

The BFE*

* BASE FLOOD ELEVATION

2025 Annual Conference Update

Brandon Claborn PE, CFM - OFMA Conference Co-Chair and Chandler Trotter, EI, CFM - BFE Editor

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

2025 Annual Conference Update	1
Words from the Chair	2
Save the Date	2
DRT Corner	4
From ASFPM - An Emergency Manager's Quick Guide to Floodplain Management	4
Upcoming Trainings from the CRS Webinar Series	4
OFMA Board	8

The 2025 conference at the Reed Center in Midwest City was a standout Annual Conference. We appreciate everyone who contributed- the OFMA Board, speakers, sponsors, and attendees. Each of you play an essential role in making this event possible and improving the quality and member experience year after year. We hope the education sessions were beneficial and that everyone was able to take advantage of networking opportunities!

The conference opened with a ceremony presented by the Midwest City Junior ROTC, followed by welcoming remarks from Midwest City Mayor Matt Dukes. OFMA Chair Jesse Beck delivered an opening statement focused on the connections we have within our communities challenging all of us to recognize the value of our connections and the potential to impact not just our communities but the world! Jesse extended a warm welcome to all fall conference attendees.

Monday's keynote session highlighted the critical role of flood warning systems in storm preparedness and post-event model validation, presented by David Key of ESP Associates and Brandon Claborn of WSB. Chad Berginnis then provided a comprehensive update from ASFPM, including upcoming training opportunities and available resources. Jonathan Phillips shared the latest Oklahoma NFIP Program Report, and David Williams concluded the morning plenary with an update from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

Monday afternoon included fourteen different presentations in three tracts on topics including Why Developments Flood, NOAA Atlas 15 and Temporal rainfall Distributions, and Rub-a-Dub-Dub: Detention with a Tub. Navigating Floodplain and Drainage Challenges for Transportation Projects, Collaboration and Community Engagement in Moffet, and Stormwater Management for Design Engineers. Impacting Lives by Hard Armoring against Extreme Weather Events, Supporting Community Resilience: Leveraging USACE FPMS Technical Services for Floodplain Management, and Advancing Flood Risk Mapping in Oklahoma: A 2D BLE Modeling Approach through FEMA CTP Program. Floodplain Map Revisions and Hydraulic Modeling: Common Mistakes and Steps to Avoid, Stormwater Utilities: Getting off the Funding Roller Coaster, Back to Basics in a Time of Changing Funding, From Storm to Impact: Using 2D Modeling to Understand the July 2025 Texas Flood, and an MS4 Round Table Discussion.

To cap off the first full day of the conference the new members and young professionals social was hosted by Bill Smith and Freese & Nichols. This was followed with the annual Vendor Social hosted by WSB with food sponsored by OFMA. Attendees enjoyed bowling, arcade games, laser tag, and karaoke.

Tuesday began early with OFMA Committee meetings, followed by Regional Representatives Meetings and an update from OEM's Director, Annie Vest.

Continued on Page 3



Words from the Chair

Kenny Schwab PE, SE, CFM | Chair
Assistant City Manager | City of Broken Arrow

Wow! What another great conference this past fall! Incredible turn out. Almost 300 people attended. A lot of participation from various backgrounds. Excellent speakers covering great topics. Jesse Beck did an outstanding job! Thank you, Jesse. I look forward to next year's conference.

Now that the conference is over, I am excited to report that our annual strategic retreat in October was extremely productive. We discussed a lot of topics and strategies on what and how OFMA should move forward in accordance with our vision and mission. One of the most important discussion points is the Leadership Pipeline.

OFMA has been such an incredible organization for 35 years now! We have stood on the work and efforts of our founders and those early pioneers since our beginning. They built an incredible organization that we all have enjoyed the benefits from through those years. We know, just like any corporation, that the power of the organization is you! It's the membership of that organization. As a member, you empower this organization to be a voice that encourages and supports flood-safe and stormwater-effective development, as well as provides effective flood and stormwater mitigation. We promote sound floodplain and stormwater management practices, including the natural and cultural benefits of the

floodplain and more effective and efficient reduction of stormwater impacts due to development. You empower this organization to be a light to others. Without your involvement, we are nothing. I encourage everyone in this organization to find a way to get involved. In truth, we need you!

