



Floodplain Management Committee

Meeting Minutes

January 23, 2025 1:30 to 2:30 PM

- 1) MHFD News – Christin MHFD
  - a) FFRMS
    - i) HUD 2ft rule, structures in 1% need to be 2ft about BFE to get a loan. Need to be elevated
    - ii) Question – should MHFD change their ordinance to 2 ft?
      1. Will have conversations with communities.
      2. Is it worth to change it to 2ft?
    - iii) Laura - FFRMS was repealed. Not federally mandated now. FEMA and HUD have it as part of their rules so they will roll with it, but it is not a mandate.
    - iv) CWCB is not planning to change the State ordinance
    - v) City of Arvada has 2ft. and 1ft for industrial and businesses.
    - vi) Jeremy – mixed opinions. Does the district think it's worth the trouble? Issues with this with urban camping. Chose not to adopt language (Denver).
    - vii) Thoughts are to not change the MHFD ordinance and stay consistent with the State (CWCB)
  - b) CLOMR/LOMR Survey
    - i) To send out a survey to FPMs in the district.
    - ii) Time? Cost? How can the process be better?
  - c) Annual Flood Risk Brochures
    - i) CRS credit
    - ii) Doing it again this year
    - iii) Propose a small working group of people to rethink this and still give CRS credit
  - d) Executive Orders – what we do know
    - i) Waiting to see how they impact
    - ii) NFIP is operating as expected. LOMR review program still intact
    - iii) Department of Homeland Security has terminated advisory committees. Including TMAC!
    - iv) Some federal projects paused. Uncertainty in Region 8. Still learning about future impacts.
  - e) BRIC
    - i) Funding/grant opportunities for Colorado for many activities including building code activities
    - ii) Flood mitigation assistance grant
    - iii) DHSEM administers these for CO
- 2) Recent Federal News
  - a) ASFPM CTP Webinar – Future Conditions Flood Mapping – webinars offered quarterly – Monica COL

**OFFICERS**

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| Chair<br><b>Danny Elsner, PE, CFM</b><br>Dewberry   | Vice Chair<br><b>Jennifer Winters, PE, CFM</b><br>Mile High Flood District<br>Kimley-Horn                                | Secretary<br><b>Jeremy Deischer, PE</b>   | Treasurer<br><b>Frans Lambrechtsen, PE, CFM</b><br>ICON Engineering, Inc.   |
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## COLORADO ASSOCIATION OF STORMWATER AND FLOODPLAIN MANAGERS

12575 W. Bayaud Ave

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- i) Will post slides on our committee page when received.
- ii) TMAC 2023 update
  - 1. Propose to modify the definition of the SFHA
    - (a) Flood Prone Areas – change confidence limits from 50% to 95% + allowable rise (1/2 ft in CO) + other planned and possible increases
    - (b) Mandatory Purchase areas – use future conditions for floodplain management
  - 2. Other recommendations discussed
  - 3. None have been adopted by FEMA yet
- b) NOAA Atlas 15
  - 1. Pilot Study recently released (9/26/24) includes Montana, Idaho and Wyoming
  - 2. Atlas 15 final in 2027
  - 3. [Water.noaa.gov/about/atlast15/pilotvisualizationpage](http://Water.noaa.gov/about/atlast15/pilotvisualizationpage) – comments due by January 31, 2025
  - 4. How does the NOAA Atlas 15 Pilot differ from the recently released NOAA Atlas 14 Volume 12 study? The NOAA Atlas 15 Pilot study only covers the state of Montana, whereas the NOAA Atlas 14, Volume 12 study spans the states of Montana, Idaho, and Wyoming. Moreover, the NOAA Atlas 15 Pilot implements nonstationary statistical methods and uses climate model information to project precipitation frequency estimates into the future. In contrast, the NOAA Atlas 14, Volume 12 study assumes a stationary climate when deriving precipitation frequency estimates. Though NOAA is working to implement NOAA Atlas 15, the NOAA Atlas 14 studies (Volumes 1 - 12) are the existing national standard and authoritative source for precipitation frequency information today.
  - 5. Kevin H will review the pilot study and let us know his thoughts at our next meeting.
- ii) Also updating NOAA's extreme precipitation guidance for future conditions PMP
  - (a) New report released on June 18, 2024, "National Academies – Modernizing PMP Estimation"
  - (b) Includes new definition of PMP
- c) Insurance premiums – Connor
  - i) Effective December 31, 2024 – FEMA allows NFIP policyholders to pay premiums monthly, rather than in annual lump sum
  - ii) Flood Insurance Premium Estimation tool is now available
  - iii) Are communities experiencing increases in insurance? Or trouble getting insurance?
  - iv) Diana Herrera retired in December 2024
    - 1. Consultant contact is Erin May (insurance) [erin.may@associates.fema.dhs.gov](mailto:erin.may@associates.fema.dhs.gov)
    - 2. Will be hiring a R8 replacement
    - 3. We will try to get an update before our next meeting
- d) CRS Redesign update – Kerry ISO
  - i) ISO FEMA meeting (February) – update us at our next meeting
  - ii) Contract is still in operation
  - iii) Contacting communities for this year's cycle

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1. Seven communities, Adams County, City of Alamosa, City of Fort Collins, City of Golden, Mesa County, City of Vail, City of Westminster
2. CRS submit to upload documentation
- e) Other Federal updates? – Laura Stahnke
  - i) Still navigating changes
  - ii) Reach out about executive orders
  - iii) Kelly - CWCB and MHFD are processing the LOMRs in the order in which they were received... is my understanding. (This is different than the panels that were not updated.)
  - iv) Christin - what about the EO mandating Federal employees return to office 40 hours a week. Is that having any impact on our Region VIII Partners? It is impacting our team. Not enough space in office to have everyone in full time.
  - v) Laura is now under Risk Map
  - vi) There is a federal hiring freeze but some of their positions are still open probably because they are under safety programs
  - vii) Matt Buddie is the new/returning Floodplain Management liaison for Region 8
  - viii) SRP (Special Review Process?) update (probably mostly applies to LOMRs in Boulder County that are not effective yet because they were based on the Preliminary FIRMs) – there is a meeting next week with HQ on details
  - ix)
- 3) State News – Doug CWCB
  - a) NFIP is up and running
  - b) Change in staff – Willem has left for FEMA Region 8. Have not posted his position
  - c) CWCB and FEMA partnering on 273 workshop. Plan to host the 273 class (Managing Floodplain Development Through the NFIP) with CWCB in April/early May
    - i) Working on a location
    - ii) Looks like the class will be the week of April 21, 2025
- 4) Future meetings, webinars, classes, or field trips – ALL
  - a) RSVP field trip in Longmont also in the Spring – will coordinate with O&T Committee on dates
  - b) On-Demand Courses from ASFPM (CFM Exam Study, PM, and Disaster Prep)
    - i) Connor will take the CFM Prep class to see what they present and what they say about group exams
  - c) Online course – Spanish for professionals – geared towards being functional with Spanish quickly. \$300 class. 8 weeks. 2 hours a week.  
<https://continuingeducation.frontrange.edu/frontrange/course/course.aspx?catId=8>
  - d) Other?

Final thoughts – since there is so much uncertainty in what will happen from the change in administration (only been 3 days) we will likely have another meeting soonish to discuss any other changes that may affect this group.

Adjourned at approximately 2:28pm.

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