



The B.F.E.*

* Base Flood Elevation

OKLAHOMA FLOODPLAIN MANAGERS ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

Volume 9

Fall 2007

Number 4

OFMA's 17th Annual Conference Wrap-Up *It Will Rain Again, It Will Flood Again!*

What a year for Floodplain Managers to monitor the tremendous weather activity and then make it to this year's Annual Conference, with the slogan *It Will Rain Again, It Will Flood Again!* This was coined by the new Chair W. B. Smith, P.E., CFM of HISINC, L.L.C. last October before the significant Spring and Summer rains provided temporary relief from the 4-year drought in many parts of Oklahoma.



The OFMA Annual Conference was held at the Downtown Doubletree Hotel in Tulsa, Oklahoma, from September 17th to 19th, 2007. Over 175 OFMA members, including local floodplain administrators, engineering consultants, vendors, and sponsors attended the Association's functions. From the opening 'First Timers' meeting to the closing discussions, the OFMA Annual Conference highlighted the impact Floodplain Managers have upon where we live and work. Enjoying the exquisite interior of the Doubletree Hotel mixed with the beautiful weather of mid September, participants at the conference enjoyed a very pleasurable setting to experience all that was offered.



Ernestine Dillard

OFMA Golf Tournament was held on Sunday, September 16th, 2007 at the The Canyons at Black Jack Ridge (A.K.A. Sand Springs Municipal Golf Course) Sand Springs, Oklahoma. While everyone involved had great fun there could only be a few winners among the highly competitive teams involved. The team of Mike Jones and Doug Wellhouse earned third place while Russ Wykoff and Jim Leach placed second. Top honors and congratulations went to Carolyn Schultz and Kelly Gile.

Monday morning arrived and the Booker T. Washington "T-Connection" Marching Band and ROTC Air Force Color Guard opened the Conference accompanied by a vocal solo by Rev. Ruthie McKittrick of Pettie Chapel CME Church. Exhibits were

Booker T. Washington "T-Connection"



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OFMA SPECIAL MEETING

Scheduled for April 3, 2008

Dear OFMA Member

As we briefly discussed in the Business Meeting at the Annual Conference, an ADHOC Bylaws Committee was formed in September 2007. At the October 2007 Board meeting the Committee presented its initial findings. Their report states that there are items of conflict between our Constitution and our Bylaws. The OFMA Board has requested the Committee to continue its work and draft necessary amendments to both the Constitution and the Bylaws to eliminate these conflicts.

I refer you to the OFMA Strategic Plan. One element of our plan was to find an Executive Director (ED) and to determine and recommend whether or not this would be a paid position. Joe Remondini drafted a task element on this item which he elaborated on during the 2006 Strategic Plan Retreat in Norman. At that time, Ken Morris volunteered for the ED position. It was Chairman Gilroy's

(Continued on page 6)

Comments from the Chair

Welcome to a new OFMA year. I am proud and honored to be your Chair for 2007-2008 and to represent you throughout this coming year. We have many issues to address as the new OFMA year begins, and together we can.

I would like to welcome our new Officers and Board Members. Clark Williams, CFM of Piedmont is our new Vice Chair. Carolyn Schultz, CFM and Ellen Stevens, P.E., CFM continue in their roles as Treasurer and Secretary. Ken Morris, CFM is our duly esteemed Executive Director and Gavin Brady, CFM represents OWRB as the State NFIP Coordinator. We have two new Regional Representatives – Region III – Joseph Marquardt, CFM from Durant, Ok. and Region V - Marc Bolz, CFM from Enid. They join our other Regional Representatives from Region 1 - Leslie Lewis, P.E., CFM; Region 2 – Jeff Bigby, P.E., CFM, and Region IV – Phillip Beauchamp, CFM. Each of these individuals places great emphasis on their duties to their communities and to OFMA. We commend them for their efforts and ask our members to coordinate your needs and desires through the Regional Representatives. They are also the points of contact for local training provided by the OFMA Training Cadre that will come to your area to conduct training and workshops.

