



**Colorado Association of Stormwater & Floodplain Managers
GENERAL MEETING MINUTES**

Held at Sheraton Steamboat Springs Hotel
July 13, 2012

Meeting Attendees

Officers:

Chair – Dave Bennetts, UDFCD
Vice Chair – Brian Varrella, City of Fort Collins
Secretary – Shea Thomas, UDFCD
Treasurer – Deb Ohlinger, Olsson
Metro Representative – Robert Krehbiel, Matrix Design Group
NW Region Representative – Betsy Suerth, Garfield County

Committee Chairs:

Website – Stuart Gardner, CDOT

Members:

Kevin Houck, CWCB
Brian Murphy, CDM Smith

The following is a summary of the interactions, comments and items discussed. While this summary is not intended to represent a complete or comprehensive account of the meeting, it is intended to reflect the salient points raised and issues presented for further consideration. Should the attendees believe that anything might be misrepresented or misleading, please bring this to the attention of Shea Thomas, CASFM Secretary.

1) Call to Order

Dave Bennetts called the meeting to order. A quorum of officers and regional representatives was present

2) Secretary's Report

Draft minutes from the May 10, 2012 General Membership meeting at Sandstone Ranch in Longmont were distributed and reviewed. A motion was passed unanimously to approve the minutes without amendment.

3) Treasurer's Report

Deb Ohlinger provided a summary of expenses and revenues to date, which was distributed to members present. As of July 11, 2012, there was \$35,952.27 held in the checking account and \$21,068.83 in the savings account. The Workshops line item in the Expenses portion of the budget is over by \$13,466.08, but the corresponding item in the Revenues portion is also over by \$12,717.78 so it is not a concern. The remainder of the expenses and revenues for the year are in line with the budget.

The Treasurer's report was unanimously approved by a motion and a vote.

Deb initiated a discussion about the possibility of moving the savings account to a CD. The interest rate for CDs are currently higher than for savings accounts and CASFM

tends to maintain a substantial balance in the savings account. The discussion resulted in the decision to leave it in a savings account since CD rates have recently declined and it's easier to manage and use the funds if necessary from a savings account.

4) Regional Representatives' Reports

- a) **Denver Metro** – Robert Krehbiel provided a summary of the last social, which was held on May 15th at Champps in Littleton. Troy Thompson of ERC presented on the South Platte River restoration efforts downstream of Chatfield dam. Garth Englund with Douglas County has suggested a future presentation about the Hayman Fire burn area and treatment to prevent flood damage that has taken place since the fire. Dave Bennetts offered to give a presentation of recent improvements at Babi Yar Park in southeast Denver.
- b) **Northeast Region** – Mark Kempton was not in attendance and did not submit a report.
- c) **Southeast Region** – Michael Augenstein was not in attendance and did not submit a report.
- d) **Northwest Region** – Betsy Suerth reported that the erosion control workshop held in May was a success with over 40 people in attendance. There are opportunities for some smaller field trips for a limited number of attendees, including the Pine Ridge Fire burn area mitigation efforts.
- e) **Southwest Region** – Sam Samuelson was not in attendance and did not submit a report.

5) Committee Reports

- a) **Floodplain/CFM** – Kallie Bauer was not in attendance and did not submit a report.
- b) **Stormwater Quality** – Holly Piza was not in attendance but submitted a report. The stormwater quality field trip provided 45 attendees with the opportunity to view and discuss a number of different constructed wetland ponds from Denver to Loveland. Project representatives were present at every site to present the project and answer any questions. The full agenda, related materials and photos are posted on the CASFM website. Attendees that are Certified Floodplain Managers starting the tour in Denver or Loveland obtained four or three CEUs, respectively. This was the first time registration was handled through the CASFM website and it was deemed a success. The website is also being utilized for the CASFM Lunch and Learn Registration. The next Lunch and Learn on inlet design is scheduled for July 18th.
- c) **Outreach** – Ken Cecil was not in attendance and did not submit a report.
- d) **Scholarship** – Morgan McDermott was not in attendance but submitted a report stating there are no new updates since the last meeting.
- e) **Membership** – Kevin Gingery was not in attendance but submitted a report. The 2012 CASFM membership headcount currently stands at 670 folks.
- f) **Training** – Chris Carlson was not in attendance and did not submit a report.
- g) **Website** – Stuart Gardner reported that the new email distribution system is working well.
- h) **Community Rating System** – Marsha Hilmes-Robinson was not in attendance but submitted a report. The committee has been providing comments on the CRS Manual update throughout the update process. The CRS Task Force has done an excellent job of being receptive to community input and has thoroughly discussed comments the committee has submitted, even when having differing opinions. One issue that is still of concern is related to Dam Safety. One of the requirements to obtain a Class 4 rating is that a description, including a map, of areas affected by potential dam failure inundation

