



The B.F.E.*

* Base Flood Elevation

OKLAHOMA FLOODPLAIN MANAGERS ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

Volume 9

Winter 2007

Number 1

OFMA's Spring Technical Workshop ***Build Up or Build Out: A River Runs Through It***

The Oklahoma Floodplain Managers Association Spring Technical Workshop is right around the corner! This year's workshop offers a unique chance to learn about and view a major river development on the Oklahoma River in Oklahoma City. Communities throughout the United States are thinking about urban river developments as a way to attract people who enjoy living within the natural beauty of a water environment. Taking a comprehensive approach to urban river development has allowed Oklahoma City to revitalize areas within the City and attract new development in a safe and sustainable manner. Subjects like the Oklahoma River Project are of interest to others besides floodplain managers. Elected Officials, City Managers, Building Code Officers, City Staff, Insurance Agents and Private Sector Professionals can all benefit by attending. The workshop will be held March 1st at the Moore-Norman Technology Center in Moore, OK. The workshop features a bus-and-walking tour of the river development and lock facilities. This tour will provide you with first-hand knowledge of what these developments look like. You also will learn details about the process of evaluating and permitting an urban river development. The morning training sessions on Community Development processes, Basic Training for Floodplain Administrators, GIS training and implementation and an afternoon river tour provide a varied and timely array of subjects. Lt. Gov. Jari Askins will be the Keynote Speaker addressing the Workshop during the provided lunch. Conference registration is \$45 per member and \$75 per non-member of OFMA. Each Workshop attendee will be awarded 6 Continuing Education Credits to put towards certification requirements. Reduced room rates are available at the Holiday Inn Norman for those who need them. For more information or registration materials, visit www.okflood.org and look for Upcoming Events. Fax your registration before the deadline to (918) 669-7546. The registration deadline is scheduled for February 15th so do not delay!



IN THIS ISSUE

OFMA SPRING TECHNICAL SESSION....	1
LEGISLATIVE RECEPTION.....	1
LETTER FROM THE CHAIR.....	2
POSTER CONTEST DEADLINE	2
TRAINING CADRE UPDATE.....	3
BFE MAILOUT NOTICE	3
PDM UPDATE.....	4
FEMA INTRODUCES EDDIE	4
CRS UPDATES	5
ICE STORM OF 2007 RECAP	6
COUNTY UPDATES PERMIT FEES	7
OFMA ANNUAL CONFERENCE	7
WEBSITES/EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES	8
OFMA GENERAL STORE.....	8
OFMA'S VISION AND MISSION	9
STRATEGIC PLANNING RETREAT '06	9
STATE NFIP COORDINATOR NOTES ...	10
OFMA'S CORPORATE PARTNERS	11
2006-2007 BOARD OF DIRECTORS.....	12

Talk to your Legislators!



The 10th Annual OFMA Legislative Reception will be held Wednesday, March 7th from 11am-2pm in Room 512A of the State Capitol, 2300 N. Lincoln Boulevard, Oklahoma City. All members are encouraged to come visit their state senators and legislators to share experiences as floodplain managers trying to reduce the loss of life and property to flooding in Oklahoma. Previous receptions have exceeded 300 visitors so a large turn out is anticipated. As in the past few years, Jamil's Steakhouse of Oklahoma City will cater the event providing an additional bonus for legislators and legislative staff to stop by. OFMA Board members will be on hand to greet visitors and introduce themselves as resources for legislators who may want to know more about floodplain management, flood insurance or simple drainage issues related to flooding and drought conditions. OFMA will have its booth set up with informational pieces to leave with the legislators. For more information on the upcoming event, visit www.okflood.org.

Comments from the Chair

Greetings -

This winter has been extremely difficult on Oklahoma communities and the season is not over yet. As I listen to weather reports and news from McAlester, Muskogee, and other communities left without power after the ice storm, I wonder how many Oklahoma towns and cities will go through a financial problem like the one New Orleans is experiencing due to ice or flooding. A January 19th Associated Press article talks about New Orleans Mayor Ray Nagin complaining that his city is not getting the Federal disaster money he says it deserves and needs to rebuild bridges, streets, sewers and other infrastructure damaged by Hurricane Katrina in 2005. A Homeland Security official is quoted as saying the city is due nearly \$600 million, but city workers have not requested it.



The reporter didn't come right out and say it, but based on what I've learned about Public Assistance for disasters from my OFMA training, I'm assuming that New Orleans employees did not document the overtime, equipment, and supplies it used to respond to the Katrina tragedy. It is much easier to appoint someone to keep track of these expenses during the event than try to recreate what was done months or years after the event has passed. Without documentation and properly filed request forms to FEMA, Federal dollars are virtually impossible to obtain.

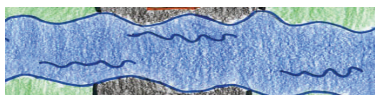
Having public officials who know the procedures to follow during a potential disaster such as an ice storm or flood will save Oklahoma communities thousands, maybe millions of dollars in Federal disaster aid. Add this benefit to a reduction in loss of life and property. It is clear that educating floodplain managers and keeping them up-to-date on state and national concerns is of vital interest to our citizens.

To OFMA members who are reading this, I urge you to attend the Spring Technical Workshop in Midwest City on March 1. Those of you who are casual readers, please give a thought to getting more involved in protecting your community this year by attending the OFMA spring session, the OFMA 17th Annual Conference in Tulsa this fall, or an OWRB workshop in your area. The calendar in this newsletter provides details, or visit www.okflood.org.