Our 17th Annual Conference was deemed to be very successful and I thank all of those who assisted in the preparation and execution of the event. The CDs for the program are being developed and will be mailed to you very soon. I would especially like to express our thanks to the vendors and sponsors who help offset a large part of our financial obligations for the conference. We look forward to the 18th Annual Conference in Midwest City and to the 2010 ASFP National Conference in Oklahoma City. OFMA will be integrally involved in the planning and execution of the 2010 National Conference.

This year brings many issues – 2007 summer flooding disaster assistance and cleanup of flooded areas, Map Modernization across the State; Oil and Gas Permitting Issues; new developments, etc. Each floodplain administrator is required by State Statute to be certified annually. This is not a requirement only to comply with State law, but to educate the local officials about how to implement and maintain a floodplain management program in your local community. The local floodplain administrator is the “floodplain cop” and his/her duties and responsibilities are to protect the lives and property within that community. OFMA and OWRB work hand-in-hand to provide the necessary training and tools to help the local floodplain administrator perform those duties. That is the basic premise of OFMA – to support our local floodplain administrators. However we can help, we will.

There will be more specifics about the coming year after our OFMA Board Retreat on December 5-7, 2007, as our Strategic Plan is reviewed, updated and adopted.

Have a wonderful Holiday Season.

OFMA Chair

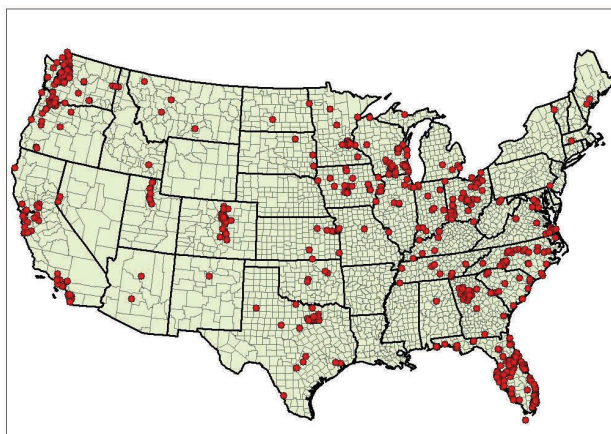
W. B. “Bill” Smith, P.E., CFM



Western Kentucky University Stormwater Utility Survey 2007

Western Kentucky University's Engineering program has the only Floodplain Management Minor provided in the U.S. This is a national certification administered by the Association of State Floodplain Managers (www.flood.org). In August 2007 students attending classes at Western Kentucky University contributed several hundred hours to complete a Storm Water Utility (SWU) survey* attempting to identify as many U.S. SWU's as possible. The students also looked for additional information: monthly fees, the Equivalent Residential unit (ERU) for the communities and the year the SWU was enacted. Students used the Internet as the primary method for compiling data while attempting to make sure the information was up-to-date and accurate. The intent of the survey was that it would become a living document available to all without restraint. For more information about Western Kentucky University go to www.wku.edu. For more information about the SWU survey go to www.wku.edu/swusurvey or email Warren Campbell at warren.campbell@wku.edu.

*Campbell, C. Warren (2007). “Western Kentucky University 2007 Stormwater Utility Survey,” Western Kentucky University, Bowling Green, 26 pp.



Nearly \$32 Million In Disaster Aid Approved For Oklahomans Affected By Summer Storms

Release Date: October 16, 2007

Release Number: 1718-062

[» More Information on Oklahoma Severe Storms, Tornadoes, and Flooding](#)

[» More Information on Oklahoma Severe Storms, Flooding, and Tornadoes](#)

OKLAHOMA CITY, Okla. -- Oklahomans have received more than \$31.7 million in disaster aid due to the severe storms, flooding, and tornadoes that caused extensive damage to homes as well as personal losses this past summer. Costly in terms of monetary value and personal loss, disasters personally impacted more than 7,776 Oklahomans during the summer.

This disaster assistance was approved for Oklahomans affected by the severe storms, flooding, and tornadoes which occurred June 10 thru July 25 and another bout of severe weather August 18 thru September 12, according to officials with the Oklahoma Department of Emergency Management (OEM), the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA).



