



**RICHLAND COUNTY BLUE RIBBON COMMITTEE**  
**MAY 19, 2016**  
**2:00 PM**  
**4<sup>TH</sup> FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Chair	Torrey Rush
Vice Chair	Greg Pearce
Member	Marie Stallworth
Member	Erich Miarka
Member	Carol Kososki
Member	Bernice G. Scott
Member	Elaine Dubose
Member	Rachel Larratt
Member	Carol Roberts
Member	Anita Floyd
Member	Sammy Wade

**OTHERS PRESENT** – Kevin Bronson, Andrea Bolling, Quinton Epps, Mike King, Beverly Harris, Ismail Ozbek, Michelle Onley, Janelle Ellis, Tracy Hegler, Donny Phipps, Synithia Williams, Tony McDonald, Liz McDonald, and Eva Prioleau

**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at approximately 2:02 p.m.

**UPDATE HMGP PROJECTS**

Priority Ranking	Project Category
1	Voluntary Residential Property Acquisition/Buyouts
2	Storm Water Drainage Management/Dams
3	Housing Reconstruction/Rehabilitation
4	Voluntary Non-Residential Property Acquisition/Buyouts
5	Data/Offsite IT Infrastructure
6	Flood Studies
7	Mitigation of Flood Damage to Fire Suppression Water Capacity & Supply Systems
8	Conservation Easements
9	Public Outreach
10	Replacing County Emergency Operations Center (EOC)

Title	Description
Danbury Drive Stabilization	Increase capacity of the regional detention pond to handle the flows in the neighborhood
Spring Valley Little Jackson Creek Stream Mitigation, Stream Restoration Regenerative Stormwater Conveyance	Stabilize and improve the railroad ditch line using regenerative stormwater conveyance to mitigate localized flooding.
Soil Stabilization and Stormwater Improvements – Owens Field SW_01	The project will mitigate existing and future flooding impacts by retaining water on-site during storm events. The project needs an additional \$100,000 to complete all of the proposed stormwater controls.
Cary Lake Dam Hazard Mitigation	The Gills Creek Watershed Association in partnership with the Cary Lake Homeowners Association, proposes to strengthen and enhance the Cary Lake Dam by armoring the earthen portion of the dam.
Spring Lake Dam Hazard Mitigation	The Gills Creek Watershed Association in partnership with the Spring Lake Company, proposes to strengthen and enhance the Spring Lake Dam by installing a specialized turf reinforcement mat (TRM) and vegetation across the dam.
Acquisition of Demo (NON_RES_ACQ_001)	Acquire and demo nine non-residential structures that are located in the floodway and were substantially damaged.
Acquisition of Demo (NON_RES_ACQ_002)	Acquire and demo six non-residential structures that are located in the floodway and were substantially damaged.
Acquisition of Demo (RES_ACQ_002)	Acquire and demo eight homes that are clustered together, located in the special flood hazard area (floodway and flood fringe) and were substantially damaged.
Acquisition of Demo (RES_ACQ_001)	Acquire and demo seventeen homes that are clustered together, located in the special flood hazard area (floodway and flood fringe) and were substantially damaged.
Acquisition of Demo (RES_ACQ_003)	Acquire and demo twenty-two homes that are clustered together, located in the special flood hazard area (floodway and flood fringe) and were substantially damaged.
Acquisition of Demo (RES_ACQ_004)	Acquire and demo sixteen homes located in the special flood hazard area (floodway and flood fringe) that were substantially damaged.
Financial and Human Resource System Disaster Recovery	The county will purchase and install a redundant SAN and necessary switching equipment and attached servers to replicate critical financial and personnel data
Public Awareness Campaign – Reaching the Digitally Disconnected	Richland County is proposing a project to get the word out to the “digitally disconnected”

Update Hazard Mitigation Plan	As part of the update to the HMP, the following studies need to be conducted:  <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Stormwater infrastructure inventory improvements;</li> <li>2. Limited detailed study of all unnumbered A Zone areas;</li> <li>3. Property acquisition policy.</li> </ol>
Update Hazard Mitigation Plan	As part of the update to the HMP, the following studies need to be conducted:  <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Baseline aerial inventory;</li> <li>2. Mapping localized flooding</li> </ol>
Culvert Improvements	Richland County conducted an extensive study of the culverts in the county and identified nine culverts that need to be increased in size to mitigate similar damages from future flooding incidents

Above are the projects that pre-applications have been submitted to the State. The last three (3) have been approved to proceed to application. The next steps will be for Council to decide which projects to submit applications for.

