days with Property Damage: 13	
Property Damage (from NCDL): 4.51M	
Property Damage (adjusted for inflation): \$6,656,479.52	

Event Type(s): Heavy Rain

Total Events: 29	Number of Events Per Year: 0.97
Total Event Days: 13	Number of Event Days Per Year: 0.43
Total Injuries: 0	Total Deaths: 0
Total Event Days with Property Damage: 0	
Property Damage (from NCDC table): 0	

Flooding:

Event Type(s): Flash Flood, Flood

Total Events: 10	Number of Events Per Year: 0.33
Total Event Days: 8	Number of Event Days Per Year: 0.27
Total Injuries: 0	Total Deaths: 0
Total Event Days with Property Damage: 2	
Property Damage (from NCDC table): 275k	
Adjusted Property Damage:	

Heat:

Event Type(s): Excessive Heat, Heat

Total Events: 8	Number of Events Per Year: 0.27
Total Event Days: 8	Number of Event Days Per Year: 0.27
Total Injuries: 0	Total Deaths: 0
Total Event Days with Property Damage: 0	
Property Damage (from NCDC table): 0	

SECTION VI.

MITIGATION GOALS AND STRATEGIES

Barron County will continue to proactively protect the health, safety, and welfare of the community by mitigating the negative human, economic, and environmental impacts of hazard and disaster events. This vision will be accomplished through planning, evaluation, communicating with stakeholders, and maintaining a strong, reliable infrastructure. This plan reflects the County's past, current, and ongoing commitment to hazard mitigation.

A. MITIGATION GOALS

The mitigation goals are intended to provide direction to achieve the desired outcome and are to be used as guidelines by which mitigation activities are identified and impact is evaluated. The goals provide Barron County further direction for determining the future and reflect the needs of the County as identified through the assessment of hazard conditions and community profile.

During the key informant interview process and Steering Committee meetings for the previous plans and current plan, some common themes were frequently mentioned that provided important direction for goal-setting and the analysis of potential strategies:

- *Promote self-reliance and responsibility among community members to address hazard issues. Make the public aware of the hazards they face and how they can protect their interests. Local government action should not supplant individual responsibility.*
- *Local budgets and resources are very limited; use a cost-benefits approach to potential strategies. Priorities must be established based on potential impacts, probability of occurrence, benefits of solutions, and related (implementation and maintenance) costs. Resources may not be available to resolve isolated or sporadic events. Many projects may only be feasible for implementation with grant assistance.*
- *Related to the cost-benefits approach, substantial changes or amendments to local regulations should have sufficient justification. Such regulatory controls may not be justified for isolated incidences when risks and vulnerabilities are low.*
- *Encourage communication and education strategies, before regulatory and capital-intensive solutions, when possible.*

With consideration of these guiding themes, the Steering Committee reviewed the 2012 plan goals. During this review, the Steering Committee re-endorsed the mitigation goals and expanded the scope to include all hazards; the 2012 goals specified "natural hazards."

The following are the 2017 *Barron County Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan* goals:

Goal One: Physical and Response Infrastructure

Maintain a strong physical and emergency response infrastructure that is prepared for and mitigates the negative impacts of the significant hazard threats facing our communities through an all hazards approach.

Goal Two: Planning and Policy

Anticipate hazard vulnerabilities and identify appropriate, reasonable mitigation plans and policies that can be implemented in a cost-effective manner.

Goal Three: Communication and Coordination

Provide an effective hazard warning system and maximize available resources for emergency planning, response, and recovery through intergovernmental coordination, cost-effective communication, public involvement, and other strategic partnerships.

Goal Four: Education and Outreach

Increase awareness among Barron County residents, businesses, non-profits, and local governments of hazard risks and the alternatives to mitigate the impacts of these hazards in their homes, businesses, and communities.

B. EVALUATION OF ALTERNATIVE MITIGATION STRATEGIES

A comprehensive range of alternatives was considered when developing strategies to meet the plan's vision and goals. A description of many of these alternative mitigation strategies is included in the Mitigation Toolbox in **Appendix J**, which was used to help identify potential mitigation options.

The strategy alternatives in **Appendix K** were evaluated based on technical and environmental feasibility (benefits-costs, potential for loss reduction), legal and administrative feasibility (resource availability), and social and political feasibility (community acceptance, local support). The strategies in Appendix K are organized by hazard threat or topic, and often by the following sub-categories:

- ***Recommended Projects***: Projects are typically larger or more capital-intensive efforts that have a focused, action-oriented outcome that is achievable within a certain time period. Since special funding or other resources are often needed for the implementation of projects, additional attention is given to these recommendations later in this report.
- ***Recommended Planning, Policy, and Outreach Actions***: Policies tend to be ongoing, decision-making or programmatic guidance, though they may also include smaller, less costly planning, assessment, collaboration, or educational efforts. In most cases, these strategies can be funded or performed as part of normal operating budgets and do not require the identification of new or special funding or other resources. However, some training, planning, and outreach may require additional funding.