In a related matter, now is the time to start planning for a project that will reduce or eliminate future flooding in your community. We expect Federal money will become available due to the snow and ice storms and, contrary to popular opinion that says the money can only be used to buy snowplows or ice scrapers, communities can use the funds to buy repetitive loss properties or implement other flood mitigation measures. OFMA members will be notified when to apply for the grant money. If you are not a member yet, I urge you to join OFMA. You, your neighbors, your city or town, and your state will all benefit from your participation.

Laureen Gibson Gilroy, CFM

Turn Around Don't Drown Poster Contest Ends in April



The "Turn Around Don't Drown" poster contest is in full swing for 4th graders around the State of Oklahoma. Winning submissions have once again been incorporated into the OFMA Calendars for 2007. Students can find more information about this flood awareness campaign on the National Weather Service web site at: www.srh.noaa.gov/tadd/. Notification of the local floodplain manager is all that is needed when the posters are complete and ready for pick up. OFMA will award certificates of appreciation to all participants and cash prizes to statewide winners. Floodplain managers looking to promote participation in the event are encouraged to visit class rooms to discuss the dangers of flooding. A short video entitled "The Hidden Danger, Low-Water Crossings" can be ordered from the National Weather Service for free to assist with class room presentations. Simply visit www.nws.noaa.gov/om/water/Ahps-resources.shtml for details on how to order. Remember, the deadline for entries into this year's contest is April. Stay tuned to the BFE or visit www.okflood.org for updates on this year's winners and to view winners from last year's contest.

Basic Training for Floodplain Administrators Visits Ponca City

In 2004, the Oklahoma Floodplain Managers Association established The OFMA Training Cadre to assist with the development and presentation of free floodplain management training at a regional level. The 2-hour "*Basic Training for Floodplain Administrators*" course developed by the Training Cadre covers the basics of what a local floodplain administrator (FPA) should know to perform their job. In December 2006, OFMA Vice-Chair Bill Smith visited Ponca City for the first official presentation of the Cadre's training material to a group of local citizens and public officials. The attendees had various backgrounds and included public citizens, licensed realtors, insurance agents, architectural and lending professionals as well as the Ponca City Floodplain Board. Nearby city and tribal government representatives were also in attendance. According to Mr. Smith, "(the training) will help those in your communities to understand what a Floodplain Administrator is supposed to do".



OFMA Vice-Chair Bill Smith presents floodplain management concepts to an audience in Ponca City.

The meeting took place during the scheduled planning commission and lasted an entire two hours. Mike Chapman, the Assistant City Engineer and recent CFM designate organized the event. The Cadre's approach to the training is to bring various groups of citizens and public officials together from within a County or regional area to experience various floodplain management basics including administration and enforcement. Attendees learned about various floodplain management activities and requirements as they related to their profession including the real estate and insurance standpoint. Legal information on topics including the Oklahoma Open Meeting Act, supplied to the Cadre by Dean Lee of the OWRB, was also very helpful to several of the participants. They received information on further training opportunities such as the OWRB 101 and 202 classes and were each given a 2007 OFMA Calendar as well as OFMA and Insurance Commission Certificates for 2 CEC's.

OFMA is very proud of the commitment Vice-Chair Bill Smith has made to the Training Cadre's mission. Thanks to his efforts, OFMA is becoming recognized as a leading Association in its efforts to educate and indoctrinate all Floodplain Administrators and others involved in floodplain management issues. The Training Cadre is currently making plans to visit the City of Enid, Blaine County and Wagoner County in the coming months ahead. If you feel your area's community officials, realtors, lending and insurance agents could benefit from receiving this training, please contact your OFMA Regional Representative. They would appreciate speaking further with you and helping to assist the coordination of the meeting and its attendees. Remember, CEC's are available including accredited Insurance Commission Certificates.



Is This Your Last Issue of The B.F.E.?

The Oklahoma Floodplain Managers Association wants to keep each of you in our floodplain "loop" of information, especially with The B.F.E. That is why we encourage everyone who does not receive an email notification of the newsletter to contact The B.F.E. Editor or the OFMA Treasurer at the contact information found on page 12 with an updated email address. The email address can be from your professional or personal accounts. We will use the information to notify you that the latest edition is ready. We ask this because OFMA will no longer produce the quarterly twelve-page hardcopy version of The B.F.E. in the quantity previously done in the past. Many organizations like ours have effectively transitioned from paper to some form of electronic communication. By saving postal and printing costs, we expect this change to free up funds for additional member services. We know your time is valuable and our goal is to promote floodplain awareness and pass along critical floodplain management information in a timely, yet concise manner. I hope you enjoy becoming familiar with the electronic copies, which can be downloaded and printed with ease. As always, your comments and suggestions are welcome at any time.

Pre-Disaster Mitigation Grant Program Update

Funding for the Pre-Disaster Mitigation (PDM) Program has been revamped following a November 2006 Congressional session. Overall, the PDM grants have been increased to \$100 million, effectively doubling their 2006 appropriation level of \$50 million. Competitive grants available through the program are used for hazard mitigation planning and the implementation of mitigation projects prior to a disaster event. Appropriate mitigation projects reduce the overall risks to populations and structures, thereby reducing the dependence on federal funding from an actual disaster declaration. A further enhancement has been added to the program funding mechanism. Because the PDM Program is now subject to Section 203(f) of the Stafford Act, each State will be allotted \$500,000 from the overall funds. This means a portion of the highly competitive grants are assured to reach every state meeting the minimum eligibility requirement thereby creating a more predictable level of funding for states. However, States must submit eligible and completed sub-applications for at least that amount in order to receive the allotment and meet additional requirements subject to the program. All remaining projects will compete on a national level for the remaining \$75 million.



