

**Resilient Neighbors Network**  
**Minutes of Meeting of Friday, *March 22, 2019*, 11:00 am ET**

**Resilient Neighbors Network (RNN)** is a network of professionals representing communities actively working toward adaptation and resilience from natural hazards.

**RNN Mission**

To increase resilience in existing and developing communities at the grass roots level by documenting and actively sharing best practices, through education, peer to peer collaboration and mentoring.

**RNN Vision**

RNN will be a source for a compilation of community driven hazard resilience best practices that can serve as a resource to people & communities before, during and after a disaster. RNN will also actively bring ground truth and grassroots enlightenment to policy makers, researchers, regulators, and journalists.

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**AGENDA FOR UPCOMING MEETING OF April 26, 2019:**

1. Roll call
2. Approval of Minutes (February 2019) (to follow)
3. **Comments/Issues/RNN Community Sharing/Good News**
4. Review of Action Items
5. RNN Future Activities
6. Discussion of Best Practices Documentation-New Best Practice on mitigation-based recovery with no Presidential Declaration: Joe Rossi and Coastal Coalition [Material sent separately] and Traci Sears from Montana
7. Next Steps for RNN-DRR Curriculum Future Meeting? Discussion of CTP Grant
  - a. New Grant requires NHMA and RNN to participate with and recommend other possible interested agencies for an advisory committee meeting in Washington D.C. – [Detail by John Wiener circulated with Minutes.] Possible other locations/dates
  - b. NHMA DRR Curriculum & Workshop Status:
    - i. Examining how to further improve fit of the RNN Curriculum to the needs of External Stakeholders; coupling better with existing courses: including FEMA, EPA, NOAA, NACo, NGO & private market courses?
    - ii. RNN Volunteers for the development of the Disaster Risk Reduction Curriculum;
    - iii. How to take advantage of the latest update from the Multi-Hazard Mitigation Council on the cost/benefit of Hazard Mitigation.
  - c. Natural Hazard Conference
8. *CTP Collaboration Monthly March* Call for Topics (due April 3, 2019)
9. Status of Practical Community Resilience Project in South Carolina & Silver Jackets link
10. Comments from Vincent Brown of FEMA on the many things happening at FEMA
11. Status of Island Press Interest, Articles for NHMA Newsletter and/or ABA
12. Adjourn

## Minutes for Meeting of Friday, *March 22, 2019*:

### 11:00 am ET - CALL TO ORDER, INTRODUCTIONS AND ROLL CALL:

#### 1) ROLL CALL:

Present:

**Ed Thomas** (NHMA Board Member);  
**Erin Capps** (NHMA Board);  
**Laura Duffy** (FEMA);  
**Tom Hughes** (NHMA Board Member);  
**Barb Miller** (Jefferson County, WV);  
**Roger Faris** (Seattle, WA);  
**Jim Murphy** (NHMA Board Member);  
**Veronica Criscitiello** (Wightman & Associates);  
**Rebecca Joyce** (Shenandoah Valley Region, VA);  
**Vincent Brown** (FEMA);  
**Tim Trautman** (Mecklenburg County);

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#### 2) APPROVAL OF MINUTES: (February 2019)

A **Motion** was made by Rebecca Joyce to accept the Minutes.  
The Motion was **seconded** by Jim Murphy.  
There being no discussion, it was  
VOTED: The Minutes for February 2019 are approved.

#### 3) Review of Action Items

Action Items were reviewed.

- Rebecca Joyce reported on the status of a survey for the RNN membership to learn more about what they are involved in, what organizations they participate in, and how to help get folks re-engaged.
  - Erin Capps added we hope to compile a list of member connections to outside organizations to help mine potential partnership opportunities.
- Erin Capps addressed action item on webinars – until we get a webinar platform set up, Tom Hughes has graciously offered his. Alessandra Jerolleman has several topics ready to go.
- Barb Miller addressed a December Action item between her and Roger Faris about the West Virginia VOAD Bridge Project – was Roger able to get in touch with West Virginia VOAD?
  - Roger Faris reported that he got the information on this and did a story about it based on an already published article with an excellent photograph – he is waiting for permission from the publisher to re-use the photo and will follow up. The story is important, they won awards for the Adopt a Bridge Program, and managed to build a lot of bridges thanks to the Mennonites and many other private donations.
  - Barb suggested that if Roger cannot get permission to use the photo he contact Jenny Gannaway as she has many of them.
- Barb Miller suggested that we invite Jenny Gannaway to talk at one of our meetings.
  - Ed Thomas concurred, and suggested we do a webinar where one of the RNN Communities introduces somebody that talks about problem solving where we can introduce one or more articles that Roger Faris has written and really provide some information about this particular idea of solving problems without a disaster declaration – a great idea for a webinar.
  - Barb Miller will try to get Jenny Gannaway for a future date.

#### 4) Comments/Issues/RNN Community Sharing/Good News

A **Motion** was made by Barb Miller that the sharing from Community Members in future meetings be addressed immediately after the Roll Call, as this is the focus and foundation of this group, so that we can give the community representatives their time to talk. The more we get the RNN members to submit topics and to feel that this is their meeting, the better off we will all be.

The **Motion was seconded** by Ed Thomas who noted that the more we get the RNN members to submit topics and to feel that this is their meeting, the better off we will all be.

There being no further discussion, it was

**VOTED:** The Comments/Issues/RNN Community Sharing/Good News item will immediately follow the roll call in future meetings.

#### 5) Presentation on Mitigation Planning by Laura Duff, Planner at FEMA

Laura Duff introduced herself: She works for the Mitigation Planning Program at FEMA Headquarters. There are seven people at Headquarters with FEMA, and they have up to four staff in each of their ten Regional offices. She has worked there for about a year but prior to that she worked in local government and health care positions, so she has been an advocate for mitigation in various roles and capacities. Is pleased to hear the conversation happening among us today and all the considerations happening within this group for mitigation.

Laura spoke about mitigation planning, plan integration in the realm of community planning, and plan participation of both a community member and a representation of local government. She gave a quick fly-by overview with respect to definitions:

- Hazard Mitigation is the effort to reduce loss of life and property by looking at impact factors and is most effective when implemented under a comprehensive or long-term mitigation plan. State, tribal and local governments participate in hazard mitigation planning to look at risks and vulnerabilities associated with natural disasters and develop long term strategies for protecting people and property from huge risks and disasters.
- One of the key components to breaking the cycle of disaster damage, reconstruction and repeated damage is mitigation planning.
- Mitigation planning engages states, tribes and local governments in conversations about mitigation and starts pre-disaster and continues all the way through post disaster.
- Currently 87% of the nation live in communities with current mitigation plans. That includes 20,705 local governments and 172 tribal governments. That coverage is increasing – it was 84% last year and FEMA hopes to see continued increase in coverage in mitigation plans.

'Why plan' is the most common question asked by both the people who write the plans and community members who learn about the plans. It is important that everyone become advocates of planning.

