

Minutes of the IAFSM Board of Directors Meeting September 14, 2011

The September 2011 meeting of the Board of Directors for the Illinois Association for Floodplain and Stormwater Managers was held at the Bloomington-Normal Marriot Hotel and Conference Center in Normal, IL. Those attending the meeting included:

Glenn Heistand

Kerry Behr

Paul Osman

Mary Lou Kalsted

Mike Cothard

Sarah Harbaugh

Brian Eber

Andrew Braun

Loren Wobig

Lillian Prince

Matt Wahl

1.0 CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 10:19 a.m. by Mike Cothard.

1.1 INTRODUCTION OF OFFICERS

1.2 CORRESPONDENCE

None

2.0 APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES

Mary Lou Kalsted made a motion to approve the July 13, 2011 meeting minutes. Andrew Braun seconded the motion, the motion carried.

3.0 OFFICERS' REPORTS

3.1 TREASURER'S REPORT – Lillian Prince

Lillian Prince presented the Treasurer's report showing cash flow from July 1, 2011 through September 14, 2011 of \$-673.78. Net worth as of September 14, 2011 is \$149,954.01. Prince has contacted several accountants, in search of hiring a new one, and will have a list of choices soon for the Board to consider. If the Board has any foreseeable changes to committee budgets for next year, let Prince know soon since she will be on maternity leave starting in November.

Prince motion to accept the treasurer's report, Loren Wobig seconded the motion, the motion carried.

3.2 CHAIR'S REPORT – Mike Cothard

None

3.3 SECRETARY'S REPORT – Glenn Heistand

None

4.0 COMMITTEE REPORTS

4.1 CRS COMMITTEE - Mary Lou Kalsted

Mary Lou Kalsted reported that more people continue to be added to the committee. The committee is busy with big changes to the Community Rating System (CRS) program. A CRS Users Group webinar was held on August 1st, discussing "Proposed 2012 changes to the CRS program", with French Wetmore presenting. Another similar webinar is anticipated in October. A CRS Users Group meeting was held on September 22 discussing "FEMA's Substantial Damage Estimator software", instructed by Paul Osman.

Paul Osman reports that Illinois has 45 communities in the Community Rating System (CRS) program; three new Community Assistance Visits (CAV's) have been completed this year to make these communities eligible to be in the program. Discussion followed about providing a brief overview of the Substantial Damage Estimator software at the next conference (perhaps calling it "Local Floodplain Management 202").

4.2 CERTIFICATION COMMITTEE - Matt Wahl

Matt Wahl reported that the Certified Floodplain Manager (CFM) exam will be offered at the next conference. No changes will be made to the upcoming Illinois exams until ASFPM completes the exam updates to address suggestions made by CBOR's Reliability and Validity Assessment. The next CFM exam will be at V3 on September 14, 2011.

4.3 LEGISLATION COMMITTEE - Kay Whitlock

A written report was provided via email by Emily Anderson, as follows:

IAFSM position statements

The Committee held a meeting on September 12, 2011.

Committee has drafted preliminary IAFSM position statements which are under committee review.

Build Legislator Relationships

1. Please choose a legislator to build a relationship with on the attached spreadsheet or add your own. Committee members and IAFSM Board members will build relationships with their home legislators and representative elected officials.
2. Find who your legislators are at:
<http://www.elections.illinois.gov/DistrictLocator/DistrictOfficialSearchByAddress.aspx>

Annual Conference

1. Kay Whitlock has agreed to present a legislation interaction summary for IAFSM plenary session:
 - a. Mike Hrzic (committee member) creating portion of presentation "Rules of Engagement"
 - b. Kay Whitlock creating portion of presentation "Government election cycles"
 - c. Kay may invite legislator to present with her
 - d. This task will require more coordination
2. Committee would like to have a voter registration drive at IAFSM conference. Booth in vendor area?

Review of Draft Legislation

1. Kay to watch for any new legislation of interest to IAFSM and distribute to committee members
2. Committee members to follow and prepare information packet for board if legislation is of critical concern or interest to board
3. No new critical items at this time

Also provided by Anderson was a spreadsheet containing lists of relevant legislators that IAFSM members should consider contacting as part of an outreach effort to build relationships with representatives (fn:Copy of List of Legislators.xlsx, emailed to the Board).