Applying proper mitigation techniques during development kept this home from seeing the fate of its neighbors after disaster struck.

As part of the requirements for grant money, all applicants must have a FEMA-approved State/tribal Standard or Enhanced hazard mitigation plan by the application deadline to be eligible to receive project grant funding under the PDM. In addition, all Sub-applicants must have a FEMA approved hazard mitigation plan by the application deadline to be eligible to receive project grant funding under the PDM program. Projects submitted for consideration must be consistent with the goals and objectives identified in the current FEMA approved State and Local mitigation plans. Planning activities can include the development, update or review of existing plans. Mitigation projects can include, but are not limited to the acquisition, relocation or elevation of flood prone properties, construction of safe rooms, engineering studies for the purpose of feasibility determination, protective measures for utilities, localized flood control projects designed to protect critical facilities, and the purchase of a generator if it directly relates to the hazards that threaten a critical facility. Applications must be received by the FEMA Regional Director on or before February 5, 2007. The guidance and program descriptions are available at <http://www.fema.gov/government/grant/pdm/fy2007.shtm>.

Introducing EDDie — Express Document Delivery for FEMA Flood Information

EDDie (Express Document Delivery) made its debut at this year's annual Association of State Floodplain Managers conference in June. EDDie is the latest enhancement to the Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA's) Map Service Center (MSC) website. Designed to bypass the website's check-out (e-commerce) pages, EDDie enables exempt and partially exempt customers to quickly access and download Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRMs), Flood Insurance Study (FIS) reports, Letters of Map Change (LOMCs), and Digital Flood Insurance Rate Map (DFIRM) databases (where available) for all identified National Flood Insurance Program communities. Exempt customers include federal, State, and local government agencies; floodplain managers; FEMA staff; and FEMA contractors. EDDie is not available for those customers who are required to pay for products on the MSC website.

EDDie can be accessed from the Internet at <http://edd.msc.fema.gov/edd/> or as a link from the MSC website if you are logged in as an exempt customer. An icon will appear on the toolbar at the top of the page. From the main page of EDDie, users are prompted to enter the same user name and password that they use to log into the MSC website. Once logged in, user-friendly searches can be conducted for a variety of map products such as FIRMs, FIS reports, or DFIRM databases by either item number (e.g., 240010IND0) or by using pull-down menus to search by State, county, and community. Additionally, LOMCs are viewable when searching for FIRMs. Filters are also available to make searching for products more user-friendly. When a community and product are identified, the user has the option of viewing the product (if a FIRM, LOMC, or FIS report is selected) or saving the product to his or her computer.

To expedite the downloading of multiple products (i.e. bulk downloads), EDDie has been designed to work with the *GetRight* download manager software. This software is configured to work with EDDie and has been approved to work on all FEMA systems. *GetRight* allows users to quickly download multiple products from EDDie to their computer without having to manually download one product at a time. Entire counties, for example, can be downloaded at once. The software also allows users to schedule the time to download products allowing downloads after hours. The MSC time trials suggest that EDDie works between four to five times faster than downloading most products from the e-commerce version of the MSC website. The MSC has received very positive feedback from users and has witnessed a steady increase in EDDie usage each month. To obtain a user name and password or to get additional information about EDDie, contact the MSC Customer Service Department at 1-800-358-9616. This process only takes a few moments and can be ready for use within 30 minutes.



Community Rating System Updates

Oklahoma Community Improves CRS Class Status

Congratulations to the City of Sand Springs for their recent promotion in the CRS Program to a Class 6 Community. The dedication of their Floodplain Administrator and past OFMA Chair T.J. Davis has allowed this community to move up two rankings from its previous ranking as a Class 8. According to Mr. Davis, the City's acquisition of 28 flood prone and repetitive loss properties played a major role in the point totals. Among other things, Mr. Davis also credits the recently improved ISO Certification received by the Building Inspection Department as having allowed the ranking to surpass a Class 7. Citizens of the City of Sand Springs now receive a 20% discount on their flood insurance premiums and are now the 2nd highest ranked CRS community in Oklahoma! Congratulations and job well done!



TJ Davis (right) and Mayor Bob Walker (left) accept the Class 6 CRS Award from Carl Watts (center) of FEMA.

A CRS First! Community Earns a Class 1

The Community Rating System has some tough requirements, making advancement in the program a difficult process. Of course, advancement in the program means rewarding discounts to Flood Insurance Premiums, so logically FEMA would make it difficult. For as long as most of us can remember, our State's own City of Tulsa has lead the nation in the CRS rankings, becoming the first ever community to reach a Class 2 and receive a 40% flood insurance discount. Now however, officially verified during the Fall of 2006, Roseville, California, a community of 100,000, surpassed Tulsa and every other community in the nation to reach a CRS Class 1 making the community eligible for a 45% discount on its citizen's flood insurance premiums. Beginning in 1991, the City reached a Class 8 status having advanced its floodplain management program as a response to the devastating floods of 1986 and 1995. Since then, Roseville has used a combination of techniques to manage its flood hazards, including prohibiting development in the 100-year floodplain, a two-foot freeboard requirement, mitigating repetitive loss properties, using cluster development, substantial investment in improved stormwater management, acquiring and relocating floodprone structures, and protecting and restoring open space. Roseville has implemented 17 of the 18 activities recognized under the CRS as contributing to flood loss reduction.