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OMFA Annual Conference Summary

also open to participants to view and interact with as the conference progressed. The 'First Timers' meeting began at 7:30 a.m. where participants met with OFMA Officers, Region Representatives and Committee Chairs to gain a sense of fellowship with their new Association. The Opening Plenary Track started at 9 a.m. Deputy Mayor Tom Baker of the City of Tulsa provided the Welcome to the participants, including the introduction of the new Tulsa District Commander Col. Funkhouser, and discussing the effects of flooding on the City of Tulsa over the past decades as well as reflecting on his rescue efforts as the former Fire Chief of the City of Tulsa.



Steve Fitzgerald, Chief Engineer, Harris Co. Flood Control District

The Conference was designed to provide educational opportunities in the form of tracks – Track 1 – Basic Training, Track 2 – Intermediate Training, and Track 3 – Special Issues. The Oklahoma Water Resources Board also provided a Floodplain 101 training opportunity for new floodplain administrators to receive their six (6) hours of required certification training under Oklahoma State statute.

As always, speakers on each topic had first hand experience to share with participants. Monday closed with a Reception in the Doubletree's Manchester Room where conference attendees were able to relax and visit with one another. Some of the membership base chose to extend the evening with games and socializing in downtown Tulsa.

The Vendors social was held at the Central Center, a newly created portion of downtown Tulsa with the newly completed Centennial Center Stormwater Detention Facility being the focus of the event. On Tuesday evening the OFMA Awards Banquet was held to honor those floodplain administrators who endeavor to go "above and beyond" their minimum duties in protecting the citizens of their communities.

The 17th Annual Conference came to a close with the passing of the gavel. Vice-Chair Bill Smith accepted his new position as Chair, and now former Chair Lauren Gilroy was presented with an honorary gavel to commemorate her time as OFMA Chair. Clark Williams was elected Vice-Chair and will serve under Chair Smith for the year.

The OFMA will host a Spring Workshop on April 3, 2008 at the new Ardmore Convention Center and the 2008 18th Annual Conference will be held at the Reed Center in Midwest City on Sept 22-24, 2008.

Click the *Archives* link then *Past Conferences* at www.okflood.org to view a slideshow of pictures from this Fall's 2007 Annual Conference.



BTW Director, Rev. Ruthie McKittrick, Bill Smith, Col. Funkhouser



Mickey Douglas, former Region 3 Representative, with the Iron Horse Band

17th Annual OFMA Awards

An Awards Banquet is held each year at the OFMA Annual Conference. Awards are presented to those who have made exemplary contributions to floodplain management in Oklahoma and recognize excellence in flood loss reduction during this past year.

This year's Ben Fizzell Media Award winner is Conrad Dudderar, News Editor for the Yukon Review. Mr. Dudderar made huge strides in promoting the county program. His well written articles have helped make a difference in trying to educate the public in this area.



Mayor Norton

This year's Platinum Level Ronald D. Flanagan Project Award was presented to Mayor Robert Norton and the City of Coweta for the buyout project involving 16 single family homes. A Gold Level award was presented to Nancy Kennedy, CFM, and the City of Edmond for the Edmond Urban Stream Restoration Project. A Silver Level award was presented to the OFMA for the "Turn Around, Don't Drown" calendar and poster program. This contest has helped educate 4th graders across the state as well as alert residents of Oklahoma to the dangers of driving into flood waters. Other state associations are now following OFMA's lead with this outstanding educational



Nancy Kennedy

project about floodplain.

Recipients of the W. Kenneth Morris Honorary Lifetime Member Award have offered tremendous support and assistance to OFMA for many years. Their commitment and enthusiasm to floodplain management has become so recognizable that it becomes evident that each recipient must become distinguished as a lifetime member. This year's award recipients are Rhonda Bowers and Jeff Bigby, PE, CFM. Congratulations to each of you.

The Special Recognition Awards are presented by the Board of Directors annually. These awards are given to individuals in the floodplain management business that have demonstrated excellence in an endeavor that is worthy of recognition. This years Special Recognition Award recipients are Eugene Blankenship, Muskogee County; Leslie Lewis, State of Oklahoma; Janell Woods, Blaine County; Amy Brandley, Canadian County FPA; Jerry Ruse, City of Miami; Gavin Brady, NFIP State Coordinator; and the Hydrologic Technicians of USGS, Oklahoma Water Science Center.

