

Chapter 5

Goals and Actions Not Eligible for FEMA Funding

In this chapter the projects that the Hazard Analysis Committee would like to implement but may not be eligible for FEMA funding are included. All of the action items can be tied to the listed issues in Chapter 3.

Issue 1: Water supply for Village of Newberry

Action: Purchase of a 40-acre site southwest of Village, construction of 2 groundwater wells, well houses and transmission lines. Purchase of a large stand-by portable generator and plug in adaptors to the wells.

Specific Hazard(s) Addressed: Infrastructure Failure, Public Health Emergencies, Severe Winter Weather, Drought

Specific Vulnerable Areas: Village of Newberry, Pentland Township, McMillan Township

Responsible Agencies: Newberry Village, Pentland Twp., McMillan Twp., Luce Co. OEM

Costs: Engineering, consultants, construction, equipment, testing, water waste, health of citizens

Benefits: Safe drinking water, reduced water waste, less environmental contamination, provides protection measures to ensure operability and functionality.

Schedule for Completion: 1 to 2 years

Potential Funding Sources: USDA grant/loans, Local

Issue 2: Emergency Operations Center

Goal: To designate, equip and provide the County with a center for operations or a mobile EOC as a back-up or on-site operations center.

Action: Purchase large enclosed trailer, construct working areas and equip with necessary equipment as needed to use as a mobile EOC.

Specific Hazard(s) Addressed: All Hazards

Specific Vulnerable Areas: County-wide

Responsible Agencies: Luce Co. OEM, Municipalities

Costs: Equipment purchase, engineering, construction, supplies, staff time

Benefits: Maximize utilization of existing resources. Improved emergency response capabilities. Improved community confidence in government.

Schedule for Completion: 1 to 3 years

Potential Funding Sources: Homeland Security grants; Local

Issues 6, 7, 9, 11, 14, 15: Volunteers/Equipment

The protection of life and property is the foremost important task of emergency responders.

The Village of Newberry is the only municipality with a law enforcement agency in the County. The remainder of the County is serviced by the Luce County Sheriff's Department (main office in Newberry) and supplemented by the Michigan State Police, Newberry Post.

The Village of Newberry and Columbus Township have volunteer fire departments in the County. The Department of Natural Resources (DNR) is responsible for fire protection on state forested land. Both agencies work closely with local fire fighting groups whenever the danger of woodland and urban fires is elevated. In addition, all fire departments have mutual aid assistance agreements with one another and other nearby agencies/

The Luce County Ambulance Corps is the only ambulance service in the County. There is a first response vehicle located at Rainbow Lodge in northern Luce County and Seeney, just west of the County.

Goal: To ensure the County has volunteers and that these volunteers have training and opportunities for practice drills. To purchase and maintain the equipment necessary for emergency response.

Action: Recruitment of new volunteers

Action: Provide opportunities for training of volunteers

Action: Practice response drills

Action: Purchase and maintain essential, up-to-date equipment.

Specific Hazard(s) Addressed: Accidents, Structural Fires, Wildfires, Severe Weather, Flooding, Civil Disturbances,

Specific Vulnerable Areas: County-wide

Responsible Agencies: Luce Co. OEM; DNR; Municipalities

Costs: Staff time in recruiting volunteers and arranging training and practice drills. Equipment purchase and maintenance costs. Training

Benefits: Provides for improved emergency response. Increased community confidence in government.

Schedule for Completion: Ongoing

Potential Funding Sources: FEMA – Homeland Security; seek alternative grant funding opportunities; Local

Issue 6: Wildfires in remote areas

Wildfires: The MDNR Forest Management Division directs and coordinates wildfire prevention, containment and suppression activities on all non-federal lands in the state, as well as Indian Reservations (under contract with the U.S. Bureau of Indian Affairs). The MDNR places great emphasis on wildfire prevention and public education, since the vast majority of wildfires in Michigan are caused by human activity. The MDNR Forest Management Division’s philosophy is that preventing fires from starting in the first place, and taking precautionary measures around rural homes to stop the spread of wildfires, are the best means of avoiding or minimizing wildfire losses.

When conditions of extreme fire hazard exist, the MDNR can request the Governor to issue an outdoor burning ban to mitigate the potential for wildfire in all or part of the state. Such a ban restricts smoking, fireworks, and outdoor burning activities to approved locations. Crews will be sent out for an aerial survey of the areas with high potential for wildfire.

Goal: To ensure a fast as possible response and easy accessibility for emergency vehicles and equipment in all areas of the County.

Action: Continue working with MDNR on public awareness program about “Firewise” strategies

Action: Support public land management agencies on forest management practices.

Action: Identify areas for dry hydrants.

Specific Hazard(s) Addressed: Wildfires, Infrastructure Failures

Specific Vulnerable Areas: Northern rural Luce County

Responsible Agencies: Luce Co. OEM; MDNR; Municipalities

Costs: Equipment, training, staff time, travel, studies/ engineers and consultants, information dissemination

Benefits: Maximize utilization of existing resources. Validate through study and evaluation of existing resources and planning efforts. Improved emergency response capabilities in each community. Improved community confidence in government.

Schedule for Completion: Ongoing

Potential Funding Sources: Local

Issue 12: Remediate Brownfield Sites

Goal: To work towards cleaning up areas of known environmental contamination and to prevent new contamination from occurring.

Action: Develop a plan for environmental clean-up of areas of contamination such as the County Annex which has an asbestos problem and other hazardous, dilapidated buildings.

Action: Seek funding sources to implement clean-up plan.

Specific Hazard(s) Addressed: Hazardous Materials Accidents, Infrastructure Failure

Specific Vulnerable Areas: County Annex Building; Brownfield sites; Industrial park area; wetland and watershed areas

Responsible Agencies: Luce Co. Board; Luce Co. OEM; DEQ; Municipalities; Private critical facilities owners

Costs: Engineers and/or consultant fees, clean-up, debris removal, planning, meetings, staff time.

Benefits: Improved conditions in soil and water. Improved confidence in government.

Schedule for Completion: 1 to 5 years

Potential Funding Sources: Brownfield Redevelopment Grant; Local

Issue 14: Back-up Computer System/County Records

Goal: To keep all County records safe from destruction and to have an off-site back-up computer system and records.

Action: Research costs and ways to back-up records such as microfiche.

Action: Purchase additional computer system with which to use as a back-up, designate a secondary location to house in.

Specific Hazard(s) Addressed: Infrastructure Failure, Severe Winter Weather, Structural Fire

Specific Vulnerable Areas: County Government Building, Road Commission Building

Responsible Agencies: Luce Co. Board, Clerk, Planning, Equalization, Road Commission

Costs: Staff time to research, equipment and supplies purchase, back-up creation and retention

Benefits: Improved security for public records. Improved confidence in local government.

Schedule for Completion: ASAP

Potential Funding Sources: County general funds

Issue 15: Accidents in remote areas

Goal: To ensure a fast as possible response and easy accessibility for emergency vehicles and equipment in all areas of the County.

Action: Identify areas for safety phones in rural areas of County.

Specific Hazard(s) Addressed: Transportation Accidents

Specific Vulnerable Areas: Northern rural Luce County

Responsible Agencies: Luce Co. OEM; MDNR; Municipalities

Costs: Equipment, training, staff time, travel, studies/ engineers and consultants, information dissemination

Benefits: Maximize utilization of existing resources. Validate through study and evaluation of existing resources and planning efforts. Improved emergency response capabilities in each community. Improved community confidence in government.

Schedule for Completion: Ongoing

Potential Funding Sources: County general funds