Mike Cothard reported that Kay Whitlock and Emily Anderson met with several state representatives yesterday. Discussion among the Board centered on two legislative topics: 1) How does IAFSM get more members to start contacting their legislators, and 2) Ethical, legal, and tax questions about fees and reimbursements for golf outings and related events (dinner, etc.). It was suggested that a speaker should discuss these issues at the next conference.

Paul Osman suggested that floodplain education and awareness for politicians is an important issue and that starting a dialogue with legislators at the local level (municipal league, cities, counties) is an effective way to gain support which can work upward through the political system.

4.4 NEWSLETTER - Jennifer Maercklein

Jennifer Maercklein was absent, but submitted her report via email, as follows: No activity to report this period, as the previous (summer) newsletter was sent out prior to the July board meeting. Please have your write-ups and articles submitted by Sept 24 for inclusion in the next (fall) newsletter.

4.5 EDUCATION OUTREACH COMMITTEE - Amanda Flegel

Lillian Prince reported that she reserved a room at Dupage County for the “Floodplain 101” workshop on October 11th.

4.6 FLOODPLAIN MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE - Erik Gil

None

4.7 STORMWATER MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE - Robert Murdock

Robert Murdock was absent, but submitted his report via email, as follows: We are planning a workshop on the Costs of Green and Gray Stormwater Infrastructure. The idea is to provide information to participants on the use of traditional stormwater infrastructure such as pipes and inlets, and on green stormwater infrastructure such as infiltration basins, permeable pavement, and others. We hope to educate participants on the factors that go into deciding if the use of Green or Gray Infrastructure is more cost beneficial. We will explore some of the “avoided costs” that accompany green infrastructure, the municipal ordinance requirements that can factor into the cost estimate, and if flood risk reduction can be achieved through the use of Green Infrastructure. We hope to give designers and city administrators a sort of roadmap about the factors that need to be considered in making a decision for one or the other.

We have most of our speakers identified and are contacting NIU Outreach Center in Naperville to reserve a space. Our potential dates are October 25 or October 26, and we should be able to finalize an announcement in the next few days.

4.8 MITIGATION COMMITTEE – Molly O’Toole

Paul Osman reports that there is a recent federal directive to temporarily put spending on hold for Illinois’ federal mitigation grant money. This hold only applies to new mitigation projects, not projects that are currently underway, and is in response to Hurricane Irene, which damaged eastern states in August. Disaster assistance for the hurricane damage may be diverted from other states, including Illinois.

4.9 WETLANDS COMMITTEE - Tom Kehoe

Loren Wobig reported that he requested that the committee put together a wetlands tour for the next conference.

4.10 NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS COMMITTEE - Paul Osman

None

4.11 AWARDS COMMITTEE - Paul Osman

None

4.12 INTER-ORGANIZATIONAL COMMITTEE - Kerry Behr

Kerry Behr reported that she contacted the U.S. Green Building Council to see how we can work together. Behr submitted a small article about IAFSM to the Illinois Municipal League newsletter. The Illinois Realtor Association (IRA) conference is in St. Charles, IL, October 12-13th. Brian Eber, Kerry Behr, and Amanda Flegel will attend to represent IAFSM. Paul Osman suggested sending realtors an invitation to the October 11th "Floodplain 101" workshop.

4.13 YOUTH OUTREACH COMMITTEE – Andrew Braun

Andrew Braun recounted to the Board that the Illinois Institute of Technology (IIT) withdrew their proposal for the University Research Grant in July, after learning from Braun about the Board's opposition to funding overhead and indirect expenses as part of the RFP. The Board decided to exclude indirect costs on a revised RFP. The Board wants to pay for the research project only, not for tuition of the graduate student or other indirect costs that the university imposes.