This years Outstanding Recognition Award recipients are Dean Couch, General Counsel of the OWRB; and Robert Tortorelli, Ph.D., CFM, with the USGS Oklahoma Water Science Center. Mr Couch has been a key player on the OWRB Floodplain Management 101 Team. He has taken time from his busy schedule to teach the State Law of Oklahoma, the floodplain management act, the landlord tenant act and the full hazard disclosure act. Dean has taught each month at the 101 workshops at Norman and traveled the state in March and taught at each of the workshop locations around the state. His time and energy in this program has helped floodplain management in Oklahoma. Additionally, Mr. Couch helped Educate the City of Miami Attorney, Erik Johnson in substantial damage, inverse condemnation and provided support to Mr. Johnson so that the City would pursue the correct action after the July 4th floods in Miami. Mr. Couch also took similar action with the City of Bartlesville. Dr. Tortorelli is an author of 35 publications in areas of flood frequency, drought analysis, stream flow statistics and FEMA Flood Insurance Studies. He serves as the information officer for flood related activities for USGS, an organization to which he has dedicated 29 years of service.



Dean Couch

This year's Public Official of the Year Award was given to Cecil Bearden, P.E., previously presented at Mr. Bearden's retirement celebration. Mr. Bearden served as the Chairman of the Canadian County Floodplain Board for 26 years. Mr. Bearden continues to Chair the Canadian County Floodplain Board.



Cecil Bearden

The Chairman's Award is for recognition of individuals who have gone above and beyond the call of duty. This years Special Recognition Award recipients are Anna Waggoner, CFM, City of Yukon; Gavin Brady, CFM, State NFIP Controller; Carolyn Schultz, CFM, Corps of Engineers; and Ed Endicott, Retired, Corps of Engineers. Congratulations to each of you.



Juli Matthews

The Floodplain Manager of the Year Award goes to an individual who has shown significant excellence in the field of floodplain management. The individual has demonstrated dedication through the administration of their community's floodplain management program in pursuing the goals of flood loss reduction and in the prevention of loss of life. This year's award receipt of Floodplain Manager of the Year is Juli Matthews, City of Miami.

Congratulations to each of this year's OFMA Awards recipients! Your dedication and service to this Association is greatly appreciated and valued as a critical asset to our goal of protecting life and property to flood hazards. Thank you!

PLEASE JOIN US!

Oklahoma Floodplain Managers Association

SPRING TECHNICAL WORKSHOP



“What’s Old Again is New Again – Floodplain Management in the 21st Century”

Thursday, April 3, 2008

Ardmore Convention Center – Ardmore, OK

The Spring Technical Workshop will be held in Ardmore, Oklahoma, at the new Ardmore Convention Center off of Exit 33 (Veterans Boulevard), from I-35 on Rockford Road, April 3, 2008. Registration forms are available for download at www.okflood.org. The cost of registration will be \$65.00. Also, OFMA has secured blocks of rooms at Marriott’s Springhill Suites right next door to the Convention Center for the night of April 2nd, with discounted rates. However due to the increase in the Ardmore business park growth and oil field development in the Ardmore area **room availability and reservations are at a premium.** Therefore we are requesting a room commitment as soon as possible.

