

WEST VIRGINIA

STATE RESILIENCY OFFICE

SECOND QUARTER REPORT MAY 2021



State Resiliency Office Mission Statement:

Fortify statewide resiliency by coordinating government agencies, first responders, and other stakeholders in efforts for emergency and disaster planning, response, recovery and resiliency planning, and mitigation activities to help rebuild stronger communities.



Senate Bill 389

- House Passed: April 2nd, 2021
- Senate Passed: April 5th, 2021
- Signed by Governor: Effective July 4th, 2021



The State Resiliency Office Board

West Virginia State code § 29-31-2 established The State Resiliency Office Board and its members. The board meets at least once every quarter and will work together with the State Resiliency Officer in fulfilling the mission given to the State Resiliency Office.

The Board consists of 10 voting members and 4 non-voting members:

- 🌐 The Secretary of the Department of Commerce
- 🌐 The Director of the Division of Natural Resources
- 🌐 The Secretary of the Department of Environmental Protection
- 🌐 The Executive Director of the State Conservation Agency
- 🌐 The President of the West Virginia Emergency Management Council
- 🌐 The Secretary of the Department of Homeland Security
- 🌐 The Secretary of Transportation
- 🌐 The Adjutant General of the West Virginia National Guard
- 🌐 The Director of the Division of Emergency Management
- 🌐 Two nonvoting members of the West Virginia Senate
- 🌐 Two nonvoting members of the West Virginia House of Delegates
- 🌐 The State Resiliency Officer

The *last* board meeting was held April 2nd, 2021 at 3:00 p.m.
The next board meeting is scheduled for: TBD

State Resiliency Office Federal Program Involvement

- HUD CDBG-DR RISE
- Community Development Block Grant- Mitigation
- Milton Flood Wall (USACE)



State Resiliency Office Working Groups

- West Virginia Silver Jackets
- State, FEMA and HUD Collaboration
- Debris Management
- Hazard Mitigation Joint Planning Committee
- State Flood Protection Plan Update



WEST VIRGINIA SILVER JACKETS

About

Silver Jackets teams in states across the United States bring together multiple state, federal, and sometimes tribal and local agencies to learn from one another in reducing flood risk and other natural disasters. By applying their shared knowledge, the partners enhance response and recovery efforts when such events do occur.

Future Working Groups

Technical Assistance via University Collaboration

Environmental and Flood Risk Outreach

Flood Cause Pilot Project with WV NFIP Director

Building/Identifying Damage Assessment Team Pre-Disaster/NFIP Director

Goal

The goal of the WVSJ is to establish strong intergovernmental partnerships that result in comprehensive and sustainable solutions to state flood hazards.

STATE FEMA & HUD COLLABORATION

About

This resiliency oriented working group consist of State and Federal agencies recognizing the importance of collaboration in order to promote communication amongst the perspective entities through information sharing, resource awareness and skill identification.

Status

The group has identified strengths, weaknesses and gaps that are essential for our state's resiliency to disaster, some of which have evolved into individual working/study groups.

Goal

To maintain a sustainable and effective resiliency-focused collaboration that increases communication among all sectors of state, federal and local governments therefore increasing our states resiliency to disaster.

DEBRIS MANAGEMENT

About

The Debris Management working group consist of local, state and federal partners who will devise a Debris Management Plan in order to coordinate disaster-related debris management activities through the formation of local, state and federal working groups.

Status

The Debris Management Plan draft is complete and is being cycled through agency partners for the final review.

Goal

The purpose of this Plan is to provide for coordination of efforts in the clean-up, removal, and disposal of debris following a major emergency or natural disaster in the State of West Virginia. This plan will serve as the master plan for state government and contains guidance regarding organization, responsibility, documentation, contracting, activation of the state plan, temporary/permanent debris storage sites, informational fact sheets, and samples of agreements and contracts.

HAZARD MITIGATION JOINT PLANNING COMMITTEE

About

The West Virginia Statewide Standard Hazard Mitigation Plan provides statewide guidance to reduce loss and prevent injury from all hazards. It reflects an amalgamation of goals, objectives, and strategies developed by the West Virginia Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management (DHSEM), with input from the general citizenry and representatives from all levels of government.

Status

Article 31 states that the State Resiliency Office will ensure all counties and municipalities have up to date Hazard Mitigation Plans and Local Comprehensive Disaster Plans that are consistent with and coordinated to the state's Hazard Mitigation Plans and Comprehensive Disaster Plans.

Goal

This Joint Planning Committee consist of personnel from Emergency Management, The Development Office, The Insurance Commission Flood Insurance Program and The State Resiliency Office in efforts to review and update the current State Hazard Mitigation Plan. The overarching goal is to provide the final product to counties and municipalities of the state as a framework model.

State Flood Protection Plan Update

About

After years of planning and coordinating the development of isolated flood protection projects with various Federal and State agencies, the West Virginia Conservation Agency took the initiative to chart a new course of flood damage reduction and floodplain management in the State. Encouraged and supported by the Governor's office and legislative leadership, the Conservation Agency presented the need for a comprehensive statewide flood protection plan to Senator Byrd. The Senator responded in 1998 by providing funds to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers for the joint development of a statewide plan for flood protection with the Conservation Agency. Showing the level of commitment needed for this effort to be successful, the Governor's office and the Legislature responded with funding to match the Federal contribution.

Status

The plan has not been updated since 2002. Chapter §29-31-3(2) states that the State Resiliency Office will coordinate an annual review of the State Flood Protection Plan and update the plan no less than biannually. The plan is currently being broken down into individual agency proper sections for distribution and review.

Goal

The goal is for the plan to provide a roadmap for reducing flood damages in the future. The Plan will incorporate response and recovery plans into a unified "plan of plans" or compilation of each agency's mission, action plans, and procedures.

State Resiliency Office

Additional Project Involvement

- Upper Kanawha County Resiliency Council
- WV Emergency Response Council
- Homeland Security Council
- VOAD Unmet Needs Call
- Disaster Long Term Recovery Planning Group
- WV-VOAD Bridge Replacement
- Flood Plain Manager Professional Development



Future Plans



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