be submitted along with an inventory of buildings and critical facilities that would be impacted. In recent years these maps have not been released to floodplain management officials. Homeland Security has been cited as a reason for not releasing this information. The key issue is not the objectives of the dam safety activity; it is that the information is considered a prerequisite for obtaining a CRS Class 4 rating. If it is impossible to achieve due to other government objectives, it should not be used as a prerequisite for a specific CRS class. The committee has previously commented on this issue and Barb Fitzpatrick from FEMA has advocated on their behalf. The CRS revisions are substantial and will require a great deal of work by communities to implement. There may be some communities that no longer continue in the CRS or accept not achieving as high of a CRS rating due to the documentation required to prove compliance. Many Colorado communities will probably be able to obtain some additional points due to the new manual providing more emphasis related to preservation of open space and natural and beneficial functions of the floodplain.

- i) **Annual Conference** – Robert Krehbiel reported that the conference team met one hour prior to the general membership meeting to tour the conference facilities. The Call for Registration needs to go out as soon as possible. Entertainment will be provided at The Tugboat Bar and Grill on Thursday night following the awards dinner. ICON is the platinum sponsor; the conference committee will talk to them about providing a 1.5 GB flash drive to conference attendees.

The field trips were discussed. Craig Robinson, director of Open Space for the City of Steamboat Springs, attended the meeting to discuss current stream stabilization measures planned and under construction within the City that may be opportunities for a walking field trip. Brian Murphy will coordinate with Craig and also with Joel McGuire, who has been speaking with CDOW, to put together one field trip with multiple stops. The fly fishing option has been eliminated from the field trip.

- 6) **ASFPM Report** – Brain Varrella and Dave Bennetts attended the ASFPM annual conference in San Antonio. Brian suggested submitting CASFM for the Outstanding Chapter award and will put together a resume.

7) Other Business

- a) **Update Logo** – CASFM Board members were presented with two final options of the new logo, and one was chosen. The new logo will be used on all paraphernalia at the upcoming conference.
- b) **Arid Regions Conference** – Dave Bennetts has been contacted by the organizer of the ASFPM Arid Regions Conference, which will be held at the Fort McDowell Resort in Scottsdale, Arizona in October, 2013. They are requesting participation from each of the state/regional organizations in order to get a good cross section of floodplain management professionals that would have an interest in Arid Regions topics. Dave is soliciting CASFM volunteers to participate in that conference.
- c) **Tax Status Update** – Dave Bennetts submitted the tax status change application, waited 9 months to get in the IRS's queue, received a response, and sent a 27-page letter answering questions in the response. The ball is now in the IRS's court.
- d) **High Park Fire** – Brian Varella mentioned that FEMA is waiving the 30-day waiting period for flood insurance for people in the burn area of the High Park fire.
- e) **Disaster Relief** – Kevin Houck suggested using funds from the Disaster Relief line item in the budget to help with wildfire recovery and flood prevention. Kevin will research funds available and recommend one to which CASFM would contribute the full \$2,500 available

in the budget. This suggestion will be discussed at the general membership meeting at the annual conference and put to a vote.

- f) **Training** – Jamie Prochno with CWCB is providing training in Grand Junction on August 29th. She will send out an email blast to CASFM membership and use the CASFM registration process for the workshop.

8) **Adjourn**

- a) **Next General Membership Meeting;**

Date + Time: Thursday, September 27, 2012, 7:30 AM

Location: Sheraton Steamboat Springs, Annual Conference

- b) **Move to adjourn** – Motion and second. Meeting adjourned by the Chair.

NAME	ORGANIZATION	EMAIL
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