- The true benefit of mitigation planning lies within the community-driven planning process and the increased awareness and understanding of risk, therefore a better buy-in and implementation of targeted mitigation.
- Developing hazard mitigation plans enables state, local governments and tribal governments to increase education about threats, hazards and vulnerabilities and build partnerships prior to the disaster. It involves government organizations, businesses and the public, identifies long term broadly supported strategies for risk reduction and helps align that risk reduction with other state, tribal and community objectives.
- Plans also communicate priorities for potential sources of funding that become available once the mitigation plan is in place. In order to achieve each of these, the plan must be integrated with numerous other community plans.
- A hazard mitigation plan does not stand alone and can have positive echoing changes and impact numerous different types – land use, transportation, climate change, sustainability, natural and resource protection, watershed management and economic development.

What is meant by integration? There are three different levels of integration most commonly demonstrated in mitigation plans.

- First level is the most basic level. It includes natural hazard considerations in other plans – meaning that the plan mentions hazards or considers other hazards while developing objectives and policy.

- Second level is a leverage of information from the mitigation plan – includes results of vulnerability analysis in other plans and implements actions from the hazard mitigation plan through other mechanisms.
- Highest level – which is the goal – interagency planning and implementation. This is a coordinated planning across departments and agencies and involves key community officials to execute policies and programs. Some examples of integration:
  - The Living Snow Cast Program from North Dakota and Wisconsin – this integrates throughout the Department of Transportation Planning and Hazard Mitigation plans. It uses the trees alongside the road to protect against snow drift and snow fall. It looks at vulnerability analysis and has the strategies implemented through various means and various sources of funding.
  - Local and State Collaboration with Rural Electric Cooperatives (RECs) for burying power lines – this influences the future of construction and community planning that goes with it.
- Strong intersection and integration between community planning and mitigation planning. Mitigation Planning works hand-in-hand with communities to protect people and property and is a tool to provide the planning process that can integrate with community planning. Good hazard mitigation plans outline projects and strategies that directly affect community planning in the area that it covers.
- Community planners have the capability to directly impact the way a disaster affects a community through the design and build of the community. Tools like land use, zoning, easements, building codes can all be harnessed to reduce a community’s risk to natural hazards in long-lasting ways. Ultimately, the safest community is the one that encourages development away from hazard prone areas and actively plans for such risks.
  - Process is important: Community planning brings key decision makers together and community members to the table to shape where they live. Important to get involved both as a planner and as a citizen.
  - If you’re a planner, outside of your planning work you can also participate in the planning process as a citizen. Go to your local planning counsel hearing, commissions and board. Have your voice heard.
  - There’s a perfect intersection between community planning and hazard mitigation. Example: This past summer, Worcester County, MD had several properties up for rezoning from estates to residential. The rezoning had actually been given a favorable recommendation from the Planning Commission but residents and environmental groups stepped in and objected to the change citing several concerns such as the coastal flooding impact. The county’s hazard mitigation plan cited one of its biggest concerns was coastal flooding as well, so residents stepped in and actively objected and in the end, commissioners voted 6 to 0 not to rezone. Your voice as a planner and as a community member both matter.
- Laura Duff asked everyone to please continue to promote best practices and share them. She thanked the RNN community for their interest and dedication.

**DISCUSSION:**

- Rebecca Joyce, a Regional Planner in Shenandoah Valley Region, VA, offered a Best Practice from her own experience: They are in the process of doing their regional hazard mitigation plan. They know that FEMA likes to embrace the community and they have always done that. In the past year she has been making quarterly visits to a day program for adults with intellectual disabilities, talking about preparedness, things like that. They do a public survey as part of the engagement for their hazards plan and wanted to get these folks involved and get their voice in the plan as well. They had a discussion and Rebecca recorded the comments. It was a good experience for her because she found out which hazards they were worried about; and as far as their caregivers, group homes or parents, how many of their institutions and things already had their emergency plans in place, but also had worked with their residents to let them know about the plan, who the helpers were, etc. This made Rebecca want to encourage other communities to do the same – a lot of times people with special needs can get overlooked but having a quick ten-minute conversation with such a group can give you a lot of good input.
- Laura Duff stated she would be very interested in seeing how that shapes the plan moving forward in implementation, continued engagement, and conversation.

- Erin Capps mentioned a webinar this week put on by FEMA Region 3 talking about the inclusion of universities in mitigation plans; what does Laura Duff think of this for a best practice?
  - There are some universities that are smaller, community colleges, etc.
  - When you get larger state universities they may be in various locations throughout the state; but there may be one satellite that may want to join with the nearby community. Usually the university closest in geography will join in with the nearest city; or a university on its own, if it has a bunch of campuses throughout the state, may look at their own plan – is there a best practice that Laura has seen on inclusion of a university?
- Laura Duff explained that she has seen university plans done a couple of different ways that have been successful.
  - New York State, for example, is working with universities on their risk analysis, and working to integrate both the student’s work and the aspect of mitigation plan for the universities, and this is working well.
  - The City of Philadelphia has involvement with a group of universities who have coalesced into one group for recommendations for emergency planning, emergency response, and mitigation planning. And that works well too.
  - It varies by location what type of success one can see by these different approaches.
- Erin Capps observed that there isn’t a hard and fast rule – it really does depend on the university and what level of participation they want.
  - For example, are they just providing input as a stakeholder, are they looking at a plan as a participant where they can get their own brand, or is it something they want to evolve and do on their own?
- Tom Hughes shared that the Region 3 Program did a pilot with universities. They looked at it a couple of ways: There’s got to be something in it for the school, there’s got to be something in it for the student, and there’s got to be something in it for either the county or state to engage in that type of partnership.
  - Pennsylvania gave a presentation to the universities, gave a separate presentation to students, and another presentation to the counties – all separately – on what they all could get out of a mitigation plan, just to see if Region 3 was on board with their expectations.
- Tom Hughes shared that, they found that a number of students, although they all went to Penn State, actually resided in different counties that were updating their hazard mitigation plan. Those students, over the summer, actually worked with the EMA staff. It’s a timing issue too with when they’re in school, or not in school, how much time do they have, etc. That too is a plan process.
  - With any kind of planning you have to do the back planning. In the case of Region 3, they left that up to the county. The state said it would reach out to a university if the county needed support, but its between point “A and point “B” on how they were going to coordinate the students.
  - Region 3 has done this on the graduate level where they actually had the university work on a capstone project. They gathered the professor’s expectations, the student’s expectations, and the state’s goals, and had a document written up prior to them even doing the project, that laid all these things out. That’s how they worked it in the Commonwealth of the Pennsylvania.
- Erin Capps shared that getting a survey of what the participant’s expectations are beforehand is a great idea.
- Vince Brown wondered if there was a way to slip the DRR Curriculum into those situations, to use them as an opportunity to get folks interested in this wonderful Curriculum we’ve developed.
  - Is that another way to make the Curriculum more widespread?
- Ed Thomas shared that sounded like a great idea – we should look for opportunities wherever we can.
  - We’ve got incredible materials developed by the real experts in the field and the benefit of getting some other folks to take that a step further and localize it would be really incredible. The more we spread the word about the Curriculum, the more it’s a