Likewise, the strength of the organization is its leadership. The leaders help grow the power of the members and help guide us as one united voice. We have had a great history of tremendous leadership. We need that history to continue into our future. The Board is investigating and examining ways to expand the leadership opportunities within the organization. I believe there are new and exciting opportunities for others within this organization. Leadership takes you!

As a Board, we will bring some Constitutional amendments before the membership soon that is intended to provide more opportunities to meet a growing membership. Thank you for your participation. I look forward to a great year and a wonderful year.

Keep doing what you do to keep your community and this state safe!!

Save the Date

Spring Technical Workshop

April 7, 2026

River Spirit Casino Resort,
8330 Riverside Pkwy, Tulsa, OK 74137



Continued from Page 1

Our 2025-2026 Regional Representatives are:

- Region 1 — Mike Kimbro PE, CFM, ODOT
- Region 2 — Patrick Wilson PE, CFM, City of Broken Arrow
- Region 3 — Dennis Yochum, LeFlore County
- Region 4 — Johnny Barron PE, CFM, City of Altus
- Region 5 — Jacob Price PE, CFM, Garfield County

The morning continued with nine presentations on three tracks offered before lunch. The topics included: Turbulent Waters: Navigating through FEMA Violations, Empowering Communities through GIS: Free Tools for Flood Analysis and Planning, and Local Floodplain management and FEMA. The James River Walk Bank Stabilization Evaluation, Exploring Midwest City's Adventures in Stormwater Master Planning, and Section 1206 Best Practices: Lessons Learned from Hurricanes Helene and Milton. Transforming Oklahoma's Hazard Mitigation Program: A New Era of Effectiveness and Transparency, Hazard Mitigation Planning at the Local Level - Local Planning Guidance for Local Officials, and Grants 2025: The Current HMA Landscape for FEMA HM Funding.

Jesse Beck conducted our business lunch and asked attendees to get creative with a Lego activity. The afternoon continued with five more presentations. Basic Floodplain Management, When the Design Did Not Work: Funding Public-Private Stormwater Projects, and Mitigation\Emergency Management Round Table. Basic Floodplain Management and Addressing Stormwater Runoff Issues from Construction Activity. Morgan Lozoya and WSB hosted Minute to Win It, which was won by Team Garver.

Tuesday evening was our annual awards banquet, emceed by Brandon Claborn. OFMA's awards are an important way to celebrate leadership, dedication, and growth of our members and others that are critical to our roles in floodplain management. The following individuals were recognized at the banquet:

Calendar Contest Winners

1st Place – Skylar Girty, Maryetta
2nd Place – Zuri Rossman, MacArthur Elementary
3rd Place – Paisley Mote, Bridge Creek Intermediate
Honorable Mention – Aiyana Woods, Bridge Creek Intermediate

Scholarship Winners

Joe Lozoya- Oklahoma School of Science and Math

Outstanding Recognition Award

Lucky Airehrour, CFM- Tulsa County
Kerrick Edenborough, CFM- Tulsa County
John Feary- City of Claremore
Chandler Trotter, EI, CFM- WSB
Rev. W.B. Smith, PE, CFM- HISINC

J. Gavin Brady Floodplain Manager of the Year Award

Tonde Christian- Texas County

W. Kenneth Morris Honorary Lifetime Member Award

Tony Robinson- FEMA

R.D. Flanagan Gold Project Award

Town of Moffet- Property Acquisition; Gold Project Award
City of Norman – Bishop Creek Watershed Basin Plan;
Platinum Project Award

Chairperson's Award

Michael Galloway, CFM- Custer County

Public Official of the Year

Mayor John Kelley – City of Barnsdall

Ben Frizzel Media Award

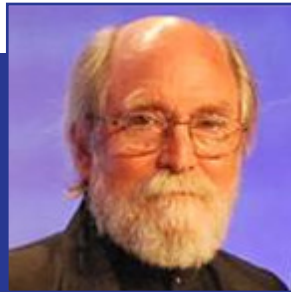
Graham Dowers and Jordan Fremstad- News 9

Service Recognition

Jesse Beck, EI, CFM- Ponca City

Oklahoma Emergency Management's David Ball opened Wednesday with a thought-provoking presentation on OK-TF1's Dual Disasters and What They Teach The presentation dove into response during the floods in North Carolina and Texas. This was followed by Rain, Trash and Trouble: Understanding Landfill Liquids and Why It Matters given by Steve Linehan, PE. Nicole McGavok from NWS closed Wednesday morning's session with a presentation on National Weather Service Flood Forecasting and Warning Services.

