

**CHAPTER TWO  
THE PLANNING PROCESS**

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## THE PLANNING PROCESS

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Hazard mitigation planning is the process of determining how to reduce or eliminate the loss of life and property damage resulting from natural and human-caused hazards. The primary purpose of hazard mitigation planning is to identify community policies, actions, and tools for implementation over the long term that will result in a reduction of risk and potential for future losses community-wide. This is accomplished by using a systematic process of learning about the hazards that can affect the community, setting clear goals, identifying appropriate actions, following through with an effective mitigation strategy, and keeping the plan current. The ten step process as outlined in the FEMA 386 publications, "How to Guides," was followed in the process of developing the Pottawatomie County Hazard Mitigation Plan.

### PHASE 1 - ORGANIZE RESOURCES

**Step 1:** Coordinate/involve all agencies and jurisdictions that want to participate

**Step 2:** Involve the public

**Step 3:** Organize to prepare the plan

### PHASE 2 - ASSESS THE RISKS

**Step 4:** Assess what the natural hazards are

**Step 5:** Assess the problem

### PHASE 3 - DEVELOP THE MITIGATION PLAN

**Step 6:** Develop list of goals

**Step 7:** Develop list of mitigation actions.

**Step 8:** Draft an action plan

### Phase 4- IMPLEMENT AND MONITOR PROGRESS

**Step 9:** Adopt the Plan

**Step 10:** Implement, evaluate and revise the plan

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## POTTAWATOMIE COUNTY HAZARD MITIGATION PLANNING TEAM FORMATION

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Notices designed to encourage interest from the public was printed when possible during the process. (Copy of Invitation letters, Appendix A) The Pottawatomie County Hazard Mitigation Planning Team (PCHMPT) was formed to provide guidance and information during the development of this Plan. The Team was comprised of representatives from local governments, county government, state government, public schools, local businesses and private citizens. The Pottawatomie County Hazard Mitigation Planning Team was formed during the first meeting.

It should also be noted that while everyone attending the meetings was attentive and remained during the duration of the meetings, some did not offer suggestions or ideas. They were in agreement with the reviews presented in the review process, reviewing all major components that had been brought together at previous meetings. The major components reviewed at the meeting after they were originally developed were: purpose of hazard mitigation plans; goals; identified hazards; assessments; critical facilities; projects and prioritization and implementation responsibilities. Individual jurisdictional meetings were held later to obtain local specific information.

**Survey:** A public survey was sent to 100 randomly selected citizens throughout Pottawatomie County. The results of that survey are recorded in Appendix D. The data received from that survey was incorporated into the influence of the various hazards on the population of the county particularly those hazards that were identified as not affecting the county described in Chapter One.

A “DRAFT” copy of the plan is available for review with the county emergency manager and was posted onto the web site to allow citizens the opportunity to review and comment on the plan. No public comments have been received as of the plan submission. The draft copy will be replaced by an approved copy of the plan and citizen

comments will be used in annual updates and at the five year plan update. Copies of the web site posting are provided in App. A.

**Table 2-1:** Below lists the Hazard Mitigation Planning Team members and their affiliation. See **Appendix A.3** for meeting minutes and **Appendix A.4** for planning team contributions.

<b>TABLE 2-1 POTTAWATOMIE COUNTY HAZARD MITIGATION PLANNING TEAM CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE PLANNING PROCESS</b>		
<b>Name</b>	<b>Affiliation</b>	<b>Position</b>
Terry Grissom	Asher Public Schools	Superintendent
Jeff Pruitt	Bethel Public Schools	High School Principal
Josh Williams	Bureau of Indian Affairs	Fire Management Specialist
Cordis Slaughter	Canadian Valley Electric Coop	Operations Manager
Mark Goodson	Circuit Engineering -District 4	General Manager/ Circuit Engineer
Paul Foster	City of McLoud Emergency Management	Director
Pam Stephens	City of Shawnee	City Commissioner
Russell Frantz	City of Shawnee	Police Chief
Ken King	City of Shawnee	Police Lieutenant
Jennifer Dawson	City of Shawnee/ Pottawatomie County Emergency Management	Emergency Management Technician

**TABLE 2-1 POTTAWATOMIE COUNTY HAZARD  
MITIGATION PLANNING TEAM CONTRIBUTIONS  
TO THE PLANNING PROCESS**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Affiliation</b>	<b>Position</b>
James Stokes	City of Tecumseh	Interim City Manager
Aaron Williams	City of Tecumseh Fire Department	Fire Chief
Dell Kerbs	Coney Island	Businessman Owner
Joseph Mazana	Congressman James Lankford	Field Representative
Harold Jones	Dale Public Schools	Principal - retired
Charles Dickenson	Dale Public Schools	Superintendent
Mark Maloy	Earlsboro Public Schools	Superintendent
David Qualls	Eaton Manufacturing	EMS Manager
Marty Lewis	Gordon Cooper Technology Center	Superintendent
Mickey Maynard	Grove Public Schools	Superintendent
James Fay	Konawa Conservation District	Watershed Tech.
Brett Byrum	Macomb Public Schools	Purchasing Agent
Trae Koch	Maud Public Schools	High School Principal
Rob Griffin	McLoud Public Schools	Assistant Superintendent
Blake Moody	North Rock Creek Public Schools	Superintendent