- win on the investment in time that we have made and investment that FEMA has made.
- Tom Hughes shared Region 3's thinking and experience around trying to figure this out.
  - They wanted to have all the universities come to the Emergency Management Conference. What they found was a lot of the university professors were gone during the summer – that's when they take their vacations.
  - When they looked at doing Conference in the spring or in the fall, the professors were too busy – they may or may not get one of their associates or one of the students to sit in for them at the event.
  - Maybe this is one more reason to have the universities all come together.
  - Tom Hughes wouldn't mind being a pilot state to try to get the universities to come and talk to them about the disaster risk reduction curriculum.
- Ed Thomas agreed that we have to start somewhere.
  - Maybe we could think about doing this in partnership with IBHF – spread both the Curriculum materials and some of the incredible materials on wildfire that IBHF are developing.
  - As we think about this, and as it was discussed in the Board meeting yesterday, assuming that we could continue getting FEMA CTP support, how do we want to move forward with the Curriculum, support for the RNN and how do we re-energize the RNN as we're doing here today – that kind of pilot where we present it.
  - Maybe as we get a little bit further along – we're just about ready to wrap up the initial 24 Modules of the Curriculum, as we hear from Veronica Criscitiello.
  - Maybe we could take another run at trying to get interest on the part of an educational institution turning this into a formal program for online learning.
  - That's another way. Anything we do to pilot and get this word out is a real win for us.
- Tom Huges will talk to Shannon Burke about going to the next APA Conference because a lot of professors that have community planning aspect curriculums in their schools would probably be there.
  - When they had the APA conference in Philadelphia a couple years ago they had a lot of professors and universities attend, so we could probably get a group or core group of professors together and talk to them about our Curriculum.
- Vince Brown asked is there a Planning Module in the Curriculum?
- Ed Thomas replied yes, there is, and it definitely could be improved.
  - Getting some of the planners at FEMA to take another look at the Planning Module would be a really good idea.
  - We could incorporate some of what Laura Duff has been talking about with us here today and further improve that Module. That would be a good thing.
  - Once we scrub it up, it would be a great thing to present as a webinar in its own right.
    - Taking pieces of the Curriculum and putting them out in cooperation with other folks as a webinar.
- Tom Hughes asked Erin Capps to put this down as an Action Item for him to get with the APA about improving the Planning Module and putting parts of the Curriculum out as webinars.
- Vince Brown explained for the benefit of Laura Duff's, that the Curriculum we are talking about is the Disaster Risk Reduction Curriculum that NHMA has specifically developed mostly by means of the Grant that they get from FEMA.
  - Laura Duff offered to look at the Planning Module and give some feedback as well.
- Ed Thomas explained that we do have funding which has enabled us to hire a contractor to pull this together, but it also represents a labor of love with literally *multiple* thousands of hours of volunteer work contributed by various mitigation experts around the country. Literally thousands of hours of time.
  - With the professional assistance of Wightman Associates putting it into Curriculum form, we have produced a basic series of Modules but they certainly, as with anything, would benefit from updates and having someone like Laura Duff look at them from not just the local or state perspective, but also from the federal perspective of how we can refine and present it.

- And then, like anything else, the Modules, as we present them, we have to tweak the for the particular audience we are talking to. If we're presenting in a particular state we want to put state related information in there.
- The presentation Ed will do in Vermont will be different than the one he will do with AWRA, when they meet in June in Sparks, Nevada.
- This type of refinement and thought process we enormously benefit from, and it is a great thing to work on not just for the Planning Module, but the other materials that we put together on the limitations of flood maps, the introduction to the Module, where we're going with the Curriculum, etc. as well.
  - Ed Thomas is very happy to work with Laura Duff on that.
- Ed Thomas added that he was very impressed with Rebecca Joyce's description of what she has been up to. This is exactly the kind of thing we want to capture for articles for the NHMA Newsletter; writing that up and getting it up on the web.
  - What Rebecca described all by itself is a Best Practice as to process for planning and implementation and working with local governments.
  - It's very much worth getting the word out and maybe working with Laura on an overall webinar presentation on the inspirational material that Laura gave, talking about how all of us as planners and citizens can speak out on stuff and have our voices heard. This could serve as the basis of a splendid Best Practice sheet and a webinar.
- NHMA Admin advised Ed Thomas that Rebecca Joyce had dropped off the call, but his comments would be passed on to her.
- Vince Brown suggested that Laura Duff come back in a few months to talk to the RNN about the Tribal Mitigation Planning Handbook.
  - Erin Capps suggested that Laura Duff could do a webinar for us on that as well.
- Vince Brown thanked Laura Duff for being on the call and giving a great presentation.
- Thanks were echoed by a number of people on the call.
  - Erin Capps expressed our hope to continue to loop Laura Duff in on our activities and keep her in mind for future calls and webinars, and thanked her for her time this morning.

## 6) RNN Future Activities

Erin Capps addressed conferences and doing a one to two-day summit. The Board yesterday discussed having Outreach-Volunteer Committees, and people involved in social media as well. One of the aspects is fundraising but also the Conference Committee, including looking at where can we have private workshops and maybe hosting our own conference.

- Erin Capps will follow up on this.
- Ed Thomas reported about follow up on ALI which will be the approach that we're taking with respect to the DRR Curriculum and the ABA Resilience Book.
  - The summary that these very conservative property rights lawyers are looking for is a cogent statement from government about regulation – a clear linkage between what government is requiring and the thing that's being required of the property owner.
    - This is exactly the thing we are trying to do – taking the Miletic approach of specific, actionable steps that need to be taken with respect to higher standards.
  - It will be interesting to see how the ALI receives these recommendations.
    - They want to hear specifically about what harm are the regulations preventing? They are seeking a "nexus statement". They have no problem with regulations that prevent harm, but they do require governmental authorities to spell it out.
    - This is incredibly supportive of the DRR Curriculum and the overall concepts that we have been advocating for so long within NHMA.
    - This will be an ongoing thing; hopefully we can make a presentation at the ALI next year in January. We can follow on with John Marshall and Erin Capps.
    - It's an exciting opportunity to reach folks who are normally suing government to prevent regulation.

- Barb Miller asked about ALI. Ed Thomas explained ALI is the American Law Institute. It used to be very closely related to the American Bar Association but has gone off on its own. It is primarily supported by folks that represent property owners – major players involved in suing government for all sorts of things.
- Erin mentions that we want to have more folks from FEMA on our calls.

**7) Discussion of Best Practices Documentation-New Best Practice on mitigation-based recovery with no Presidential Declaration: Joe Rossi and Coastal Coalition [Material sent separately] and Traci Sears from Montana**

**8) Next Steps for RNN-DRR Curriculum Future Meeting? Discussion of CTP Grant**

**a) New Grant requires NHMA and RNN to participate with and recommend other possible interested agencies for an advisory committee meeting in Washington D.C. – [Detail by John Wiener circulated with Minutes.] Possible other locations/dates**

**b) NHMA DRR Curriculum & Workshop Status:**

- i) Examining how to further improve fit of the RNN Curriculum to the needs of External Stakeholders; coupling better with existing courses: including FEMA, EPA, NOAA, NACo, NGO & private market courses?**
- ii) RNN Volunteers for the development of the Disaster Risk Reduction Curriculum;**
- iii) How to take advantage of the latest update from the Multi-Hazard Mitigation Council on the cost/benefit of Hazard Mitigation.**

**c) Natural Hazard Conference**

Erin Capps will be at ASFPM presenting a recap of the ABA presentation that Ed Thomas put together in October of last year addressing the need to protect the most vulnerable populations.