Thanks again to all who participated. We look forward to seeing you at the Osage Casino Hotel in Tulsa in 2026. If you have suggestions that will improve future conferences, please reach out to your regional representative, myself or any of our board members.



OFMA DRT Corner

Rev. W. B. "Bill" Smith, PE, CFM | OFMA DRT Coordinator

Let's take a little quiz this month – just to keep you on your toes!! We did this 5 Years ago and we have a number of new FPAs. Let's try it again.

1. What are the 3 primary tools in the FPA Tool Box?
2. What are two inexpensive and timely mitigation measures a community can do to reduce spring flooding? When would you do them?
3. Does a community have to permit activities in the floodplain for public work projects?
4. If an FPA has a CLOMR or LOMR Application submitted for review, are they required to review and sign off? If they don't know how to evaluate the H/H information what should they do?
5. Does the FPA sign off on a LOMA? When does the FPA know that a LOMA has been submitted and issued?
6. Are LOMA's valid indefinitely?
7. Do you have a Pre-Disaster Plan for the Community? Has your community Pre-signed with the OFMA DRT for response support?
8. What can the FPA do to assist the Emergency Manager during a disaster?
9. If the FPA is the EM, does that person have different duties during a flood event?
10. When does Substantial Damage (SD) become Substantial Improvement (SI)?

Answers on Page 5

From ASFPM - An Emergency Manager's Quick Guide to Floodplain Management

The Association of State Floodplain Managers (ASFPM) and the National Emergency Management Association (NEMA) have released "**An Emergency Manager's Quick Guide to Floodplain Management**". According to these agencies, the guide can be used by emergency managers to navigate floodplain management from interpreting floodplain maps and regulations to identifying and implementing flood mitigation measures. The guide also includes a guide to partnering with local and state floodplain administrators who play an essential role in the recovery process.

Read more and download the guide here: [New Guide Helps Emergency Managers Lead Smart Flood Recovery](#)

Upcoming Trainings from the CRS Webinar Series Classes are at 12:00 PM Central

Date	Topic
December 9	2025 CRS Coordinator's Manual: Summary of Changes
December 10	Preparing for a Verification Visit

Visit: [Training & Videos - CRSresources](#)

Continued from Page 4

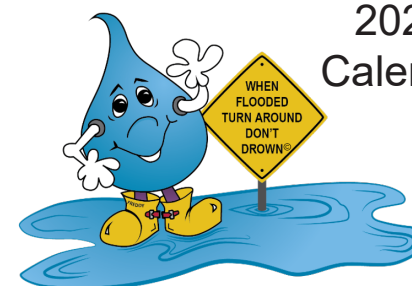
Answers:

1. Ordinance, FIRM Panels, and Flood Insurance Study
2. Cleanout Ditches and Culverts during the "dry" winter months
3. Yes
4. Yes. Retain a consultant to review
5. They can, but it is not required. When FEMA issues the LOMA
6. LOMAs have to be revalidated during a map revision process. It is the FPAs responsibility to assure they are revalidated.
7. You should and you can – just email wbsmith@hisinc.us and a Sample Resolution and Sample Letter will be provided.
8. Provide Floodplain information (limits and elevations), emergency access routes, possible evacuation needs of individuals in the SFHA, assist with post disaster damage assessments
9. Yes, the EM assesses damages for the Governor's proclamation of a State Disaster and request for Federal Disaster. The FPA assesses the same damages for SD/SI, issues permits for repairs and determines compliance.
10. When SD is greater than 50% of the Fair Market Value of the structure.

Thank you to our Corporate Partners!