Marriott’s Springhill Suites
2501 Centennial Drive North
Ardmore, OK 73402

1-888-287-9400

<http://www.marriott.com>

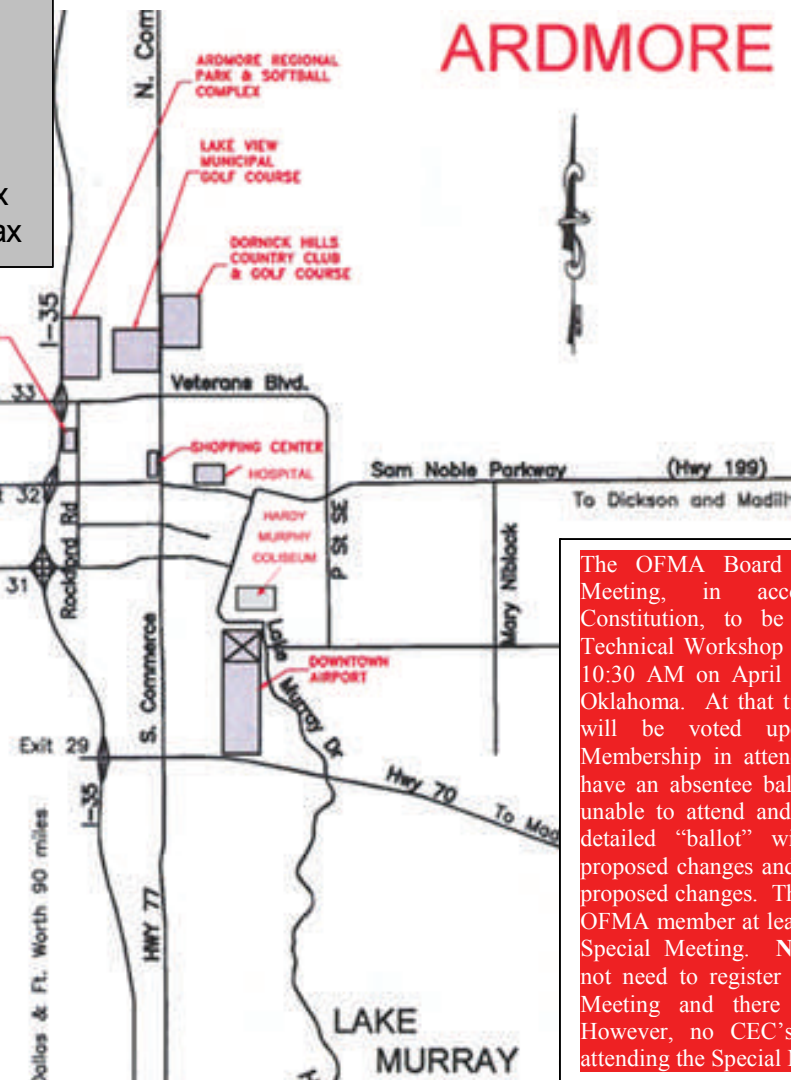
Rooms:

King – 25 rooms at \$104+tax

Queen – 25 rooms at \$99+tax



Conveniently located at Exit 33 off I-35 between Dallas and Oklahoma City, the Ardmore Convention Center offers meeting and event planners the perfect space both inside and outside the state-of-the-art building.



The OFMA Board will call a Special Meeting, in accordance with the Constitution, to be held at the Spring Technical Workshop between 10:00 AM to 10:30 AM on April 3, 2008, in Ardmore, Oklahoma. At that time proposed changes will be voted upon by the OFMA Membership in attendance. We will also have an absentee ballot for those who are unable to attend and desire to vote. The detailed “ballot” will include both the proposed changes and the reasoning for the proposed changes. This will be sent to each OFMA member at least 30 days prior to the Special Meeting. **NOTE:** Individuals do not need to register to attend this Special Meeting and there will be no charge. However, no CEC’s will be earned for attending the Special Meeting only.

FEMA's independence is aim of Inhofe bill

by: JIM MYERS World Washington Bureau

10/23/2007



WASHINGTON -- U.S. Sen. Jim Inhofe introduced a bill Monday that would make the Federal Emergency Management Agency an independent agency once again and improve its response time to natural disasters in Oklahoma.

"FEMA's integration into the Department of Homeland Security after 9/11 added an extra level of bureaucracy and removed much of the oversight and autonomy that once kept the agency operating efficiently," the Oklahoma Republican said.

"Oklahomans experienced this inefficiency first-hand after a series of winter storms and summer flooding caused extensive damage to our state this year."

The senator's legislation addresses the disagreement over correct dates of events, one of the specific issues blamed for FEMA's slow response recently.

"It simply makes sense that the state would have the most accurate information available regarding the disasters and their causes, so I have also included language in my bill stating that the director should give deference to state documentation when determining disaster incident periods," Inhofe said. "Prior to FEMA's placement under Homeland Security, Oklahoma did not encounter these same bureaucratic delays and other problems in the wake of natural disasters."

Inhofe is not the first lawmaker to propose such legislation. The much-criticized response to Hurricane Katrina fueled efforts to strip FEMA from Homeland Security and return it to independent status.

