

Whole Community EM Program Stakeholders Meeting Minutes

10 December 2025 – 10 AM at the EOC

EM Programmatic Updates – Since our last meeting

- Hurricane Season ended with no effects on Nassau; we are starting to coordinate with stakeholders who conduct Emergency Support Functions like firefighting, law enforcement, and public works to prepare for next year.
- New EM Logistics Specialist started yesterday – Scott Boyer
- EOC IMT has developed the Post-Disaster Damage Assessment Plan for 2026. Includes descriptions of the steps to get a Major Disaster Declaration, Forward Observer Windshield Surveys, Initial Damage Assessments (IDA), Joint Preliminary Damage Assessments (JPDA), federal Individual Assistance (IA), Small Business Administration (SBA) Assistance, and Public Assistance (PA)
- the *June 2026 – June 2031 Multi-Jurisdictional Natural Hazards Mitigation Strategy* was submitted to FDEM for review September 17th and has been approved by FDEM/FEMA – ready for commissioners in each jurisdiction to review and formally adopt by resolution before the current Mitigation Strategy expires (end of May 2026.)
- EM staff has been working with Duval, Baker, Clay, and St Johns to complete a regional Core Capability Assessment and Stakeholder Preparedness Review. We have identified training and equipment gaps and operational areas for improvement in EM and NCSO; documenting these gaps and ways to improve capabilities is a requirement for future federal assistance. Stakeholders are asked to note programmatic gaps during these meetings so we can find ways to bridge them and build capabilities for the jurisdiction.
- NCEM received favorable scores on several grant proposals submitted for FY25 UASI funding to address previously identified capability gaps; awards have been delayed by federal shutdowns but should be announced by the end of this month.
- T&E – hosted the *G-205 Disaster Recovery, the Local Government Role* the third week of November; our first set of community members completed their “passport” in the Community Preparedness Training Program; we’re holding the *First Coast Crime Stoppers* presentation next Thursday at 6 pm in the EOC. Our week-long TEAM for GIRLS program will be held again in June of 2026 – we will be reaching out to you all to help deliver the modules again.
- Statewide Preparedness Exercise will be held April 13-15. Partners who wish to be involved should contact Jami. NCEM has also begun planning a discussion-based exercise for the first half of the June Stakeholder Mtg.
- The EM Program Strategic Plan for 2026-2030 has been posted on the Stakeholder page of our OneNassau.com website. Tomorrow at 11 AM in the EOC we are holding our *Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon and EM Chili Cook-Off*.

Stakeholder Updates – help us get this information directly, rather than from Facebook; if some details are not ready for public distribution, let us know

(changes that impact local capabilities/capacities, grants applied for or received, project updates, plan training & exercises held or scheduled, etc.)

- City of Fernandina Beach

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- CoFB Fire Dept – Chief Holmes – nothing new to report for Fire; City leadership discussing their internal emergency management team and will be reaching out to NCEM for input
- CoFB Manager’s Office – not present
- CoFB Planning – not present
- CoFB Police Dept – Chief Tambasco – contributed to capability assessment; waiting to hear on FY25 UASI funding proposals
- CoFB Public Works Operations – Andre Desilet – Area 6 drainage project has received funding and is going out for bid for a 2026 start
- CoFB Utilities/Stormwater – Andre Desilet – IT has been monitoring attempts at cyber hacks
- FDEM Region 4 – not present
- FDOH-Nassau – Briana Angstman – completed N-95 Fit Testing for all staff, participated in a Special Needs Shelter walk-through with EM at Yulee MS and Yulee HS, participated two exercises held by BMC, and participated in white powder transport training
- FDOT Region 2 – Sarah Hipps – had a conflicting meeting in Gainesville, but noted that she is aware of the question about how foliage is selected for medians on evacuation routes
- Nassau BOCC Departments and Offices
 - Animal Care Services – not present
 - Building – Sarah Clifton – no updates on Building or Community Rating System
 - Capital Projects – George Murray – have some high-profile roadway projects underway: phase 1 CR-121 from Duval County line to CR-119, will announce road section closures; William Burgess extension should be complete April 2026; new roundabout at Theresa and access via Radio Rd for Yulee MS and HS will be active after the holidays; Pages Dairy / Chester Rd intersection should be completed by April/May; will schedule a pre-construction meeting with CoFB Police re Bailey Rd project next week.
 - County Extension Services – not present
 - Development Services – Caleb Hurst – nothing to report
 - Fire Rescue – Chief Rigdon – replaced a 3,000-gallon water tender and a fire engine
 - Manager’s Office – not present
 - Management & Budget – Chris Lacambra – County’s Recovery Manager resigned and the position is not being refilled; new procurement unit leader hired (Amber Carter); will be attending ICS Financial Admin Section Chief training with Marcia in January; the County has an F-ROC DRA score of about 50%; County’s local time and activity report form was approved but FDEM is designing an electronic version to facilitate calculations. Tim Cooper – that is why it is important that we get damage assessments done properly and rapidly, to get a declaration so that there will be potential funding assistance; reminded everyone that FEMA is going to expect that jurisdictions demonstrate documented need before assistance is allocated.
 - Public Works

