

VFMA BOARD MEETING MINUTES

MARCH 10, 2015

DOUBLETREE CONFERENCE CENTER

1021 KOGER CENTER BLVD

RICHMOND, VIRGINIA 23235

Present:

Don Rissmeyer	Dana Leinberger	Jeff Smith
Tariq Makhdoom	Mark Slauter	Kenneth Somerset
Dave Gunn	Jim Rakestraw	Dave Preusch
Charley Banks	John Paine	Doug Moseley
Dave Powers	Nabil Ghalayini	Kevin Utt

President Rissmeyer called the meeting to order at 7:15 a.m. and passed out meeting agendas. (Copy attached).

Membership -

Individual membership is still \$25.00; Corporate membership is \$150.00 with a 7th complimentary membership added to the corporate package. Corporate member logos and web links still need to be added to the website for 2015 corporate members.

Clarification for those attending the Fall Workshop as speakers and presenters not being given a VFMA membership additionally, needs to be addressed for future events. There has been some confusion this year with those not paying to attend the workshop.

An inquiry was made by Ms. Alecia Carr as to the forming of an ASFPM chapter in the Washington D.C. area. President Rissmeyer encouraged here to join either the Va. or Md. Chapters first, and then to evaluate the need for a new chapter in relation to those existing chapters. President Rissmeyer suggested that parties in the D.C. area be offered space in the newsletter for regional issues. He also mentioned partnering with the Northern Virginia CRS workshop group in issues of interest in DC.

Mr. Scott Blossom stated that there are approximately 110 members, with some joining during the conference proceedings, requiring continued membership updates. The membership drive is still underway.

Mr. Blossom is also working with association builders to improve the membership list.

Communication -

President Rissmeyer will continue to spotlight our corporate members in the newsletters if desired by them, and will offer them the opportunity to send information for the newsletters

We are entering the 3rd contract with Association Builders, we have a good relationship, get 6 newsletters per year, good web site maintenance, and rates are still the same. The plan is to stick with Association Builders for the coming year.

Advised by ASFPM that the current website needs to be revised to include information on CRS program, and a link added to ASFPM to remain compliant. They also want updated information on the current leadership team. Don will work with Association Builders to update the web page, members list, etc. as requested to remain compliant.

Approval for a UPS Store-based P.O. box (in Virginia Beach) specifically for the use of VFMA was approved this past year, but Dave Preusch is still working on getting the P.O. Box setup. Association builders will collect the mail and forward it to the appropriate VFMA board members. Cost for the UPS Store is \$190.00 per year. Cost in the Association Builders contract should be minimal for this service. Don Rissmeyer's office will continue to collect the mail until we switch to the P.O. Box.

Currently, Association Builders offers limited support with the fall workshop. President Rissmeyer indicated that if we decide to hold additional workshops, additional support from Association Builders might be necessary.

President Rissmeyer and Vice President, Tariq Makhdoom will do a conference call to discuss the entire contract with, services currently offered and additional possible services and assistance from Association Builders, prior to setting up the 2015-16 contract year.

The Wards Flood model has had good use the past year and is available for public outreach if desired. It was suggested that a history of when and where it has been used, should be added to the web site as a way to showcase it and the services the VFMA offers.

Training –

Don Rissmeyer attended the VLWA board meeting in December to discuss the 2015 conference proceedings and VFMA program, as well as the VLWA MOU.

30 abstracts were received for the 2015 conference, 6 more than were required for VFMA. VLWA gratefully included them into an expanded program at the conference.

Mr. Jeff Smith discussed working with VLWA next year on putting together a program which will offer a more direct benefit to both VLWA and VFMA. He noted:

1. Abstract submissions should go to a single location, and then be routed to VFMA or VLWA based on the topic of the presentation. This will avoid the problems associated with people submitting papers to the wrong organization based on topic.
2. Mark Slauter suggested that the amount of time being provided each presenter be extended to so that the information being presented is not rushed. It was noted that some VLWA sessions included only 3 presenters this year.

Motion was made and accepted to revise the agenda as presented by removing Item C.II. There are no plans for a CFM training class in Abingdon at this time. Charley Banks said however that DCR is looking to possibly conduct a CFM training course in the NoVA region, in the December – February 2015-2016 time frame.

VFMA will post CFM course information when it's provided by Charley Banks (DCR). Charley also noted that a CFM can proctor a CFM exam, and that no classwork is needed in order to take the CFM test, however the classes help to prepare for the test when they are attended.