Last May, Sen. Hillary Rodham Clinton, D-N.Y., reintroduced legislation to restore FEMA to an independent, Cabinet-level agency and require its director to report directly to the president. But others, including such key lawmakers as Sen. Joe Lieberman, the current chairman of the Senate panel with jurisdiction over FEMA, have pushed another approach.

Lieberman, who is identified as an Independent Democrat, last year promoted a bill that would elevate FEMA's status within the Department of Homeland Security but keep it a part of that agency.

Jim Myers (202) 484-1424

jim.myers@tulsaworld.com

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recommendation that Mr. Morris would serve as a non-paid interim ED until the Annual Conference in 2007, at which time it would become official. However, this action was determined to require a modification of the By-Laws. The Board's motion to amend the Bylaws, which was done in compliance with the provisions of the Constitution, to add the position of Executive Director, has been stayed by a motion in the October Board Meeting. The Bylaws were never officially changed. This issue will be addressed at a Special Meeting.

ASFPM, Inc. has recommended that each State Chapter become incorporated. All other State Chapters in Region VI are incorporated or are completing the necessary paperwork to do so. OFMA has done the same and this change will require a modification of one sentence in the Constitution. Incorporation of OFMA reduces the legal liability on the Board of Directors. This issue will be addressed at a Special Meeting.

Accordingly, the OFMA Board will call a Special Meeting, in accordance with the Constitution, to be held at the Spring Technical Workshop between 10:00 AM to 10:30 AM on April 3, 2008, in Ardmore, Oklahoma. At that time the proposed changes discussed above will be voted upon by the OFMA Membership in attendance. We will also have an absentee ballot for those who are unable to attend and desire to vote. The detailed "ballot" will include both the proposed changes and the reasoning for the proposed changes. This will be sent to each OFMA member at least 30 days prior to the Special Meeting. **NOTE:** Individuals do not need to register to attend this Special Meeting and there will be no charge. However, no CEC's will be earned for attending the Special Meeting only.

We appreciate your participation in this process to see that our Constitution and Bylaws do not conflict and address the other issues that have been raised by the membership. If you have questions on any of these issues, please contact your Regional Representative or any Board officer.

Sincerely,

OFMA

W. B. Smith, P.E., CFM

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The recovery summary as of October 16 is as follows:

- 7,776 individuals have registered for Individual Assistance.
- **\$15.3 million** in Individual Assistance has been approved.
- **SBA has approved \$16.3 million** in low-interest disaster loans to Oklahoma residents and businesses.
- 7,017 home inspections have been completed.
- 6,046 individuals have visited the Disaster Recovery Centers (DRC).
- **\$17,657** in disaster unemployment has been approved.

Individual Assistance is available for residents who incurred losses in the severe storms, flooding, and tornadoes which occurred August 18 thru September 12 in the following 15 counties: Blaine, Caddo, Canadian, Cleveland, Comanche, Custer, Grady, Kingfisher, Kiowa, Okfuskee, Oklahoma, Okmulgee, Pottawatomie, Seminole and Stephens. **The deadline to apply for Individual Assistance for disaster losses that occurred during the disaster period of August 18 thru September 12 is October 23.**

Individual Assistance is available for residents who sustained damage due to the severe weather June 10 to July 25, 2007 in the following **39 counties**: Atoka, Blaine, Bryan, Caddo, Canadian, Cleveland, Coal, Comanche, Cotton, Creek, Delaware, Garfield, Garvin, Grady, Kay, Kingfisher, Kiowa, Lincoln, Logan, Marshall, Mayes, McClain, Muskogee, Noble, Nowata, Okfuskee, Oklahoma, Okmulgee, Ottawa, Payne, Pontotoc, Pottawatomie, Pushmataha, Rogers, Seminole, Stephens, Washington, Washita, and Woods. **The deadline to apply for Individual Assistance for disaster losses that occurred June 10 thru July 25 is November 5.**

Disaster victims are urged to register for assistance by calling **1-800-621-FEMA (3362)** or going on-line at www.fema.gov. The **TTY number is 1-800-462-7585** for the speech- or hearing-impaired. The helplines are available 8 a.m. to 6 p.m., Monday-Saturday. Residents and business owners can receive information about SBA disaster loans and help with the application process by calling the **SBA at 1-800-659-2955** or visiting the SBA Web site at www.sba.gov/services/disasterassistance. Applicants should contact FEMA and the SBA to update their information and also provide any change in current mailing addresses.