- Ed Thomas added that he has a presentation coming up in Vermont in the Resilient Vermont Conference and will be introducing a lot of stuff on the RNN and the DRR Curriculum; also has a wonderful opportunity happening in June with the American Water Resources Organization (AWRA) where he will be presenting with Keith Porter.
- The Vermont presentation is also in June – Ed Thomas will get the date info to Erin Capps.
- Tom Hughes asked for updated materials he can take down with him to the HMA summit.
  - Veronica Criscitiello is the keeper of most of the DRR updates – she will get these out to everyone on this call and the NHMA Board.
    - Tom Hughes is looking for the 24 modules two-pager as a handout. Can this be updated and is there anything else? He would like to do a story board like we did last year.
    - Veronica will get the updated Curriculum Overview sent out to everybody.
- Vince Brown mentioned that the Curriculum is connected to the Grant. Do we have a list of these Modules so Vince can report on it?
  - Erin Capps and Ed Thomas agreed this is something we can do better in terms of keeping Vince informed.
  - Ed Thomas and Erin Capps will work with David Mallory to make a frequent report, not less than monthly, on the stuff we're doing with FEMA's investment and making sure that Vince is aware that we are using these, and the leverage with the RNN Communities and the Best Practices, etc.
    - Vincent Brown is looking for something he can use to showcase what we're doing.
    - Ed Thomas mentioned the proposal that he and Vince submitted to FEMA to do a Lunch & Learn session in Washington at FEMA headquarters for the purpose of bringing everyone up to date on what NHMA was up to not just with the FEMA Grant but just in general supporting mitigation and climate adaptation.
      - In the interim we need to get Vince some updates.



Veronica Criscitiello gave an update on the Curriculum:

- The final Modules have been drafted and are ready for review:
  - Module 6 - Risk Assessment Through Storytelling: An Asset Based Approach – needs review;
  - Module 11 – Beyond Codes and Low-Impact Development – ready for review
  - Module 13 - Climate and Weather Tools and Trends – ready for review
  - Module 17 - Living With Water: Inland and Coastal Flooding – ready for review
  - Module 22 – The Wildfire-Flood Connection – ready for review
  - Module 23 – Severe Thunderstorms / Tornado Safe Rooms – ready for review
  - Module 24 – From Policy to Engineering: Earthquake Risks – ready for review.
    - Rebecca Joyce was going to put this module in the survey she was sending out to the RNN asking if anyone could help with looking it over for final review.
    - Rebecca will do that this week.
  - Barb Miller offered to review Module 6 – Risk Assessment; Veronica will send it to her.
- Erin Capps mentioned that Michael Gumpert had started to put together a Recovery Management Curriculum for FEMA; is anyone else interested in looking at it for detail as a jumping off point for instructions to students?
  - Ed Thomas, Tom Hughes and Chuck Wallace are interested in looking at the Michael Gumpert Recovery Management Curriculum. Erin Capps will send it on to them today and then get back to Michael and let him know.
- Veronica mentioned that we also have a draft of the Leadership for Disaster Risk Reduction Module that Jim Mullen and Donna Boyce were the contact for – is anyone else interested in reviewing that as well?
  - Ed Thomas would like to be part of that review team on the Leadership Module and we definitely want to get the folks in Charlotte-Mecklenburg and Tulsa and also Gene Henry to look at this based on their local community experiences.
    - Maybe David Mallory can get some folks from the Denver Urban Drainage and Flood Control District to look at it as well.
    - We have folks at the local level through RNN that really are experts on what it takes to make changes at the local level.
  - Tim Trautman (Charlotte-Mecklenburg) volunteered to look at the Leadership Module or have one of his staff look at it; Tom Hughes suggested Chuck Wallace would like to see this as well.
    - Veronica Criscitiello will send the Leadership Module on to them.
  - Tom Hughes asked if we have anything in the Leadership Module that talks to land use/land use decisions after a disaster with regard to general rebuild and what the requirements are?
    - As of her last review, Veronica stated we did not have anything in it about that.
    - Tom Hughes shared that what's happening in PA is that the locals are trying to use the space, and are running up against the requirements and reviews now, and FEMA just came out with something from EHP, so we probably should put something in there to make sure folks do what they need to do and stay out of trouble.
      - If it doesn't fit into the Leadership Module, leadership at least needs to know what the ramifications are for recovery and the land use aspect so it needs to be somewhere in the Curriculum.
  - Ed Thomas stated that yes we have a place for that when talking about the broad aspects of what should be covered. We need to get that in there and then maybe cross-link this as an important topic – anything that has to do with leadership and land use would be a great thing to have a webinar on and then cross-link the recorded webinar into that mention of it in the Curriculum.
    - Even if we only have a short mention in the Leadership portion, then it would cross-reference to something else in the NHMA files whether that is a recorded webinar or short Best Practices write up.
  - Veronica Criscitiello will get Tom's comments and cross-link this to whatever NEMA is doing and whatever Tom thinks belongs in there.
    - Tom is thinking of CFR 463 and CFR 480 requirements.

## **9) CTP Collaboration Monthly Call for Topics**

Topics are due April 3<sup>rd</sup> – if anyone needs that email again, please let Erin Capps know.

## **10) Status of Practical Community Resilience Project in South Carolina & Silver Jackets link**

Ed Thomas explained that he does not have any updates on that at this time.

## **11) Comments from Vincent Brown of FEMA on the many things happening at FEMA**

Erin thanked Vince for his e-mail from Mike Grim.

- Vince Brown reported that FEMA has a number of things coming down the pipe; there is the Tribal Guidance that Laura Duff and he spoke about, also a big push coming on about Mitigation Saves Guidance about how \$1.00 spent for mitigation equals \$6.00 now in savings as opposed to \$4.00.
- Also, FEMA will be putting out the map reports on two of the three hurricanes two seasons ago: the Mitigation Assessment Team Report on Maria and another on Hurricane Harvey.
  - Those reports contain information that FEMA has gathered that talks about results of storms and how they affected different building materials and different structures and have to be gone through a pretty wide concurrence process to make sure everybody is satisfied with what is coming out from FEMA on those.
- The next really big thing, and one that Vince wants is to get somebody from FEMA here to give a presentation on the way the Mapping Program will change and how the insurance rating related to that will change. It is a big discussion and a couple of months away. Other than that, he will keep hopping on his Action Items.

Tom Hughes asked if the reports on the new technologies were coming out April 1<sup>st</sup>;

- Vince Brown explained that getting people to talk about them and getting information developed to put out around what is coming out will take some weeks.
  - Vince has not seen anything there yet with regard to fact sheets, official language, and communication materials.
  - The initial discussion will be to Congress and we'll have to wait until he can get somebody to come and talk to us about it.
  - As soon as the material is available, Vince will get it out to us.