Resource Center for CRS Communities

As a component of the Federal Emergency Management Agency, the Emergency Management Institute provides training on a variety of emergency management topics to enhance the capabilities of disaster response, preparedness and recovery. To assist communities participating in the voluntary Community Rating System, the Institute has developed the Community Rating System Resource Center website in hopes of assisting communities with guidance on the NFIP program.

Participation in the CRS program requires a community to follow specific procedures and appropriately document activities in order to calculate their credit points. Because participation in the CRS program creates community benefits beyond simply participating only in the NFIP, FEMA is actively pursuing strategies to assist communities with their CRS program. The Community Rating System Resource Center is just such a strategy. Located at <http://training.fema.gov/EMIWeb/CRS/>, the Resource Center provides guidance on a variety of topics including the applications process, the creditable activities within the program and links to additional tools for use. The site is user friendly and is a likely asset to any community involved in the Community Rating System Program.



The CRS Resource Center home page is easily navigated and full of helpful information.

Ice Storm 2007

Statewide Hazard puts Emergency Operations to Test

On Friday, January 12, 2007 the State of Oklahoma was impacted by a strong Arctic cold front bringing with it, widespread precipitation in the form of freezing rain and sleet. Over the following 48 hours, additional freezing rain continued to fall across the State bringing national headlines on the brutal storm. Ice accumulations covered roadways, shut down schools, canceled flights and affected power supplies across the entire state. An emergency disaster declaration for all 77 Oklahoma counties was requested by Governor Henry and approved by President Bush on January 14th. The emergency declaration covers federal assistance for federal assets necessary for the response needs of the state and communities affected by the ice storm. In addition, the declaration also covers 75 percent reimbursement for emergency protective measures performed by local and state personnel. A major disaster declaration has been requested by the Governor for 23 counties, which would make individual assistance for storm victims available. Only 7 counties were approved however.



Damages to power utilities near Porum in Haskell County.

To assure continued medical services in those areas of the state hardest hit by the weekend's ice storm, the Oklahoma State Department of Health activated the Medical Reserve Corps. Volunteer medical personnel were dispatched to the McAlester Regional Hospital and medical supplies, including oxygen, were distributed to several hospitals in southeastern and northeastern Oklahoma.

Oklahoma Emergency Management (OEM) and FEMA worked to deliver more than 870,000 one-liter bottles of drinking water to communities impacted by the storm. Bottled water continued to arrive at staging locations in McAlester, Muskogee, Jay, Miami and Pryor long after the storm was over.

OEM, Oklahoma Department of Transportation (ODOT), Oklahoma National Guard, FEMA and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers delivered more than 125 generators to water treatment plants, shelter and hospitals, police and fire departments and organizations supporting shelter activities.



Ice damage to a power sub-station from the January storm.

Joint preliminary damage assessment teams, made up of representatives of OEM, FEMA, and county and city officials, began damage surveys in the affected areas of Delaware, McIntosh, Muskogee and Pittsburg counties. Initial damage assessments were completed in those four hardest hit counties.

Power outages resulting from the ice accumulations overloading power poles and utility lines affected over 100,000 customers of PSO, OG&E and the Oklahoma Association of Electric Cooperatives combined. McAlester and Muskogee, with their larger populations, had the highest reports of power outages. Other communities including Grove, Chouteau and Checotah also saw significant power outages.

According to the Oklahoma Highway Patrol (OHP) and the Oklahoma Office of the Chief Medical Examiner, since the winter weather system first impacted the state, there were 26 deaths attributed to the storm including 16 motor vehicle accidents, 7 hypothermia cases, 2 smoke inhalation cases and 1 fall. Over 3,000 people were treated at Oklahoma hospitals for various injuries related to the weather according to the Oklahoma State Department of Health (OSDH). Poor road conditions since the storm contributed to 495 automobile collisions on Oklahoma highways according to OHP.

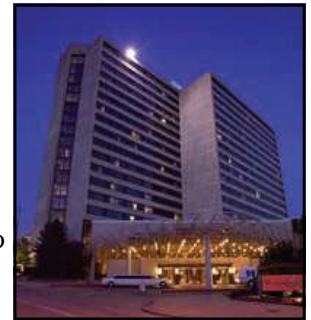
After the storm, temperatures wavered along the freezing mark for the following week allowing ice to develop a slick cover and a thick base. Neighborhoods resembled frozen ponds and communities struggled to remove the thick ice layers from roadways, causing shortages to sand and salt stock piles.

County Revises Floodplain Permitting Fees

Canadian County has been involved in several floodplain management issues in the last year. It is safe to say, they take their floodplains seriously and strive to keep development and a lack of understanding from possibly jeopardizing the safety of its citizens and their property. Now, in order to fully accommodate their time to successfully assist with the permitting process of a floodplain development, a new floodplain permitting fee schedule has been implemented by the Canadian County Commissioners at the recommendation of the Canadian County Floodplain Board. Previously, Canadian County had a \$100 “across the board” floodplain permit fee for any zoning type. The county’s floodplain board decided to revise the permit fee structure to more accurately reflect the time spent by County staff on assisting with the permitting process. The fee structure is now on more of a “sliding scale” according to County Floodplain Administrator Amy Brandley. Although the residential floodplain permit fee will remain at \$100, fees will change for other permits. The changes to costs of the revised permitting fees include non-residential and non-commercial (\$50), commercial (\$250), multi-family residential (\$500) and oil and gas (\$500). The Canadian County Flood Board, chaired by Cecil R. Bearden, recommended the resolution to the three county commissioners and signed it following their approval. The Oklahoma Floodplain Management Act and state law allow counties to charge no more than \$500 for a floodplain permit.

