

**Community Resilience Panel:
Social & Economic Standing Committee Meeting**

MEETING DATE: December 15, 2016
TIME: 11:30 AM – 12:30 PM EST
LOCATION: Conference Call
ISSUE DATE: January 20, 2017

ATTENDEES:

Attendee	Affiliation
John Plodinec (Chair)	CARRI
David Eisenman (Vice-Chair)	Division of General Internal Medicine/Health Services Research UCLA School of Medicine
Ann Terranova (Secretary)	AECOM
David Mizzen	ARA
Debra Ballen	IBHS
Brett Barclay	Independent Consultant
Donna Boyce	Solix
Greg Cade	National Fire Protection Association
Steve Cauffman	NIST
Laura Clemons	CBI
Lawrence Frank	Atkins
Ann Goodman, PhD	City University of New York
George Huff	The Continuity Project
Jen Marthia	J&M Global Solutions
Keely Maxwell	Environmental Protection Agency Office of Research and Development
Jan Opper	Opper Strategies & Solutions LLC
Richard Pearlson	Rap/Sat
Cotina Lane Pixley	University of the District of Columbia
Jeff Rubin	Tualatin Valley Fire & Rescue

DISTRIBUTION: Attendees and Social & Economic Standing Committee
NOTES BY: Ann Terranova, AECOM

1. Roll Call

Please refer to list of attendees. If you attended and your name is not on the list, please advise the committee secretary (Ann Terranova) and your name will be added.

2. Welcome and Introductions (John Plodinec)

This was the last Social and Economic Committee meeting of the year. John welcomed everyone and wished participants a fantastic holiday season.

3. Coordinating Committee Update (John Plodinec)

During the last Community Resilience Panel Coordinating Committee (CRPCC) meeting, Keely Maxwell and Brendon Doyle with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) conducted a presentation entitled “*Exploring the Environmental Aspects of Community Resilience*,” which provided an excellent overview on EPA’s interest in resilience and resources the Agency can bring to bear in addressing resilience issues (see attached for presentation slide deck).

Other Panel committees are looking at their respective roles as they relate to populating and utilizing the Resilience Knowledge Base (RKB).

Liesel Ritchie (NIST Fellow and Social and Economic [S&E] Committee member) gave information from the Data, Metrics, and Tools (DMT) Committee. John suggested the S&E Committee could look at it as a potential model regarding roles and responsibilities (see attached for DM&T roles and responsibilities document). As an aside, the DMT document includes a description of the DMT standing committee excerpted from the Panel charter and bylaws; a similar high-level description needs to be developed for the S&E Committee (it’s currently missing from the bylaws).

John asked whether there was an issue circulating CRPCC notes from the last call; Debra Ballen indicated this should not be a problem, as they will be posted on the website but can also distribute by email directly to committee members (see attached for latest draft CRPCC meeting summary; final CRPCC summaries are on the Panel website [here](#)).

4. Liaison Report Outs

• **Transportation – Richard Pearlson**

- Richard indicated the Transportation Research Board (TRB) has been doing good work with respect to resiliency and critical infrastructure, summarized in a forthcoming document from Richard. **ACTION: Richard to send publication to Ann Terranova.**
- The group discussed the Coast Guard “getting job done every day.” It is a dimension of excellence to look at. They have a comprehensive listing of transportation accidents with hazardous materials, which is valuable information for conducting community level risk assessments.
- Attendees also discussed their thoughts on the Coast Guard and what they contribute to the resilience conversation (Joshua James reference).
- Jeff Rubin commented on the hazardous material concept. There is a great deal of information available; the trick is to get communities to pay attention to the information.

• **Water/Wastewater – Donna Boyce**

- Donna has not met with the committee directly, but did speak with Dr. Kevin Morely of the American Water Works Association (AWWA). Through his work with the AWWA, Dr. Morely has valuable input regarding vulnerable populations (Flint/DC examples).
- Donna indicated working with the W/WW Committee will present excellent opportunities for collaboration.

- **Energy – Brett Barclay**
 - Brett reached out to Ronda Mosely and Julia Philips (Energy Committee Chair and Vice Chair), and will participate in their January meeting. In the meantime, he is familiarizing himself with meeting minutes and other committee information to get up to speed on their activities.
 - The committee discussed disparate levels of ownership (private vs. public). This creates an interlocking structure that casts a challenge with implementing the Planning Guide. It is difficult to look at this from a jurisdictional perspective.
 - David Eisenman recommended a publication entitled “The Grid” by Dr. Gretchen Bakke that provides an interesting perspective and the “need to re-imagine the grid according to twenty-first-century values.” (<https://www.goodreads.com/book/show/26073005-the-grid>).

