

NEWS Emailed June 5, 2022

Re: SWFL Regional Resiliency Coalition Meeting News

Brief description of what transpired on May 27. Items requiring your specific attention are highlighted in red.

On Friday, May 27, 2022, the SWFL Regional Resiliency Compact held its second organizational meeting. Thirteen of the 15 jurisdictions were represented (all but Marco Island and Punta Gorda; Punta Gorda, in a phone conversation with our FCRC facilitators, agreed in principle to the group's design features outlined here). Thanks to those in attendance.

At the meeting, we agreed that the group should move forward while operating with an informal structure: all jurisdictions are welcome, but none have voting or decision-making authority. We also agreed that calling the group a "Compact" implied more authority than intended, so the group agreed to call us a "Coalition." (Meeting minutes and related documents will be available at a new web site in a couple of weeks.) These two decisions are not substantive and do not change the character of the MOU. That said, the MOU's language has changed slightly. Consequently, a modified MOU (with stricken language and red highlighted additions) is attached here and will be available at the web site. Please share with this the appropriate staff and elected officials. A formal reconsideration of the MOU is not, in the group's opinion, needed.

Collier and Lee Counties, through respective actions of their Boards of Commissioners, have elected to take a hiatus from the Coalition and will reconsider their formal relationship sometime in the future. Despite this, and given the informal design of the group, Collier and Lee are always welcome and will be included on all correspondence.

The PowerPoint attached here and soon viewable at the web site (see slides 2 & 3) describes the tenets of the agreed-upon design. The Coalition will begin its efforts, hopefully before the end of July, with a "needs assessment", identifying what priorities individual jurisdictions have. When priorities are shared, and if interest exists, these would be efforts for coalition "alignment" – those needs that are addressed by the alliance. We will continue to operate at no-cost to local government. The Water School at FGCU will continue to provide a modest budget for administrative needs until outside funding is successfully obtained. The Water School will also serve as the facilitator of whatever technical or scientific resources needed (i.e., building teams of professionals to help with the aligned projects).

The web site will be used to provide news, announce upcoming meetings, and to archive documents. In addition, a listserv will be developed and maintained. **In preparation for the latter, please let me know the names and email addresses of all persons within your jurisdiction you'd like added to the list serve. The URL for the web site will be emailed separately when ready.**

In the upcoming weeks, expect correspondence concerning the following:

1. A date for a meeting, presumably in July, to conduct the needs assessment.
2. A general, topical agenda for meetings taking us through the fall.
3. A request soliciting jurisdiction involvement in developing Critical Asset lists and locations.
4. A request soliciting jurisdiction involvement in a new proposal to foster vulnerability assessments using the soon to be completed ACUNE tool.

Thanks for your commitment to this effort and your patience for its fruition.

Respectfully,
Mike Savarese

Attach: Modified MOU, PPT