## **12) Status of Island Press Interest, Articles for NHMA Newsletter and/or ABA**

Ed Thomas has not been doing much these lately. They are really looking at things from the perspective of under-represented folks and climate change, per se.

- We don't have any current proposals with them. They have been incredible in terms of helping us leverage our materials out into the marketplace of ideas through Time Magazine and Governing Magazine and publications that are beyond our normal reach – also into books that they publish.
- This is something Ed would be happy to work with folks on in getting any information we want to get out.

Barb Miller requested that we address Item #4 on the Agenda, which is Comments/Issues/RNN Community Sharing/Good News and that we move this item up directly under the Roll Call on future Agendas so that we can give the community representatives their time to talk..

### 13) Adjourn

A **Motion** was made by Tim Trautman to adjourn.  
The motion was **seconded** by Barb Miller.  
There being no discussion, it was  
**VOTED:** Meeting is adjourned.

Meeting ended at 12:42 p.m.

Next meeting is April 19, 2019 at 11:00 a.m.

## ACTION ITEMS:

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### REVIEW OF ACTION ITEMS FOR FEBRUARY 22, 2019:

- Rebecca Joyce to send out a short survey to RNN communities and find out what they need to be more engaged; Rebecca will follow up with NHMA Admin.
- Vince Brown to get some FEMA staff to come on the calls and discuss happenings in FEMA.
- Ed Thomas to run suggestions on the ABA book past Roger Faris who is looking for a wildfire author.
  - Could Roger find somebody with specific solutions or examples of what communities have done with regard to wildfire?
- Vince Brown to speak to Ed Thomas and talk about who he can round up for a presentation or presentations to his people.
- Rebecca Joyce to be looped into that discussion with Barb Miller and anybody else Rebecca says is appropriate so that we can do a more exciting agenda for the next RNN call and attract more folks into it.
- Tom Hughes to do several Action Items within the next month:
  - Get together with Alessandra Jerolleman on a webinar / webex to talk about the document and harvesting;
  - Get a copy of the checklist document approved to use in the webex;
  - Reach out to the states of Illinois and New Jersey for information about their mutual aid for flood plain administrators – they have a team name and responsibilities – to hear how they are able to build capacity for local communities.
  - Get with Alessandra Jerolleman to learn her schedule and when she would be available for a follow-on meeting.
- Donna Boyce will send Tom Hughes her thoughts on harvesting so he can include New Jersey's experience as part of the template strategy – the greater the integrity of the template, the better.
- Veronica Criscitiello to loop in Gina Wightman on the webex series as she has been working with Michael Gumpert from FEMA on related topics.
- Vince Brown to get information developed on ideas for the webex series and loop in his management who will likely be very interested in what we're trying to do.
- Tom, Alessandra, Veronica, and Gina to loop in Roger Faris on the webex series and get folks working with Roger on wildfire best practices for it.

Veronica Criscitiello to send out an e-mail with questions for the RNN about the Technical Assistance Post Disaster Handout. People can respond with some bullet items and then perhaps follow up with a phone call for more information.

- NHMA Admin to assist Veronica in getting this out to all RNN members.
- Vince Brown to be included on this so he can socialize the information around FEMA and let folks know that the Grant is working and has produced a group that is doing some wonderful things; whether it's a meeting set up or a whole program, please keep him informed.

Veronica Criscitiello to forward links to Vince Brown on:

- Status update of the DRR Curriculum and the workshops that have gone on;
- Post disaster resource on funding from the NHMA website (skinnied-down version developed for Florida)
- Ned Swanberg to write up a short article about what they are doing in Vermont and include a copy of their checklist as an approach on substantial damage estimation.
- Tom Hughes and Alessandra Jerolleman to incorporate this into the webex series to help people think about how to maximize the opportunity that's presented by horrific natural disaster in their lives.
- Ned Swanberg to send out a link to the Checklist for the RNN and Vince Brown.
- NHMA Admin to write up Gene's Henry's remarks.

## REVIEW OF ACTION ITEMS, JANUARY 18, 2019:

- A1. **Ongoing** - Roger Faris will invite Newport, Oregon to participate in an upcoming RNN meeting to introduce themselves as a potential new member of the RNN.
- A2. **Ongoing** - Roger Faris will coordinate with Jim Mullen on any ideas he may have about other communities that would be good for us to approach in the Pacific Northwest or any of their friends at FEMA.
- A3. **Ongoing** - Roger Faris will find out if Newport, Oregon has done anything curriculum-wise for the school system in terms of mitigation, resilience, flood mapping, etc.
- A4. **Status?** - Vince Brown will send Roger Faris some materials from New Jersey that would be great to show the folks at Newport, Oregon.

### REPORT:

- Roger Faris has not gotten together yet with Jim Mullen, but did reach out to Lincoln County, Newport, Oregon, and is very hopeful that it will work out that they will become a new RNN Community member.
    - He is still waiting to hear back from them;
    - He is very excited about the many things they are doing.
    - Roger will follow up with them.
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- (Nov)-A1. **ONGOING** - Joe Rossi to capture a few thoughts about activities of the Marshfield Coastal Coalition for the NHMA Newsletter, website and as a Best Practice to send around to the RNN, including links to the website, etc.
- (Nov)-A2. **ONGOING** - Joe Rossi to send copies of the Marshfield Coastal Coalition Messaging Plan out for everyone in the RNN to see how it talks about CRS messaging.
- (Nov)-A3. **ONGOING** - Tim Trautman to add ideas to the write up from Joe Rossi for distribution to RNN, website, Newsletter, etc.
- (Nov)-A4. **ONGOING** - Tim Trautman and Joe Rossi to share information on their respective Best Practices and write up something for posting to the website, the Newsletter, and the RNN Communities.
  - This article to stimulate the RNN with ideas on things like how to do mitigation, pre-disaster preparation, terms of community resilience, better design, rainy day fund to help minimize flood risk, etc.

### REPORT:

- We're talking about following up further with what Joe Rossi has done in Massachusetts and what Traci Sears has done in Montana, with regard to what to do when you don't have an individual assistance disaster declaration, but you've got people that are substantially damaged.
  - This involves working with others who have done things on that because:
    - More and more we're going to be seeing folks that need to be doing mitigation, to be encouraged to be doing mitigation, or just simply to rebuild their lives following a disaster that is non-declared.
    - We've got some incredibly good materials on what to do following a declared disaster:

- The old *Patchwork Quilt* that we're now calling the *Roadmap to Resilience*;
  - Other simplified materials that we developed more recently - this is something that will be forthcoming;
  - Hopefully Barb Miller will be able to work with Roger Faris, Rebecca Joyce and Joe Rossi on this.
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- A1. **STATUS?**: Ned Swanberg and Tim Lovell to write up their thoughts on 'what the RNN means to me' as part of building this into the DRR Curriculum and showing the benefits of involvement in the RNN.
- A2. **STATUS?**: Ned Swanberg, Ed Thomas, to write up their thoughts on mitigation accountability and think about how we can take this further forward.