- 5. **American Bar Association Resilience Resolution (George Huff)**
 - George Huff gave an overview of the American Bar Association (ABA) Resilience Resolution, and the importance of inclusive leadership across a broad spectrum (engagement of whole community is important).
 - George has been involved with the ABA Committee, which developed a resolution in support of resilience that is a call to action for the legal community. The resolution has been embraced by ABA membership and others (450,000 members in ABA). The draft resolution and report (see attached) focuses on what we (as the S&E Committee) are trying to achieve which is engagement in private sector. The resolution will be voted on by ABA in February 2017 and will go final.
 - Key points addressed by George as part of this discussion include:
 - ABA provides resources in post disaster settings (legal support)
 - The resolution includes reference to NIST effort, among others, which is important to show the connections between various resilience initiatives
 - This is a whole of the community approach and is contingent on support of community leaders; law firms within communities need to commit and support this over the long term in addition to support by other professional associations (ASCE, AIA, NIBS, etc.)
 - As part of this effort, George discussed the development of a “Resilience Book” that will be a good reference document and serve as a review of laws, codes on a state-by-state basis; how to communicate with vulnerable populations, etc.
 - Discussion took place regarding strategy development and the importance of investment strategies in resilience (to be successful); this is an important step the law community is taking.
 - A committee member asked whether any attention is being paid to home rule from state to state. George indicated the book will help address this (after the resolution passes in February, George wants to put together a team to help author the book over 9-12 months with focus on state-specific law considerations).
 - Gary, Indiana was brought up as an example. Its attempt to “reinvent itself” was thwarted by state legislature. Debra Ballen indicated home rule goes both ways. Donna Boyce commented that reaching out to local entities can help address the home rule issue. George is looking for volunteers to help author the book.

- Discussion took place regarding barriers (vulnerability analysis – fear of liability); is this something ABA can take a position on? This is an important point – gets at cost of liability, resilience. There could be a section in the book regarding return on investment (ROI) in the strategy. In addition, ABA/George should encourage alignment with the NIST Community Resilience Planning Guide, and other resilience initiatives. The Good Samaritan Law is a potential barrier; a focus on volunteerism is important.
 - Laura Clemons commented she is excited the legal community is getting involved. She has been assisting with FEMA grant awards and catastrophic deobligations are a long term issue. She has looked for a law firm to assist with addressing policy review for compliance, but finding such a firm has been difficult. At the municipal level it is a capacity issue. Laura has been working with the University of Alabama, which is providing training for lawyers to understand/work through FEMA policy on deobligation. This presents an opportunity as a resource to assist municipalities. There is a demand/need for this nationwide.
 - The resolution will include a state and local law section; timing of this discussion is good to continue to get the word out.
 - A question was asked whether the Natural Hazard Mitigation Association (NHMA) can assist with this effort. Engagement with other organizations to develop a solution will be helpful (referenced document provided by Ed Thomas).
 - Discussion took place regarding the idea that resilience and mitigation are not synonymous but putting mitigation in the context of resilience will be important. Mitigation is an action taken to enhance resilience; it can lead to actions that result in a higher ROI.
 - Laura asked who she can email to loop in (send email to George Huff).
 - Donna also pointed out the need to inform the State and Local Section (of ABA) of the Economic Guide.
 - Discussion took place regarding the “loss of timber” example in Mississippi – economic impacts and longer term impacts – more than just a local issue. We need to think ahead of time and be prepared in advance (permitted storage areas).
 - Jan Opper asked what is being done regarding training lawyers (currently active lawyers – not just new). This is being developed as a part of new lawyers training in cooperation with FEMA.
- 6. Resilience Knowledge Base (John Plodinec)**
- In the Data, Metrics, and Tools (DMT) Committee roles and responsibilities document, the committee addressed what they should be doing relevant to the Resilience Knowledge Base (RKB):
 - Review Guide Briefs and provide input
 - Identify gaps in guidance
 - Process for providing input (this is a challenge because DMT is a cross-cutting committee, similar to S&E)
 - The group discussed the need to develop a similar document that identifies what the S&E Committee should be feeding into the RKB; need to codify the difference between social and economic inputs.

- Based on today's discussions (committee report-outs), other committees are not bringing in social and economic aspects – we provide the opportunity to bring these forward. We should think more broadly as a result of the depth/breadth of our membership. Liaisons are a good start, but we need to be thinking what we should be doing as a committee to insert into what other committees are doing and how to strengthen the S&E aspect of resilience.
- The S&E committee brings a good user perspective. The challenge is to bring our collective perspectives to bear for the good of our communities.
- Attendees considered the value we bring and our ties to other standing committees. John asked for volunteers to put together a roles and responsibilities white paper for the S&E committee after the first of the year. Laura Clemons, Jeff Rubin (DMT “interloper”), and John Plodinec will form the group to put the document together.

7. Actions:

- Richard Pearlson to send TRB publication to Ann Terranova for distribution to S&E Committee.
- John, Laura, and Jeff to develop an S&E roles and responsibilities white paper, using the DMT document as a go-by.

The call adjourned at approximately 12:30 pm EST.