Mr. Bronson stated staff is awaiting a legal opinion regarding the County acting as conduit for the funds to armor the Cary Lake and Spring Lake dams.

No new projects can be submitted for pre-application.

The application deadline is in September/October.

Mr. Miarka requested that Council is informed the match funds for the dam armoring project will be at no cost to the County, but will be paid by the homeowner's associations.

Mr. Bronson stated the action plan will include how the County intends to spend the funds. If the County intends to set aside CDBG funding to use as match, it will have to also be included in the action plan.

### **UPDATE FMA PROJECT**

- Applications have been submitted for residential properties that met the criteria for eligibility. These properties were also submitted for and approved for HMGP pre-applications.
- The deadline was May 13, 2016
- Applications for residential acquisitions have been submitted. These total \$1,506,304.87. The local match is \$376,576.24.
- This activity supports the First Priority Ranking, Voluntary Residential Property Acquisition/Buyouts, of the Top Ten HMGP Project Categories.

- If and when one of the programs approves funding, the request to the other agency will be withdrawn.

### **CDBG-DR PROJECT CATEGORIES**

1. Residential/Non-Residential Reconstruction/Rehabilitation/Relocation
2. Voluntary Residential Property Acquisition/Buyouts
3. Storm Water Drainage Management
4. Voluntary Non-Residential Property Acquisition/Buyouts
5. Data/Offsite IT Infrastructure
6. Flood Studies
7. Economic Resiliency (*assisting businesses to reopen*)
8. Mitigation of Flood Damage to Fire Suppression Water Capacity Systems
9. Conservation Easements
10. Public Outreach (Please note public outreach efforts are a continuous and integral component of all Project Category Priorities.) ex. Translating public outreach into other languages (Spanish, Asian, etc.)

Mr. Miarka stated rehabilitation and reconstruction should not be a priority over buyouts. Whenever possible, residents should be moved out of the floodplain and out of harm's way. He further stated the focus should be on residential reconstruction instead of non-residential property.

It was suggested to move fire suppression up on the prioritization list.

Ms. Bolling stated the FEMA programs are intended to reduce the risk and to attempt to protect life, safety, and welfare.

There are 23 non-residential structures that qualified for HMGP Programs.

Ms. Scott stated it is her belief that public outreach is one of the most important priorities.

The buyout will pay 100% pre-flood market rate. The rate is determined on assessor's data or a licensed appraisal done with the last 12 months.

A representative from Hearts & Hands, who received the State grant for the disaster case management program, stated when a disaster takes place FEMA comes in to assist with recovery. Once funds are disbursed to the State the organization comes in to provide case management. The call lists of the individuals who have called 211 are provided to the organization every Monday. Once the call list is received, the organization is able to work one-on-one with a case manager.

The representative from Hearts & Hands will work with County staff to insure the residents are being informed about the programs available.

Hearts & Hands has partnered with Carolina United to provide crisis counseling.

The committee moved to add stream restoration and debris removal to the priority list. The vote in favor was unanimous.

Ms. Scott moved, seconded by Ms. DuBose, to insure funding is available for public outreach. The vote was in favor.

### **RECEIVE PROJECT LIST INPUT**

Ms. Kososki requested stream restoration be looked at in a holistic sense. Best management practices need to be researched from the beginning of the stream all the way through.

Any items for the project list should be forwarded to Mr. Bronson.

Mr. Pearce inquired if there is a list of all the displaced residents in the County.

There is a not a complete list of individuals that have been displaced. If there are people that have not registered they are encouraged to call 211. The individual will be required to personally contact 211 since they will be asked in-depth personal questions.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at approximately 4:10 p.m.