#### REPORT:

- Ned Swanberg and Tim Lovell have not yet written up their thoughts on these.
  - Ed Thomas also has not yet written up his thoughts on mitigation accountability. He is trying to fold this into the ABA Book that he will mention later.
  - At the top of the list with regard to writing stuff up everyone is urged to please consider:
    - The NHMA Newsletter and the NHMA website are always seeking articles from the RNN
    - The door is wide open at FEMA for contributed articles for the FEMA Newsletter on mitigation;
    - The ABA is also seeking articles on mitigation if anyone has something they want to put in there;
  - Anyone that feels like writing - it would be well worth doing and can have a tremendous and powerful impact.
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- A5. **IN PROCESS** - Veronica Criscitiello to work with Gina Wightman, Roger Faris, and anybody else that wants to chime in, to get Success Stories and any other information on what we're doing out to Vince Brown to make it easy for him to promote our activities with the Curriculum for the CTP Award.

#### REPORT:

- Roger Faris continues looking for success stories;
  - We want to fold in the Success Story that Traci Sears did with the help of Maria Lamb on doing substantial damage enforcement in Montana, coupled with:
    - What do you do when you don't have a disaster declaration?
    - How can you help people?
  - There is a lot that can be done, as we saw from Joe Rossi, and that is something well worth doing.
  - Tom Hughes also had some excellent ideas on how they approached this in Pennsylvania.
- Roger is still hoping to get more info about the Montana story.
  - He did get some information about the community outreach efforts and programs that Joe Rossi produced and is almost done with that;

- He would love to hear more about Montana, so if anyone could send him anything about that it would be great.
  - Ed Thomas and Traci Sears to work on getting Montana materials to Roger Faris to write up including materials on the workshop, and the series of training sessions that Traci got special funding for as a best practice.
    - Ed reported that the people who attended these events were very pleased.
    - This gives us a chance to talk about the Montana Resilience Effort as well as the incredible work that Traci Sears has done in Montana as the State Emergency Coordinator;
    - All this is well worth doing.
- Veronica Criscitiello and Gina Wightman want to improve our updates for FEMA (and everyone else) on what we're doing with the Curriculum and the work we did in Montana and Utah, as well as the work in South Carolina, Pennsylvania and Colorado.
  - These workshops really need to be better documented.
  - Many thanks to Roger Faris for the reminder and the opportunity to work with him on this.
  - This effort is incredibly important for our marketing of the Curriculum.
- Traci Sears is happy to provide materials on the Montana workshops; she will send them over along with her response to Ed's recent e-mail to her.
  - If there's anything that Montana produced or has, she will be happy to provide that information.
  - Traci reported that she has also been helping another community with recovery.
    - She got a call from Oregon; they have a new NIP Coordinator whom she knows.
      - They were asking for assistance because of a major storm that went through and they were struggling with recovery.
      - They might be another community to reach out to with an invitation for membership in the RNN as well.
  - This is great news;
    - A lot of their involvement will require some effort on their part to reach out to us;
    - We are very excited to try to help with that in any way we can.
    - Many thanks to Traci Sears for everything she is doing.

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- We've got a lot of stuff on the Action Item list - we will continue pinging on these as long as we can.
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December 2018 Action Items:

- (Dec)-A1. Tim Lovell and Traci Sears to review the Severe Thunderstorm and Saferooms module.
- (Dec)-A2. Tim Lovell will share the draft of the Severe Thunderstorm and Saferooms module with those originally involved in the *Hide From the Wind* report as well as Ann Patton and the folks at the National Weather Service in Norman; and anyone else he can think of whose input would be meaningful and appropriate.
- (Dec)-A3. Rebecca Joyce to assist Wightman & Associates as needed with general review of the modules.
- (Dec)-A4. NHMA Admin and Veronica Criscitiello to get an updated status on the Modules out to the RNN Communities.

- (Dec)-A5. Veronica Criscitiello and Gina Wightman to get more information out on what we did in Montana, Colorado and Utah, especially with regard to innovative use of the Curriculum with different audiences.
  - (Dec)-A6. Veronica Criscitiello to incorporate the strategies and practices from the NHMA best practices as shown on the website into the Wildfire modules.
  - (Dec)-A7. Joe Rossi, Traci Sears, Roger Faris, and Tom Hughes to working up some best practices including what do you do when you don't get a disaster declaration. Barb Miller and Rebecca Joyce also to assist on this.
  - (Dec)-A8. Barb Miller to get some information for Roger Faris on The West Virginia VOAD and write up some material on that as a really a good success story.
  - (Dec)-A9. Ed Thomas to try to get together with Barb Miller to move forward writing up something about VOAD for the ABA, the Young Lawyers group and others.
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November Action Items:

**Planning the Advisory Committee Meeting:**

- (Nov)-A5. Tim Trautman to work with Chuck Wallace and Vince Brown to figure out options for putting together the *Advisory Committee Meeting*.
- (Nov)-A6. Chuck Wallace and Vince Brown to work with Tim Trautman on planning the Advisory Committee Meeting for the RNN

**CRS and Insurance Education:**

- (Nov)-A7. Joe Rossi and Ed Thomas to think about CRS with regard to insurance and how we can transfer that knowledge – maybe put it up on the RNN website - and couple it with some Roger Faris materials on Best Practices to bang the drum on Tulsa along with this element of the CRS and get it out to the marketplace of ideas.

**CTP to Address Travel Funding for the RNN:**

- (Nov)-A8. CTP Manager (David Mallory) and Contractor (Gina Wightman) to examine how to set up RNN post-disaster 'listening and learning sessions' and peer-to-peer networking activities to cover travel by RNN Community members under the Provision for Technical Assistance/Technical Support for Presidentially Declared Disasters by FEMA through the Sharing Agreement between the states.

**Joe Rossi to Write up Best Practices on the Marshfield Coastal Coalition:**

- (Nov)-A9. **ONGOING** - Joe Rossi to capture a few thoughts about activities of the Marshfield Coastal Coalition for the NHMA Newsletter, website and as a Best Practice to send around to the RNN, including links to the website, etc.
- (Nov)-A10. **ONGOING** - Joe Rossi to send copies of the Marshfield Coastal Coalition Messaging Plan out for everyone in the RNN to see how it talks about CRS messaging.

**Tim Trautman to Add Ideas to the Write Up from Joe Rossi**



(Nov)-A11. **ONGOING** - Tim Trautman to add ideas to the write up from Joe Rossi for distribution to RNN, website, Newsletter, etc.

(Nov)-A12. **ONGOING** - Tim Trautman and Joe Rossi to share information on their respective Best Practices and write up something for posting to the website, the Newsletter, and the RNN Communities.

- This article to stimulate the RNN with ideas on things like how to do mitigation, pre-disaster preparation, terms of community resilience, better design, rainy day fund to help minimize flood risk, etc.

### **RNN to Put Together A Little Guide Book**

(Nov)-A13. The RNN Communities to put together a little Guide Book on “What to Do When You Don’t Have a Presidentially Declared Disaster”.