OFMA’s 17th Annual Conference: *It Will Rain Again, It Will Flood Again*

Planning is underway for this year’s Annual Conference! As always, OFMA is planning for some interesting and special guest speakers, great food, great entertainment and plenty of time for interaction with your peers. Understandably, in times of drought, floodplain management is not the top priority in most municipal governments, but it is the best time to perform routine maintenance on the creeks and drainage features because it will rain again, and it will flood again! The Annual Conference will again follow the three track approach with emphasis on introductory, intermediate and advanced floodplain management training concepts. Plan to attend and register early. The Conference will be held in downtown Tulsa at the Doubletree Hotel from September 16—19, 2007. OFMA has secured blocks of rooms at discounted rates for both single (\$68 + tax) and double (\$88 + tax) rooms. The OFMA Annual Conference provides a unique opportunity for company exposure to key officials from communities throughout the state. OFMA wishes to cordially invite potential vendors to attend and exhibit at this year’s Annual Conference. The cost for Vendor Booth Registration is only \$250. Conference Sponsorships are also available for those who may not be able to attend, but wish to support OFMA’s mission of reducing loss of life and property due to flooding. Conference Registration dues for attendees will vary depending on the conference package chosen and your membership status. For more information on costs contact Carolyn Schultz at (918) 669-4919 or visit www.okflood.org. We look forward to hearing from you! Space is limited so reserve your hotel room soon! For room reservation information visit www.doubletree.com.



Tulsa’s Downtown Doubletree



Question: Should a proposed development that clearly poses a potential threat to life and property, be required to be evaluated to a higher standard than the current effective adopted floodplain regulations of a community?

Answer: There are strict legal issues/guidelines that a community must abide by in regulating their floodplain development as adopted by their city ordinance or county resolution. However, there should be opportunities for the floodplain administrator, floodplain board, or city council to consider other factors that are not the norm for such situations. If language is not included in communities' ordinances or resolutions to examine and consider such specific and unique situations, it is recommended that some type of language be added to the ordinance or resolution to allow consideration of extreme circumstances.

Web Sites

OFMA www.okflood.org
ASFPM www.floods.org
OWRB www.owrb.state.ok.us
FEMA www.fema.gov
OEM www.ok.gov/oem
Corps of Engineers (USACE)
www.swt.usace.army.mil
U.S. Geological Survey (USGS)
ok.water.usgs.gov
Advanced Study Institute
web.uccs.edu/geogenvs/natoasi
CLOMR/LOMR Forms:
www.fema.gov/fhm/frm_form.shtm
EPA NPDES Phase II site:
www.epa.gov/npdes/
SMRC Stormwater Mgr Resource Center:
www.stormwatercenter.net
FEMA Official NFIP Site:
www.floodsmart.gov
Link to: 44 CFR Ch. I (10-1-02 Edition)
http://www.access.gpo.gov/nara/fr/waisidx_02/44cfrv1_02.html
Webmaster: Tinna Song-Wallis
stsong@cox.net

Calendar of Educational Opportunities

- **Floodplain 101:** Contact Rhonda Bowers (405) 530-8800; website www.owrb.state.ok.us
- **Floodplain 202:** March 6, 2007 McAlester; March 20, 2007 Lawton; March 27, 2007 OKC; March 29, 2007 Woodward. Contact Rhonda Bowers (405) 530-8800; online registration: www.owrb.state.ok.us/util/commentsFP.php
- **OML Water Summit:** Feb. 16, 2007; Oklahoma Regional Training Institute website registration @ www.oml.org
- **OFMA Spring Technical Workshop:** March 1, 2007. Moore-Norman Technology Center; Moore, OK www.okflood.org
- **OFMA Legislative Reception:** March 7th 2007; Capital Building Room 512-A 10:30-2:00 Oklahoma City, OK.
- **Oklahoma Society of Land Surveyors Annual Convention:** March 8-10, 2007
- **FEMA's Annual National Flood Conference:** April 29—May 3, 2007; Denver, Colorado. Sponsored by the NFIP; website: www.fema.gov/business/nfip/natl_fldconf.shtm
- **ASFPM 31st Annual Conference:** June 3-7, 2007; Norfolk, VA. www.floods.org
- **National Hydrological Warning Council National Conference:** June 11-14, 2007; Savannah, GA. [Http://nhwc.udfcd.org](http://nhwc.udfcd.org)
- **OML Annual Conference:** September 11-13, 2007 - www.oml.org
- **OFMA 17th Annual Conference:** September 16-19, 2007, Double Tree Hotel Downtown, Tulsa, OK. Contact: *OFMA, P.O. Box 8101, Tulsa, OK 74101-8101*; website: www.okflood.org.
- **ASFPM 32nd Annual Conference:** May 18-23, 2008; Reno, NV. www.floods.org

OFMA General Store

Oklahoma Floodplain Managers Association gifts are now available. The attractive OFMA articles are of the highest quality. You will be proud to wear and display them.

To Order: OFMA
P.O. Box 8101
Tulsa, OK 74101

Or call Carolyn Schultz (918) 669-4919



OFMA Golf Shirt (S, M, L, X-L)	35.00
Briefcase	25.00
Baseball Cap (One size fits all)	15.00
Insulated Mug	10.00
Umbrella	20.00
Portfolio	25.00
Lapel Pin	3.00
CFM Lapel Pin	5.00

Shipping and handling \$4.95 per order.