President Rissmeyer also asked that should anyone have inquiries from people wishing to become CFM's to contact him, so that he can offer information and assistance in the meantime. Tariq Makhdoom will also check into the use of Dewberry office space for possible hosting on line- or in-person CFM training opportunities

Don Rissmeyer stated that VFMA should reach out to and work harder to build relationships with the Northern Va. CRS Workgroup in the coming years, similar to the growing relationship with the Coastal VA CRS Workgroup (formerly the Hampton Roads CRS Workgroup).

The VFMA Fall Workshop in Spotsylvania was a big success and was heavily attended (100 approx.). Mr. Jim Rakestraw offered to continue working on the event with any VFMA board members from the Fredericksburg region, and suggested that the same location and time frame be used for the VFMA Fall Workshop in Spotsylvania in 2015. All agreed!

Mr. Dana Leinberger asked that consideration be given to holding a Hampton Roads Fall Workshop. He offered to work on the project as the conference chair. This was discussed with the emphasis being on coastal flooding and related issues. Discussion was held and the topic

will be explored further through an upcoming conference call focused on fall workshop planning and kickoff meeting.

We also discussed conducting a workshop in the southwest part of the state however nobody offered to lead this effort. This can be brought back for additional discussion when additional information is gathered as well as having a champion to lead this event.

New Business –

Offering of VFMA scholarships and awards was discussed:

- Assisting with the Dam Safety Awards currently offered by VLWA was discussed.
- Establishing a CRS Community of the Year, Floodplain Manager of the Year and a specific donation to a school of higher learning and VFMA service awards was also discussed.
- It was mentioned that VFMA should focus scholarships on engineers since they aren't getting VLWA scholarships in recent years.
- In discussing dollar amounts for scholarships and awards a \$7,000 annual budget was mentioned however others felt that 3-years of operating expenses should be held in reserve funds, prior to funding a scholarship/awards program.

A committee with a separate chairperson with by-laws in place was recommended by Don Rissmeyer, in order to start any type of award or scholarship program for VFMA.

Creating a reserve fund for the Wards Flood Model, repair, upkeep and potential replacement when necessary was also suggested by Don Rissmeyer as part of new business.

ASFPM sent a request for support to the GA chapter (GAFM) for events they will be hosting. Decision was made to not support the request made through ASFPM since the email correspondence was a little unclear. It was also discussed that an annual donation to the ASFPM Foundation would be a more appropriate request from ASFPM for our chapter to donate.

Reports –

Vice President Report – appreciation to Jim Rakestraw for the work he has continued to do for the Fall Workshops.

Treasurer's Report – Mr. David Preusch presented a financial report for the year (copy attached) showing the VFMA in sound financial shape, with growing assets.

Secretary's Report – everything in good shape. Questions on minutes, please contact Mr. Ken Somerset

Membership Report – working on continuing to grow membership within the state and various organizations. Goal for VFMA is 150 members; we were at 110 at the time of meeting.

Gathering a list of all CFM's in Va., and using that as a point of contact for membership outreach suggested. Working with Charley Banks to obtain a list of the contact people with each NFIP Community in Virginia was also suggested, as possible VFMA members.

Elections –

Mr. John Paine suggested that the list of Board members and when their term expires be included on the web page, with our contact information.

The following were then nominated and elected for the following Board positions:

Mr. Dave Preusch	At Large Director
Mr. Don Rissmeyer	At Large Director
Mr. Doug Moseley	At Large Director
Mr. Dave Powers	At Large Director (replacing Rishi Baral)
Mr. Kevin Utt	At Large Director (replacing Jim Rakestraw)

It was also discussed that the board of directors will choose officers for the coming year during its April board meeting, and that Mr. Rissmeyer intends to step-down as President after 4 years. He has been talking to Tariq Makhdoom about taking on the Presidency. Dave Preusch also offered to continue as Treasurer, which everyone agreed was vital to our continued success as an organization.. Additional thanks to Mr. Rissmeyer for his leadership in VFMA, and his willingness to continue to serve as an At Large Director was offered by Tariq Makhdoom, and strongly supported by all present

Creation of a nominating committee was suggested in future years, to help develop nominations prior to the annual meeting, and to save time.

President Rissmeyer adjourned the meeting at 8:20 a.m., with sessions of the conference starting at 8:30 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kenneth M. Somerset