- This can be started now just by adding in Best Practices from each community, beginning with contributions from Joe Rossi, Tim Trautman and Ned Swanberg.

### **FEMA Operating Partners Meeting/Other FEMA Meetings**

(Nov)-A14. Vince Brown will be getting NHMA on the Agenda for The **Operating Partners Meeting**.

(Nov)-A15. Vince Brown will try to home in on what the Risk Management Directorate of FIMA/FEMA plans to do in terms of Partnerships with their new Contractor.

(Nov)-A16. Vince Brown will try to get us involved and make sure the Risk Management Director knows he has the RNN Communities organization.

(Nov)-A17. There is some opportunity to let this new Contractor know what the RNN is and stands for, and that is something we might want to do.

### **Articles for Vincent Brown of FEMA**

(Nov)-A18. Ed Thomas to send Vince Brown copies of articles he has done so Vince can forward them to various newsletters.

(Nov)-A19. Ed Thomas will send Vince a list of other publications we have done.

(Nov)-A20. NHMA Admin to work with Veronica Crisciatiello on sending out some of the other things we have that Vince can distribute to the new contractor and other folks that would be interested in the material we’ve developed. - **Ongoing**

(Nov)-A21. Vince Brown will send the latest copy of the NewsFlash for distribution to the RNN Communities.

- Ed Thomas (?) to add a note and put it up on the website and distribute to NHMA members for supporting synergy.

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October Action Items:

**JIM MURPHY MEMO On Under-Represented, Disadvantaged, and Economically Challenged Communities with GIS Overlay Suggestion for FEMA:**

- A6. Ed Thomas to get Jim Murphy copies of presentations forthwith by Jo Anne Howard, John Marshall and Erin Capps, as well as an attorney from Dallas working with the impoverished in the South Dallas area, along with descriptions of the workshops which will be available on the ABA website shortly as webinars.

**DRR CURRICULUM / Wightman Associates:**

A7. Veronica Criscitiello to get out some material and a report to the RNN communities:

- a. Veronica Criscitiello and NHMA Admin to get this material out in writing:
  - i. We want to emphasize in our note to the RNN Communities the outcome that we want from the Training which are actionable steps that can be taken by communities and individuals right now - what they can do to achieve disaster risk reduction along the lines of the concepts developed so incredibly well by Dr. Dennis Mileti. – STATUS?
  - ii. These concepts are most clearly articulated in the NHMA publication *Hide from the Wind*, in the preface, talking about Dr. Mileti's theories and how they can be implemented.
  - iii. We've got an incredibly fine product. There is nobody else with material that combines Dr. Mileti's thoughts with actionable material across the hazards along with a clear understanding of the enormous benefits of the Flood Insurance Program as well as its limitations.
  - iv. We've really got some incredible expertise that has gone into this material and we need to get it into the marketplace of ideas.
  - v. What we're doing now is developing the material that NHMA Admin with the help of Veronica Criscitiello will get out in writing to the RNN Communities for those not on the call.
  - vi. We have notes from yesterday's Board Meeting that we can include in this.

A8. Veronica Criscitiello to put out a note to the RNN to see if anyone has anything they think should or should not be included in the remaining Modules of the Curriculum as well as any learning objectives.

A9. Ed Thomas to work with Jim Mullen and Tom Hughes to see what we can do to market the DRR Curriculum and get it included as a normal part of funded training by the states and within NEMA.

**YOUTH CURRICULUM:**

A10. Ed Thomas to look at materials sent him by Vince Brown about what some folks are doing with regard to youth curriculum materials. If appropriate Ed to have it distributed to the Board or put into the Newsletter. No rush on this.

A11. Ed Thomas and Erin Capps to see where we stand with regard to Vanderbilt University on developing a hazard mitigation curriculum for high school students, get info on that out to the group, and produce an article for the Newsletter & post to social media.

**CTP PROGRAM:**

A12. Vince Brown to get information to Ed Thomas about the CTP Program for the RNN Communities.

- A13. Ed Thomas will have NHMA get this information out to the CTPs and out on social media as well, to the extent that FEMA wants to promote CTP involvement.
- A14. Vince Brown will submit information about NHMA for the CTP Awards committee for the communication efforts that we're doing.
- A15. **ONGOING** - Veronica Criscitiello to work with Gina Wightman, Roger Faris, and anybody else that wants to chime in, to get Success Stories and any other information on what we're doing out to Vince Brown to make it easy for him to promote our activities with the Curriculum for the CTP Award.

**NEW RNN COMMUNITY MEMBER:**

- A16. **Ongoing** - Roger Faris will invite Newport, Oregon to participate in an upcoming RNN meeting to introduce themselves as a potential new member of the RNN.
- A17. **Ongoing** - Roger Faris will coordinate with Jim Mullen on any ideas he may have about other communities that would be good for us to approach in the Pacific Northwest or any of their friends at FEMA.
- A18. **Ongoing** - Roger Faris will find out if Newport, Oregon has done anything curriculum-wise for the school system in terms of mitigation, resilience, flood mapping, etc.
- A19. **Status?** - Vince Brown will send Roger Faris some materials from New Jersey that would be great to show the folks at Newport, Oregon.

**NEWSLETTER MATERIALS FOR FEMA:**

- A20. Vince Brown to pick something out of the NHMA Newsletter to put into the FEMA Newsletter (the NewsFlash), which comes out monthly, as well as the CTP Newsletter.
- A21. NHMA Admin to send Vince Brown Word versions of any of these articles.- *IN PROCESS*

**BEST PRACTICES / SUCCESS STORIES:**

- A22. **ONGOING:** Ed Thomas shared that one of the things really worth talking about is RNN Community member Joe Rossi and his Massachusetts Coastal Coalition – the stuff they did for hazard mitigation, harm prevention and for the people after the flooding on the Massachusetts coast was fantastic.
- A23. **ONGOING:** Roger Faris will work with Joe Rossi on coming up with a best practice success story to document the efforts of the Massachusetts Coastal Coalition in hazard mitigation and harm prevention and produce an article for Vince Brown focusing on how tremendously successful their presentations were.
- A24. Ed Thomas to get Joe Rossi's phone number to Roger Faris.
- A25. Ned Swanberg to flesh out this draft into an article from him complete with links for use in the NHMA Newsletter.

- A26. A copy of Ned's finished article to be posted to the NHMA and RNN websites, included in the NHMA Newsletter, distributed through social media, and sent to Vince Brown for distribution through FEMA to the marketplace of ideas.
- A27. **STATUS?:** Roger Faris to do another Best Practice story on Vermont for posting.
- A28. **STATUS?:** Roger Faris to write up his own observations about the Vermont practices as a testimonial for publishing and posting to the NHMA website and Newsletter, as well as distribute it through social media and forward to Vince Brown along with links to the Vermont story.

**INCREASING RNN PARTICIPATION**

- A29. **STATUS?:** The RNN to consider whether they want to put out a Doodle Poll or something to the RNN communities to ask if a different meeting time would be better and ask them to pick the day and time that they want to meet in order to increase participation.