The OFMA 2006 Strategic Planning Retreat

The OFMA Board of Directors lead by Chair Laureen Gilroy spent three days in Norman during November to review the Association's Strategic Plan and review our By Laws and Constitution. The 2006 Strategic Planning Retreat was held at the Oklahoma Center for Continuing Education and was attended by OFMA members Joe Remondini, PDCC Chair, Marc Utley, Mapping and Engineering Committee Chair and OFMA Corporate Sponsor, Theresa Painter, Education Chair, Sterling Overturf, BFE Editor and Ken Morris, Interim Executive Director. The Board held a Board meeting during the retreat and conducted monthly business as well. The OFMA Board members that participated in the 2006 Planning Retreat included Carolyn Schultz, Bill Smith, Ellen Stephens, Phil Beauchamp, Leslie Lewis, Jeff Bigby, Mickey Douglas & Gavin Brady, NFIP State Coordinator.

Chairman Gilroy facilitated the retreat and kept Board members on track to address each goal and objective outlined in the 2006 Strategic Plan. Details of the Retreat Outcome will be published in the near future. The Board also found several issues in the By Laws and Constitution that will need to be addressed at the next membership conference or workshop. More information will be provided soon about the proposed changes. During the retreat the State experienced a severe winter storm, however with most members staying at the Sooner Hotel and not having to drive, the weather did not impact the retreat itself. However, with the roads so bad, many members spent an extra night on Thursday hoping the travel situation would improve. By Friday, conditions were still poor, but had stopped deteriorating, making for a long and slow trip back to their homes. With the snow, ice and cold temperatures, Board members and OFMA leaders were in a captive setting to get our association business concluded in a very professional and expeditious manner.

For more information about the Retreat Outcome visit the OFMA web site at www.okflood.org and stay tuned to upcoming BFE Newsletters.

Oklahoma Floodplain Managers Association

Vision

The Oklahoma Floodplain Managers Association advocates the protection of the natural functions of the floodplain through education, training, and service to Oklahomans.

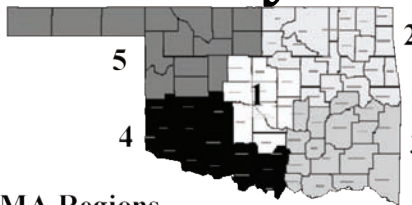
Mission

We encourage and support, with our partners, flood-safe development and flood mitigation. We promote sound floodplain management practices and the natural and cultural benefits of the floodplain. We support the floodplain management profession through education and certification.

Saving lives from floods and reducing property loss from floods are paramount to us.

An Invitation to Join OFMA

The Oklahoma Floodplain Managers Association is a non-profit organization primarily dedicated to providing information and education to the public about reduction of loss of life and property due to flooding.



OFMA Regions

The best investment that \$30.00 can buy in the future of your state is a membership in the Oklahoma Floodplain Managers Association.

OFMA Membership Application

Name: _____

Company/Organization: _____

Title: _____

Address: _____

Work Phone: _____

City/Town: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Fax: _____

E-Mail: _____

Detach and Mail to:

OFMA

P.O. Box 8101

Tulsa, OK 74101-8101

New Member: ☐

Renewal: ☐

Region (see map): 1 2 3 4 5

Committees:

___ Mitigation

___ Mapping and Engineering

___ Education/Legislative

___ Certification

___ Conference

Dues Schedule:

First-Year dues for joining OFMA are listed below. The fiscal year for membership starts October 1st and ends September 30th.

Full Membership	\$ 30.00
Student Membership	15.00
Associate Membership	20.00
Agency Membership	50.00
(Plus \$10.00 per employee designated by the Agency)	
Corporate Sponsor	100.00



Notes from the State NFIP Coordinator

Gavin Brady, Oklahoma Water Resources Board, NFIP State Coordinator

As you probably know, past NFIP State Coordinator, Mike Mathis, retired from the OWRB in November. Preceding Mike in that position was Ken Morris, who retired in 2003. As Mike's replacement, I am fortunate to have learned much from two of the most influential and experienced leaders of Oklahoma's floodplain management program. Their past accomplishments make my current job easier. As the new State Floodplain Coordinator, I obviously have very big shoes to fill. Fortunately, I can draw upon the expertise of OWRB staff and utilize the exemplary leadership of the Oklahoma Floodplain Manager's Association (OFMA) to accomplish the organization's goals and objectives.

Concerning my professional background, I began my employment with the OWRB in Oklahoma City in 1982. I transferred to the Tulsa field office soon after the 1984 Memorial Day floods that devastated Tulsa. Since that time, I have worked closely with the NFIP and have coordinated floodplain management-related efforts in the state's northeast region. I look forward to working with *all* of Oklahoma as the new State Coordinator.

During a recent two-day retreat at the University of Oklahoma, the OFMA Board of Directors and several Committee Chairs met to review our 2006 Strategic Plan and update OFMA's Bylaws and Constitution. OFMA Chairman Laureen Gilroy facilitated the retreat and completed our objectives, even as a snowstorm blanketed the facility and closed the OU campus. You can view the results of the retreat at www.okflood.org and/or read the next BFE Newsletter in February.