SBA offers low-interest disaster loans to homeowners, renters, businesses of all sizes and private nonprofit organizations for losses not fully covered by insurance. The SBA may loan up to \$200,000 to repair or replace homes and up to \$40,000 to repair or replace personal property. Up to \$1.5 million is available for uncompensated business disaster losses. For more information on Oklahoma disaster recovery, visit www.fema.gov, www.floodsmart.gov, and www.oem.ok.gov.

FEMA coordinates the federal government's role in preparing for, preventing, mitigating the effects of, responding to, and recovering from all domestic disasters, whether natural or man-made, including acts of terror.

<http://www.fema.gov/news/newsrelease.fema?id=41342>



Question: We are starting to develop GIS in our community? Can we download and use Q3 Flood Data for floodplain determinations?

Answer: No. Digital Q3 Flood Data are not detailed enough for floodplain determinations. The hardcopy FIRM or DFIRM must be used to make official determinations. Q3 Flood Data were originally developed to serve FEMA's needs for disaster response activities, as well as broad-based review for floodplain management, land-use planning, commercial site analysis, insurance target marketing, natural resource/environmental

analyses, and real estate development and targeting.

Question: Why do the Q3 maps seem so inaccurate in many areas?

Answer: These maps are only horizontally controlled to a 1:24,000 scale (7½ minute) quadrangle. They may be viewed at larger scales but will not have the accuracy required for those larger scales.

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

- 2007-2008 Floodplain Management 101 or Map Modernization , the Map Adoption Process, & Advanced Floodplain Management**
 Floodplain Management Class Schedule. Apply online or Contact Rhonda Bowers (405) 530-8800
 January 16, 2008 - Norman OCCE
 February 20, 2008 - Norman OCCE
 March 4-Woodward - High Plains Institute of Technology
 March 6 McAlester - Eastern Oklahoma State College
 March 11 Bartlesville - Tri County Technology Center
 March 13 Lawton - Fairfield Inn And Suites
 March 19, 2008 - Norman OCCE
 April 9, 2008 - Norman OCCE
 May 6, 2008 - Norman OCCE
 May 8, 2008 - Norman OCCE
- OFMA Annual Spring Conference:** April 3, 2008, Ardmore Convention Center, Ardmore, OK, 73402. 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
- FEMA's Annual National Flood Conference:** May 20-23, 2008; Chicago, Illinois. Sponsored by the NFIP; website: www.fema.gov/business/nfip/natl_fldconf.shtm
- 2008 National Hydraulic Engineering Conference:** August 26-29, 2008, Holiday Inn by the Bay, Portland, ME, 04101. Sponsored by the FHWA, MDOT and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' Cold Research Laboratory; website: www.maine.gov/mdot/workshops-conferences-events/workshops-events.php
- OFMA 18th Annual Conference:** September 21-24, 2008, Sheraton Midwest City Hotel at the Reed Conference Center, Midwest City, OK, 73110. Contact: *OFMA, P.O. Box 8101, Tulsa, OK 74101-8101*; website: www.okflood.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.



Integrating Hazard Mitigation into Local Planning

The major question haunting hazard mitigation planning in recent years has been how best to move beyond the serious disconnect that often exists between such planning and other local planning activities. The Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000, which conditions eligibility for hazard mitigation grants from the Federal

Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) upon a state's or local jurisdiction's official participation in an approved local hazard mitigation plan under the act, has moved many communities forward in thinking about such plans. But there remains considerable room for improvement in tying those plans effectively to daily planning activities in those communities.

The American Planning Association (APA) Hazards Planning Research Center will prepare a Planning Advisory Service Report on best practices in integrating hazard mitigation into all forms of local plan making and planning activities. FEMA has contracted with APA for a 30-month study costing \$250,000. FEMA will provide \$206,000 of this total, with the rest provided by APA through the Planning Advisory Service. The project start date was August 1, 2007.