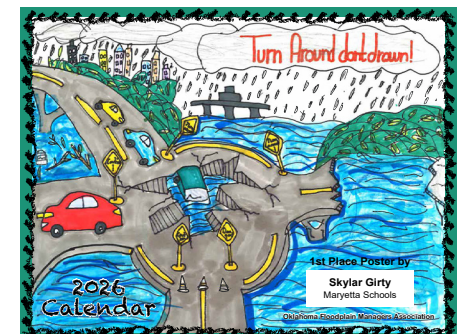


If you are interested in partnering with us please contact
Carolyn Schultz at cschultz@cimtel.net



We Still Have a Few Boxes of the
2026 Turn Around Don't Drown
Calendars Are Available for Pickup

WSB
416 S Utica, Tulsa, OK 74104
Call or come by to get yours!
918.698.6699



Funding Acknowledgment

Funds to produce The BFE come in part from the National Flood Insurance Program and State Support Services Element of the Community Assistance Program, administered by the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

The Oklahoma Floodplain Managers Association publishes the BFE, Inc. 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 BFE | PO Box 8101 | Tulsa, OK 74101

Chair

Kenneth D. Schwab PE, SE, CFM
City of Broken Arrow
485 N. Poplar Avenue
Broken Arrow, OK 74012
918-259-2400
kschwab@brokenarrowok.gov

Region I Representative

Michael Kimbro PE, CFM
ODOT
200 NE 21st Street
Oklahoma City, OK 73105
405.522.0612
mkimbrow@odot.org

Region V Representative

Jacob Price
Garfield County
216 West Oxford
Enid, OK 73701
580.242.6013
jprice@garfieldok.com

Ex Officio

Julie Cunningham
Executive Director
OWRB
3800 N. Classen Blvd.
Oklahoma City, OK 73118
405.530.8800
julie.cunningham@owrb.ok.gov

Vice Chair

Zack Henson, CPSWQ, CFM
City of Stillwater
723 S. Lewis Street
Stillwater, OK 74074
405.533.8436
zack.henson@stillwaterok.gov

Region II Representative

Patrick Wilson PE, CFM
City of Broken Arrow
485 N Poplar Ave
Broken Arrow, OK 74012
918.259.7000
Pwilson@brokenarrowok.gov

State NFIP Coordinator

Jonathan Phillips CFM
OWRB
3800 North Classen Blvd
Oklahoma City, OK 73118
405.530.8800
jon.phillips@owrb.ok.gov

Honorary Board Member

Ken Morris
OWRB—Retired
5400 E. Tecumseh Road
Norman, OK 73026
405.530.8861
kensbbd@gmail.com

Secretary

Rachael Cooper PE, CFM
Cross Timber Consulting
2223 E Skelly Dr, Ste 10
Tulsa, OK 74105
918.348.9916
rachael.cooper@crosstimbersconsulting.com

Region III Representative

Dennis Yochum
LeFlore County EM
1215 South Broadway
Poteau, OK 74953
918.635.3610
emlcdirector@gmail.com

Past Chair

Jesse Beck EI, CFM
City of Ponca City
516 East Grand
Ponca City, OK 74601
580.767.0383
beckje@poncacityok.gov

Honorary Board Member

Ronald D. Flanagan CFM
R.D. Flanagan & Associates
3015 E. Skelly Drive
No. 270
Tulsa, OK 74105
918.749.2696
rdflanagan@rdflanagan.com

Treasurer

Carolyn Schultz, CFM
Corps of Engineers—Retired
3527 S. 401st W. Ave.
Mannford, OK 74044
918.906.3922
cschultz@cimtel.net

Region IV Representative

Johnny A. Barron PE, CFM
City of Altus
509 S. Main
Altus, OK 73521
580.481.3518
jbarron@altusok.gov

PDCC Chair / Honorary Board Member

Joseph Remondini PE, CFM
Corps of Engineers—Retired
3225 S. Detroit
Tulsa, OK 74105
918.361.8636
jremondini@aol.com

BFE Editor

Chandler Trotter EI, CFM
WSB LLC
1437 S. Boulder Ave.
No. 1550
Tulsa, OK 74119
918.324.2351
chandler.trotter@wsbeng.com