As we look to the new year, please mark your calendars for a few important dates. The weeklong NFIP class, January 8-12, is currently full. However, if you want to get on the waiting list, we can accommodate you. The Floodplain Administrators 101 Workshop dates are February 15, March 14, April 19 and May 15 at the Center for Continuing Education at OU. With Governor Henry's Declaration of March 2007 as Flood Insurance Month, our training staff will take the show on the road and hold workshops in McAlester on March 6, Lawton on March 20, Bartlesville on March 22, and Woodward on March 29. Thanks to our partnership with Joe Remondini and the Corps of Engineers, 202 Workshops will also be held in March at these same locations. Also, a 202 Workshop will be held on March 27 in Oklahoma City at the OWRB office. Plenty of opportunities to expand your floodplain management knowledge and you can register online at www.owrb.state.ok.us or call Rhonda Bowers at 405-530-8800.

With the exception of some flooding in Broken Arrow and Wagoner County, 2006 has been a year when floodplain administrators could take a relatively relaxed approach to floodplain management. This has been a year where your thoughts and activities were more focused on a lack of rainfall rather than too much. I have visited areas in Oklahoma where lake levels are approaching critical stages and I realize floodplain management may not be at the forefront of the minds of city, county, or tribal officials. But as floodplain administrators, we can't forget the value of this program. We are in a position to make a difference. The primary emphasis in establishing the NFIP back in 1968 was to provide flood insurance to flood-prone communities. We need to remember we are also protecting the lives and property of Oklahoma citizens. It will flood again...are you ready?

OWRB Workshops Tour the State in March!

This March local and county floodplain administrators will be offered a free chance at receiving accredited education at six convenient locations around the State. Floodplain 101 and 202 are designed to take floodplain administrators through introductory and advanced topics on NFIP compliance requirements and provide assistance on guidance to floodplain development. The OWRB, Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and Oklahoma Department of Emergency Management will sponsor the six one-day workshops. Each workshop attendee will receive 6 Continuing Education Credits, which can be applied toward maintaining CFM status. Contact Rhonda Bowers at the OWRB at (405) 530-8800 to register or visit www.okflood.org for dates and more information.



OFMA'S CORPORATE PARTNERS



AMEC

Dennis Lawlor
3601 SW 28th St., Ste. 209
Topeka, KS 66614
785 272-6830

Benham

Barend Meiling, PE, CFM
One West Third St., Suite 100
Tulsa, OK 74103
918 492-1600

Carter & Burgess, Inc.

Brian Bannister CFM
10001 Broadway Extension,
Suite 100
Oklahoma City, OK 73116
405 810-8254

Cinnabar Service Company

Terry Young
5121 South Wheeling Avenue
Tulsa, OK 74105
918 742-0082

Crafton Tull and Assoc., Inc.

Phil Hagen
235 North MacArthur Blvd
Oklahoma City, OK 73127
405 787-6270

Cyntergy AEC

Robert Day, P.E.
320 South Boston, 12th Floor
Tulsa, OK 74103
918 877-6000

Dewberry Design

Andrew Cueto, P.E.
1350 South Boulder, Suite 600
Tulsa, OK 74119
918 295-5263

Eagle Consultants, Inc.

Satish Dasharathy
2803 South Bryant Avenue
Edmond, OK 73013
405 844-3900

FTN Associates, Ltd.

Conrad Battreal, PE, CFM
3 Innwood Circle, Suite 220
Little Rock, AR 72211
501 225-7779

Grand River Dam Authority

Robert W. Sullivan, Jr.
P.O. Box 409
Vinita, OK 74301-0409
918 256-5545, x4467

Greenhorne & Design

Vince DiCamillo CFM
6110 Frost Place
Laurel, MD 20707
301 982-2898

Guy Engineering

Julie Guy P.E., CFM
10759 East Admiral Place
Tulsa, OK 74116
918 437-0282

Hydropower International

Services; Inter-National
Consultancy, LLC
Bill Smith P.E., CFM
28508 W. 41st St.
Mannford, OK 74044
918 865-6977

JGVE, Inc.

Donald D. Vick, PE
124 NW 10th St., Suite 101
Oklahoma City, OK 73103
405 236-8313

Meshek and Associates, Inc.

Janet K. Meshek, P.E., CFM
P.O. Box 636
20 West 2nd Street, Suite 100
Sand Springs, OK 74063
918 241-2803

Michael Baker, Jr., Inc.

Bart Standley
16225 Park Ten Place, #420
Houston, TX 77084-5142
281 579-4579

Myers Engineering

Bill Myers, President
116 Northwest 132nd
Oklahoma City, OK 73112
405 755-5325

Oklahoma Municipal League

201 N.E. 23rd Street
Oklahoma City, OK 73105-
3199
405 528-7515

Oklahoma Society of Land Surveyors

Burk Cornelius
13905 Twin Ridge Road
Edmond, OK 73034
405 721-7222

R.D. Flanagan & Associates

Ronald D. Flanagan, CFM
2745 East Skelly Dr., Suite 100
Tulsa, OK 74105
918 749-2696

Sheridan Engineering

John F. Sheridan, PhD, P.E., CFM
P.O. Box 219
Haskell, OK 74436
918 482-3417

Smith Roberts Baldischwiler, LLC

Mathew Smith, P.E., CFM
25 S. Oklahoma Ave., Suite 400
Oklahoma City, OK 73104
405 840-7094

Swift Water Resources Engineering, LLC

Mark S. Swift, P.E., CFM
9 East 4th Street, Ste. 301
Tulsa, OK 74103
918 582-1380

University of Oklahoma

Baxter Vieux, Phd., P.E.
202 West Boyd, Room 334
Norman, OK 73019
405 325-3600

URS

Michelle Barnett, P.E., CFM
1437 South Boulder, Suite 660
Tulsa, OK 74119
918 582-2552

Utley & Associates

Marc Utley, P.E.
3500 South Boulevard,
Suite D-1
Edmond, OK 73013
405 341-9555

Vieux & Associates, Inc.