**TABLE 2-1 POTTAWATOMIE COUNTY HAZARD  
MITIGATION PLANNING TEAM CONTRIBUTIONS  
TO THE PLANNING PROCESS**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Affiliation</b>	<b>Position</b>
David Burrigh	Oklahoma County Emergency Management	Operations Officer
Bill Wilkerson	Oklahoma Department of Transportation	Engineer
Carolyn Stringer	Oklahoma Dept. of Transportation	Transportation Maintenance Supervisor
Mike Simmons	Oklahoma Gas & Electric	Manager – customer service
Bryan Haynes	Oklahoma Natural Gas	Operating Manager
Arlene Burton	Pleasant Grove Public School	Principal
Jerry Richards	Pottawatomie Co. Highway District 2	Commissioner
Charles Startis	Pottawatomie Co. Highway District 2	Foreman
Judy Chance	Pottawatomie County	Safety Director
Tommy Arnold	Pottawatomie County 9-1-1	Director
Dwight Wise	Pottawatomie County 9-1-1	Coordinator
Don Lynch - Chairman	City of Shawnee/ Pottawatomie County Emergency Management	Emergency Manager
Tina Johnson	Pottawatomie County Health Department	Administrative Director
Mike Potter	Pottawatomie County Health Department	Local Emergency Response Coordinator

**TABLE 2-1 POTTAWATOMIE COUNTY HAZARD  
MITIGATION PLANNING TEAM CONTRIBUTIONS  
TO THE PLANNING PROCESS**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Affiliation</b>	<b>Position</b>
Tom Larman	Shawnee Fire Department	Lieutenant / Driver
Jim Brewer	Shawnee Public Schools	Maintenance
Steve Beall	Shawnee Public Schools	Assistant Superintendent
Butch Lutomski	Shawnee/ Pottawatomie County Emergency Management	Operations Officer
Ken Leone	South Rock Creek School	Principal
Tom Wilse	Tecumseh Public Schools	Superintendent
Melvin Potter	Private Citizen	Director
Dwayne Johnson	Town of Asher	Emergency Management
Lee Oliver	Town of Brooksville	Mayor
LaCosta Rawls	Town of Earlsboro	Trustee
Brian Nipper	Town of Earlsboro	Mayor
Ken Branson	Town of Johnson	Mayor
Melissa Griffith	Town of Macomb	Clerk/Treasurer
David Griffith	Town of Macomb	Resident
Robert Kesler	Town of Maud Fire Department	Fire fighter

**TABLE 2-1 POTTAWATOMIE COUNTY HAZARD MITIGATION PLANNING TEAM CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE PLANNING PROCESS**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Affiliation</b>	<b>Position</b>
<b>Galand Chapman</b>	<b>Town of Pink</b>	<b>Mayor</b>
<b>Sue Goodnight</b>	<b>Town of St. Louis</b>	<b>Mayor</b>
<b>James Burton</b>	<b>Town of Wanette</b>	<b>Mayor</b>
<b>Mike Heltcel</b>	<b>Town of Wanette</b>	<b>Vice Mayor</b>
<b>Randy Kerr</b>	<b>Unity Health Center</b>	<b>Director</b>
<b>Rick Riggs</b>	<b>Wanette Public Schools</b>	<b>Superintendent</b>
<b>Charlie Balthrop</b>	<b>Oklahoma Emergency Management</b>	<b>Plan Reviewer</b>

## **RESOURCES AMONG AGENCIES**

### **NATIONAL FLOOD INSURANCE PROGRAM (NFIP)**

Pottawatomie County; the towns of Bethel Acres; Brooksville; Maud and the cities of Shawnee; Tecumseh and McLoud are members of the NFIP. Participation in the NFIP by municipalities, counties, and tribal organizations is voluntary. According to the NFIP list of participating communities in Oklahoma, there are 53 counties, 475 municipalities, and 3 tribal jurisdictions that are NFIP communities with several communities making application to join. Within the NFIP program, the Community Rating System (CRS) is a program whereby individual communities may reduce their flood insurance rates by performing certain specified activities to enhance flood mitigation. These activities can be costly, and smaller communities would probably not be able to afford to participate in

CRS. Coordination concerning this program and the action items in this plan are a part of this plan through the jurisdictions listed above that are members of the NFIP through their respective Flood Plain Manager.

## **OKLAHOMA EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT, HAZARD MITIGATION DIVISION (OEM)**

During the planning and preparation of this plan, close contact was maintained with OEM Mitigation Division personnel to maintain current FEMA requirements necessary for this plan as well as coordination with the Oklahoma Hazard Mitigation Plan approved in March 2011.

## **NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE - NORMAN WEBSITE**

The National Weather Service Norman Website was utilized concerning weather data for the Pottawatomie County area. The NWS in Norman has been a regular partner with the Pottawatomie County Emergency Management as well as the other Emergency Managers in the county during severe weather events in order to get better warning information concerning potential hazards to the citizens. Shawnee and Pottawatomie County are “StormReady” communities as certified by the National Weather Service.

## **OKLAHOMA CLIMATOLOGICAL SURVEY**

The Oklahoma Climatological Survey provided additional information through their website concerning the climate in Pottawatomie County. Their research studies and information was useful in determining key Climatological statistics.

## **OKLAHOMA GEOLOGICAL SURVEY**

The Oklahoma Geological Survey provided information on earthquakes in the Pottawatomie County area through statistical data on their website concerning past earthquakes and forecast of potential future earthquakes.

## **OKLAHOMA WATER RESOURCES BOARD**

The Oklahoma Water Resources Board provided information on high hazard dam sites in Pottawatomie County through Gene Dousett at OWRB. They have also provided information concerning aquifers and underground water through their website.

## **OKLAHOMA NATIONAL CLIMATIC DATA CENTER**

National Climatic Data Center's website provided information concerning past history of storms in Pottawatomie County. Their information complimented or reinforced local and state information.

## **FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY (FEMA)**

The Federal Emergency Management Agency's website provided information on Presidential Declarations in Pottawatomie County, FIRM maps, and NFIP community status.

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