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- PW Facilities – Doug Podiak – rehabbing Scotts Rd pump station; also putting in communications equipment on the American Beach pump station so PW will be aware of when it is working properly or stops functioning
- PW Parks & Recreation – Jay Robertson – no update
- PW Roads – Darren Marsh – no updates
- PW Solid Waste – Doug Podiak – no updates
- Planning – Elizabeth Backe – contractor is updating the comprehensive plan, 12 elements, possibly 13; noted that Nassau’s demographics are changing – residents >75yo are expected to increase >100% by 2050
- Stormwater & Drainage – community open house on January 15th 4-6pm to introduce their flood adaptation plan (resulting from the flood vulnerability assessment)
- Strategic Advancement – not present
- Nassau Clerk of Courts – Tim Cooper reported that the third floor courtroom is now open
- Nassau Property Appraiser/GIS – Katelyn Holton – working on a new map for their public-facing GIS website
- Nassau School District – William Schmelling & Chief the Therapy Dog – assistant principals are working on completing IS-406 shelter management training; new Chief of School District Police is David (DJ) Valentine; school security camera project is complete – all schools are connected now.
- Nassau Sheriff’s Office – Lt Chauncey Mason – Special Operations acquired two new boats, 29’ center console and 34’ cabin with fire fighting capabilities; will be taking receipt of new hostile vehicle barriers obtained through UASI FY24 funds
- Nassau Supervisor of Elections – not present
- Nassau Tax Collector – not present
- Town of Callahan – not present
- Town of Hilliard – Lee Ann Wollitz – hosted a two-day cooperative fire training event for NCFR, VFD-4 (Hilliard), and VFD-5 (Callahan) that included testing water pumping capacities; will be starting a grant-funded capabilities assessment in early 2026; losing their PIO to NE FL Fair 😞 Also need to get with TK to get specific radio channel and alerting tone assigned for VFD
- *Updates from Other Stakeholders* (Authorities, Boards, Chambers, Committees, and Private Partners),
 - American Red Cross – held “Shelter Heroes Training” in Nassau EOC the last week of September; had a no-notice regional exercise last week, successfully opened and staffed five shelters, but none in Nassau – need to identify a non-governmental facility willing to enter into an MOA for no-notice emergency shelter; would love to get volunteers involved in damage assessment training with Nassau
 - Baptist Medical System – held MCI triage exercises at BMC Nassau and BMC Crossing, also an infant abduction exercise (FDOH participated); will be working on their shelter-in-place plans and have scheduled their NWS Hurrex scheduled for May 7th; Tim Cooper asked if it would

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include a flood response because the County had been asking about a flood response plan exercise

- Al Mosquito District – not present
- St Johns River Water Management District – Douglas Conkey – not able to attend but reminded the group that they have resources for hurricane response
- OREMC – Royce Proctor – announced he will be retiring eventually and introduced James Riggins, Assistant Operations Manager, who will be taking over

Local Natural Hazard Mitigation Project List

1. Hazard mitigation priorities - changes, questions, comments
2. Ranked projects that have been funded/initiated, completed, or withdrawn – review project submission process
3. Additional mitigation projects assigned to the LMS Task Force for scoring and ranking – NC Parks & Rec submitted a lightning detection project – need to upgrade their Thor Guard lightning prediction and detection system in eight locations. It detects electric activity and measures the threat of lightning, maps the polygon; includes tornadic activity and has a real-time alerting app to inform sports partners. Cost is estimated at \$186,000. The project needs to be scored so it can be added to the ranked list and eligible to apply for federal assistance.

Minutes of EM Program Stakeholders Meetings are available online:

www.onenassau.com/em-stakeholders

**Next EM Program Stakeholders Meeting is
Wednesday, March 10th, 10:00 – 11:30 AM**