Braun reported that on September 1, 2011, he received a revised proposal from IIT, for the same research project, which proposed a student research stipend only; no tuition, overhead, or indirect costs are included in the revised proposal. The proposed research project will evaluate best management practices for stormwater retention and reuse at IIT. Discussion followed and the Board agreed to fund up to \$5,000 for a fellowship, no tuition or indirect costs can be included. The Board also expects a presentation of the research results at an IAFSM conference. Mike Cothard made a motion to issue \$5,000 for the student research stipend to IIT (no indirect costs or tuition, must present research results at the annual conference), Loren Wobig seconded the motion, the motion carried.

4.14 ANNUAL CONFERENCE COMMITTEE – Loren Wobig

Loren Wobig distributed a draft budget for the 2012 annual conference for the Board to review.

A contract has been signed with Audio Video Production for A/V services in the amount of \$7,800.

The proposed budget assumes the same level of support from sponsors as last year. Conference registration fees for exhibitors and general participants will be higher than last year. Fees will be waived for unemployed or retired registrants.

A search for invited conference speakers is underway. The Illinois Lieutenant Governor has tentatively agreed to speak at the conference. A National Weather Service contact has been invited. The general call for

speakers is being assembled and will be posted on the IAFSM website shortly. Abstracts will be due by October 31.

The Board discussed ideas for guided tours of stormwater, wetland, and floodplain projects to be offered during the conference. Also discussed were plenary and lunch presentation topics. Several ideas include: the value of USGS stream gages, how to speak to your legislator, long-term planning for Chicago (Randy Blankenhorn, former IDOT planner), the new floodplain application for iPhone, and the historic Des Plaines Methodist Campground flooding along the Des Plaines River.

5.0 OLD BUSINESS

5.1 LOCATION FOR THE 2013 IAFSM ANNUAL CONFERENCE –

Loren Wobig

Loren Wobig continued discussion about the location of the 2013 annual conference. A decision needs to be made about picking Normal or Springfield for the conference location. The Kidzeum facility in Springfield will be under construction in 2013, but probably will not be very complete; therefore 2015 might be the best year to incorporate the Kidzeum into conference plans. The Bloomington-Normal Marriott Hotel & Conference Center has asked IAFSM to return in 2013 and has given an attractive proposal. Discussion followed. Loren Wobig motioned to hold the 2013 conference at the Bloomington-Normal Marriott, Mike Cothard seconded the motion, the motion carried.

The Board debated the merits of having pre-conference workshops for 2013 and what dates to pick for the conference. Mike Cothard motioned to set the 2013 conference dates to be March 5, 6, 7, keeping the pre-conference workshop on Tuesday, March 5, Andrew Braun seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

6.0 NEW BUSINESS

6.1 RFQ's RECEIVED – Jeff Wickenkamp

Jeff Wickenkamp was absent, but sent his report via email, as follows: The qualifications packages with review instructions that we received for the RFQs (website design and technical support) this week will be packaged and sent to the review subcommittee. The review subcommittee is: Mike Cothard, Amanda Flegel, Glenn Heistand, Lillian Prince, Jeff Wickenkamp, and Loren Wobig. The reviews need to be completed by September 30.

Paul Osman would like a local official to be on the review panel, who isn't an engineer, to round out perspectives. The funds for the RFQ's are not

expected to be affected by the recent hold on Illinois' federal mitigation grant money because this project was already moving ahead.

6.2 WEBINAR OPTION – Mary Lou Kalsted

Mary Lou Kalsted suggested that IAFSM investigate using online (webinar) methods of facilitating downstate training opportunities. Kalsted will coordinate with Amanda Flegel and will check into the details of cost and requirements to enable this option of delivery.

7.0 RATIFICATION MOTION

Andrew Braun moved to ratify and affirm all delegated and authorized acts of the Board of Officers, Chairs, and staff for and on behalf of the Association. Lillian Prince seconded the motion and the motion carried.

8.0 ADJOURN

Time: 1:03 pm

Next Meeting is November 9, 2011, 10:00 AM, at V3 Companies (7325 Janes Avenue, Woodridge, IL)

Respectively submitted,

Glenn N Heistand, P.E., CFM
IAFSM Board Secretary