What local planning activities could benefit from better integration of hazard mitigation concerns? The study will examine the following for best practices and developing opportunities:

- Long-range community visioning and goals and objectives activities;
- Plan making of all types:

(Continued on page 10)

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.

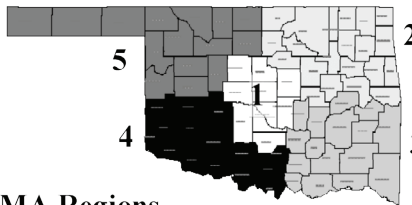
Mission

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

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

to Join

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: _____

Fax: _____

Title: _____

Company/Organization: _____

Work Phone: _____

Address: _____

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
- ___ Research

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 2007 nears an end, I reflect back to our record setting year. The year started with drought, which quickly turned to flooding then ended with our lakes at normal levels. Oklahoma experienced it all this year. Several areas in the State will have record annual rainfall including Oklahoma City with over 53 inches of rain and almost two months remaining in the year.



I asked you to evaluate your communities Floodplain Management program in this summers "BFE". What was the result? Are there ways to improve your program? One way the OWRB try's to help improve your program is through the "Floodplain Management 101" and the "Advanced Floodplain Management" classes we conduct throughout the year. As you know, Oklahoma law requires each community to designate a floodplain administrator and requires that FPA to acquire at least six continuing education credits annually or be a Certified Floodplain Manager (CFM) in good standing. While a majority of FPA's are accredited and/or CFM's, there are many who aren't. With Map Modernization in full swing, many Oklahoma communities will be updating their floodplain management ordinances and regulations. Part of this update will include the accreditation requirement which will then in turn allow the OWRB to enforce the mandate. The reason I bring this up is the November workshop currently has only a handful of people registered. We should average 25-30 attendees at each class to instruct the 378 FPA's throughout the State. You can visit www.owrb.ok.gov and see the class schedule for 2008. Most classes are taught in Norman at the University of Oklahoma however we take to the road in March and provide the workshops in Woodward, McAlester, Bartlesville and Lawton. Please take time to attend these workshops and become accredited...it's the law.

As part of the Map Modernization process, Kay, Creek and Comanche Counties will have their Consultation Coordination Officer's (CCO) meetings in December. This will be the final meeting between the community, the OWRB, FEMA and the study contractor to review the results of the Study. A date will be set after the CCO meeting to begin the 90-day appeal period. Please contact the OWRB for more information on the time and location of these meetings.

(Continued from page 9 - Annual Conference Summary)

- Comprehensive, master, or general plans;
- Sub-area plans, such as specific plans, neighborhood plans, corridor plans, and downtown plans;
- Functional plans, such as plans for sewer, water, transit, housing, and open space;
- Land-use management tools, such as zoning, subdivision, planned unit development, and form-based codes;
- Review and approval of development projects;
- Capital improvements programming, including public investments in infrastructure, public buildings, and facilities.

The Missing Links

In many communities today, planners have either limited involvement and input into hazard mitigation plans or none at all. In some cases, the plans are the exclusive domain of emergency managers, or in small communities there may be no local planning staff. In other cases, planners may not yet have asserted a role in such planning, sometimes for lack of adequate familiarity with the subject matter.

Planners and emergency managers, in particular, must interact and communicate more in planning and implementing hazard mitigation. Establishing this link is essential if hazard mitigation is to be thoroughly integrated into local planning activities. Most hazard mitigation involves some element of land use or other planning activities, such as economic development, transportation, and historic preservation. Planners can provide vital input as well as assemble other vital input during the process of planning for effective hazard mitigation planning. For example, zoning and open space preservation are frequently essential tools in planning for flood mitigation. Establishing appropriate densities relative to slope is often essential in mitigating landslide hazards. There are many other examples.

To learn what communities have already accomplished in integrating hazard mitigation into planning, and how best to share the lessons from their experiences, APA will conduct a survey of best practices in coming months. Watch *interact* and this space for details as the project moves forward, and alert project manager Jim Schwab if your community or consulting firm has valuable information to share in this regard. Please contact the APA and Jim Schwab by email hazards@planning.org if you wish to learn more or have information to share.



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