Jean Vieux, President
350 David L Boren Blvd
Suite 2500
Norman, OK 73072
405 325-1818

Watershed Concepts

Richard Frithiof, P.E.
811 Barton Springs Road,
Suite 811
Austin, TX 78704
512 435-5367

WK Morris Consulting, LLC

Ken Morris, CFM
510 Elmcrest Drive
Norman, OK 73071
405 530-8861



The B.F.E.

NONPROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
TULSA, OK
PERMIT NO. 398

Oklahoma Floodplain Managers Association

PO Box 8101

Tulsa, OK 74101-8101

Change Service Requested

Winter 2007

Funding Acknowledgement

Funds to produce *The B.F.E.* come in part from the National Flood Insurance Program, State Support Services Element of the Community Assistance Program, which is administered by the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

Oklahoma Floodplain Managers Association 2006-2007

Ex Officio:

Mrs. Lou Klaver
Oklahoma Water Resources Board
3800 North Classen Blvd
Oklahoma City, OK 73118
Phone: (405) 530-8800
Fax: (405) 530-8900
E-mail: clklaver@owrb.state.ok.us

Chair:

Ms. Laureen Gibson Gilroy, CFM
City of Tulsa
200 Civic Center, Room 515
Tulsa, OK 74103
Phone: (918) 596-2859
Fax: (918) 596-1869
E-mail: lgilroy@cityoftulsa.org

Vice Chair:

Mr. Bill Smith, PE, CFM
Hydropower International Services,
Inter-National Consultancy, LLC
28508 W. 41st St. S.
Mannford, OK 74044
Phone/Fax: (918) 865-6977
Cell: (918) 625-2449
E-mail: hisinc@hotmail.com

Secretary:

Ms. Ellen Stevens, Ph.D, PE
Painter & Associates
1235 Sovereign Row, Ste. C-6
Oklahoma City, OK 73108
Phone: (405) 488-0714
Fax: (405) 488-0713
E-mail: ellenphdpe@aol.com

Treasurer:

Ms. Carolyn Schultz, CFM
Corps of Engineers
1645 S. 101st E. Avenue
Tulsa, OK 74128
Phone: (918) 669-4919
Fax: (918) 669-7546
E-mail: carolyn.schultz@usace.army.mil

Region 1 Representative:

Ms. Leslie Lewis, PE, CFM
ODOT
200 NE 21st Street
Oklahoma City, OK 73105
Phone: (405) 521-6500
Fax: (405) 522-0134
E-mail: llewis@odot.org

Region 2 Representative:

Mr. Jeff Bigby, PE, CFM
City of Broken Arrow
220 S. 1st Street
Broken Arrow, OK 74012
Phone: (918) 259-2400 ext. 5241
Fax: (918) 259-8453
E-mail: jbigby@brokenarrowok.gov

Region 3 Representative:

Mr. Mickey Douglas, CFM
Seminole Nation Environmental Protection
P.O. Box 1603
Seminole, OK 74818
Phone: (405) 382-5112
Fax: (405) 382-3211
E-mail: douglas_mickey@sbcglobal.net

Region 4 Representative:

Mr. Phillip Beauchamp, CFM
City of Altus
220 East Commerce
Altus, OK 73521
Phone: (580) 481-2228
Fax: (580) 481-2203
E-mail: engineering@cityofaltus.org

Region 5 Representative:

Ms. Cindy Tubbs, CFM
City of Enid
PO Box 1448
Enid, OK 73072
Phone: (580) 234-0400
Fax: (580) 234-8946
E-mail: ctubbs@enid.org

Past Chair:

Mr. Rex Hennen, CFM
City of Shawnee
PO Box 1448
Shawnee, OK 74802-1448
Phone: (405) 878-1506
Fax: (405) 878-1587
E-mail: rhennen@shawneeok.org

Honorary Board Member:

Mr. Joe Remondini, PE, CFM
Corps of Engineers
1645 S. 101st E. Avenue
Tulsa, OK 74128
Phone: (918) 669-7198
Fax: (918) 669-7546
E-mail: joseph.remondini@usace.army.mil

Honorary Board Member:

Mr. Ronald D. Flanagan, CFM
R.D. Flanagan & Associates
2745 East Skelly Drive, Suite 100
Tulsa, OK 74105
Phone: (918) 749-2696
Fax: (918) 749-2697
E-mail: rdflanigan@rdflanigan.com

Honorary Board Member:

Mr. Hank Elling
Oklahoma Water Resources Board
PO Box 886
Lawton, OK 73502
Phone: (580) 248-7762
Fax: (580) 248-0737
E-mail: hcelling@owrb.state.ok.us

Honorary Board Member:

Mr. Ken Morris
WK Morris Consulting, LLC
510 Elmcrest Drive
Norman, OK 73071
Phone: (405) 530-8861
Fax: (405) 530-8900
E-mail: wkmorris@owrb.state.ok.us

BFE Editor:

Mr. Sterling Overturf, CFM
Meshek & Associates, Inc.
P.O. Box 636
Sand Springs, OK 74063
Phone: (918) 241-2803
Fax: (918) 241-9245
E-mail: soverturf@meshekengr.com

The B.F.E. is published by the Oklahoma Floodplain Managers Association. Information and opinions contained herein do not necessarily reflect the views of the Board of Directors. Items for publication and other editorial matters should be directed to Editor, "The B.F.E.", P.O. Box 8101, Tulsa, OK 74101-8101.