Action Items from September Meeting

**RNN IN-PERSON COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE Meeting:**

- A1: - **STATUS?:** The Community Meeting is an Action item for the RNN Communities and the NHMA Board and the Committee Chairs that we'll come up with a team that's going to organize this meeting;
- A2: - **ONGOING:** John Weiner's draft called "Brief Note to RNN from John Wiener" to be used as an organizational approach for the Advisory Committee meeting.
- A3: - **ONGOING:** Tim Trautman, Chuck Wallace, and Vince Brown to work together to figure out options for putting the Advisory Committee Meeting together.
- A4: - Comments from everyone requested on this.

**Success Stories and Blurbs:**

- A5: - **STATUS?:** Roger Faris to get more info from Joe Rossi to write up a Success Story about his work with the Massachusetts Coastal Coalition and impacted communities in Massachusetts.
- A6: - **STATUS?:** Barb Miller will write up her experience about her volunteer effort to improve her new community's CRS rating and get it to Roger Faris as an important Success Story.
- A7: - **STATUS?:** Barb Miller will summarize her comments on helping her new community achieve CRS for Vince Brown;
- A8: - **STATUS?:** Roger Faris will write up Barb Miller's community CRS story;
- A9: - Ed Thomas will get Roger Faris some materials he promised on Montana.
- A10: - Ed Thomas will get out to everyone a little nugget he put together for the Hazards Workshop on bridging the gap between people who believe in Climate Change, and those who don't believe in Climate Change and the process of de-politicizing the whole concept of hazard mitigation and disaster risk reduction
- A11: - **STATUS?:** (Wightman & Associates?) will be writing up some additional things on the training we did in Utah, Montana, Colorado, South Carolina, as well as the Hazards Workshop.

- A12: - **ONGOING:** David Mallory and Ed Thomas will get out some material on Colorado and will work with Veronica Criscitiello and Gina Wightman to get the South Carolina materials written up.
- A13: - **STATUS?:** Ed Thomas, Roger Faris and Traci Sears to work together on documenting Traci Sears' work on Substantial Damage Requirements from the South Carolina presentation as a best practice;
- A14: - **ONGOING:** Vincent Brown will send everybody the latest copy of the Newsflash.
- A15: - **STATUS?:** Joe Rossi will work with Roger Faris and possibly Ed Thomas to write something up on the presentation he did in Montana, as well as his work with the Massachusetts Coastal Coalition for Vince to use.
- A16: - **STATUS?:** Veronica Criscitiello to add Mr. Brian Varrella of the ASFPM Board to the distribution as we seek to improve and expand our relationship with the ASFPM Board.
- A17: - **STATUS?:** Veronica Criscitiello to add Rebecca Joyce to the distribution, as her community is very wild fire and flood prone, and it might be good to include her on this as something that might pull her back into the group.
- A18: - **STATUS?:** Veronica Criscitiello to add John Weiner's suggestion for an informational Module as a potential new Module.
- A19: - **STATUS?:** Ed Thomas to follow up with David Vaughn, the Professor of Practice, who is heading that for Clemson University, and see if we can get something written up on the Practical Community Resilient Project effort and how the NHMA and FEMA-funded CTP is used to support that on an ongoing basis.
- A20: - **STATUS?:** Vince Brown will get information out to us on the Building Codes Report.
- A21: - **STATUS?:** Vince Brown will send a slide presentation on the Culture of Preparedness for us to look at and see where we can further combine what FEMA is doing with NHMA and RNN, and see where Resilience Organization is going
- A22: - **STATUS?:** Vince Brown to send us a write-up on the High-Water Mark Initiative that we can put out in our Newsletter and up on our website.
- A23: - **STATUS?:** Barb Miller to write up information on the NOFA and PDA grants for the NHMA Newsletter, so we can get that out and also put in a little plug for her new company.
- A24: - **STATUS?:** Barb Miller will get a copy of her notes on these to Vince Brown so he can track down these PowerPoint presentations.
- A25: - **STATUS?:** Barb Miller will communicate directly with Vince and pass these on to the RNN and NHMA communities.
- A26: - **STATUS?:** Vincent Brown will get us copy of the PowerPoints named: FY2018 FMA NOFO and FY2018 PDM NOFO.

Action Items from July Meeting:

- A3. **STATUS?:** Roger Faris and/or Veronica Criscitiello to write up the work that Traci Sears is doing, and Florida is doing, as a way of giving people an on-the-ground view of what is required by FEMA which is different from what FEMA used to expect.
- A4. **STATUS?:** Roger Faris to work on writing up the Montana Workshop as a model presentation and get out the benefits of the idea of coming to a workshop where you have planners, engineers, flood plain managers, and attorneys in the room at the same time.

- A5. **STATUS?** Veronica Criscitiello to help put a map up on our website showing areas of the country where we have SMEs or at least come up with a way of showing where we have this availability. This would also help identify gaps where we don't yet have expertise to assist in other parts of the country.

Action Items from the June Meeting:

- A6. **Who would like to work on a committee to pick a date, location, etc. for the RNN Community in-person meeting?**
- A7. **ONGOING:** NHMA Admin to ask Jaime Marso, our webmaster, if there's a way of tracking the downloading of new materials as we turn them out. Can we spot where interest is in topics and location? – **DONE – Report in process.**
- A8. **ONGOING:** Ed Thomas to work with Vince Brown and FEMA to distribute the new post-disaster materials.
- A9. **ONGOING:** RNN Community members to distribute information about the new materials via word of mouth effort. That's one of the purposes we've designed and carefully put this material out there for.
- A10. **ONGOING -** Ned Swanberg and Tim Lovell to write up their thoughts on 'what the RNN means to me' as part of building this into the DRR Curriculum and showing the benefits of involvement in the RNN.
- A11. **ONGOING -** Ned Swanberg, Ed Thomas, to write up their thoughts on mitigation accountability and think about how we can take this further forward.

Action Items from April & May Meetings:

- A12. **ONGOING:** Roger Faris requested a reminder on the Agenda that success stories are still needed from members of the RNN Community. His role is to get from each person a little story about what their most proud of that their community has accomplished with regard to hazard mitigation. **STATUS:** Roger Faris reported he has received several excellent Success Stories and is looking now for about ten more. More stories are needed and welcome.
- A13. **ONGOING:** Vince Brown to offer more information next month on status of inviting Regional Coordinators to participate in the RNN calls.
- A14. **ONGOING:** NHMA Admin awaiting confirmation from RNN Community members regarding their info in the Contacts List and their approval to post this to the website.
- A15. **STATUS?:** RNN Communities to provide comments to Tom Hughes on Multi-Hazard Mitigation material (copy of Emergency Response Guide and Emergency Checklist).
- A16. **STATUS?:** RNN Communities to provide feedback to Tom Hughes on External Stakeholders Workgroup PDFs he sent out for their next meeting in August.
- A17. **STATUS?:** Still needing feedback from RNN members to Ed Thomas on whether they want to be part of NHMA's response to Keith Porter on the Multi-Hazard Mitigation Council's draft Cost Benefits of Hazard Mitigation.
- A18. **ONGOING:** Tom Hughes and NHMA Admin to collaborate on sending something to Vince Brown to publish about the RNN.