

**DELAWARE RIVER BASIN COMMISSION
FLOOD ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MEETING HIGHLIGHTS
November 6, 2013**

The DRBC Flood Advisory Committee meeting, chaired by David Williams, PEMA, was held on November 6, 2013 at the Nurture Nature Center in Easton, Pennsylvania.

Action Items:

1. 2014 FAC Chair/Vice Chair: Gary Szatkowski, NWS Mount Holly, will take over as chair at the committee's next meeting. Joseph Ruggeri, NJDEP, was elected as the committee's vice chair for 2014.
2. Need continues to study how best to get flood risk educational tools to the public. Likely includes social media and expanding flood risk teaching to schools as well as adult educational opportunities (one example: tie understanding of river flows to recreational safety).
3. Regarding current ADCIRC model scope and lack of explicit scope to include a predictive tool, States can request information through Army Corp Planning Chiefs
4. Future meeting presentations: 1. HAZUS in the DRB, 2. Report out on USGS plan for deploying storm sensors, 3. NNC to report on Flood Risk Study findings in late 2014-2015

Discussion Items:

- Easton's Flood Standard and Ordinance Revisions Post-2004/2005/2006, Becky A. Bradley, Lehigh Valley Planning Commission (LVPC)
 - LVPC published the first model floodplain ordinance in 2007, currently updating
 - New model floodplain regulations are more stringent than DCED suggested provisions + NFIP: Prohibits new development in the floodway, Significantly restricts new development in other areas of the floodplain, Prohibits chemical storage in the floodplain, Amount of allowable improvements to existing structures in the floodplain is lower than permissible under NFIP
 - Excellent presentation on Easton's sustainable revitalization: One of many components: In 2007, Easton had 1st floodplain ordinance in the nation to regulate the 100 and 500 year floodplains equally, now a national model
- Flood Risk and Uncertainty, Assessing the National Weather Service's Flood Forecast and Warning Tools, Rachel Hogan Carr, Nurture Nature Center
 - Social science project supporting NOAA's Weather-Ready Nation Initiative
 - NWS flood forecast and warning tools offer tremendous amounts of timely, accurate data. But: People often don't respond the way they should to protect life and property.
 - Two questions: How do people in the DRB understand and use NWS products? What strategies are important for NWS to consider in preparing/revising its flood forecast and warning products to better motivate flood preparedness and warning response?
 - Four focus groups held in early June 2013; two in Easton, PA and two in Lambertville; second set of focus groups planned for December 2013.
 - www.socialscience.Focusonfloods.org Includes already: research bibliography on social science related to flooding. In development: a series of educational materials, including posters, a traveling display and other tools, final reports and papers
- FEMA Coastal Analysis and Mapping
 - Preliminary work products available online at www.region2coastal.com/ and www.r3coastal.com
- Coastal Inundation Modeling
 - USACE expanding a functioning ADCIRC model, run scenarios for sea level rise and Hurricane Sandy, no current plan to develop a predictive model.
 - Chesapeake Inundation Prediction Service (CIPS), excellent prototype storm surge forecast tool, no money to take it into operation.
 - USGS working on a plan for deploying storm sensors, systematic, transect approach.
- USACE Silver Jackets Projects in Basin States
 - None yet funded in DRB; Inundation mapping for Susquehanna River, PA and Passaic River, NJ and Flood Warning system for Mohawk River, NY.

Next Meeting: Wednesday, February 26, 2014

**FLOOD ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MEETING ATTENDANCE**

November 6, 2013

NAME	AGENCY
ABBOTT, Ryan	Philadelphia Office of Emergency Management
AHNERT, Peter	National Weather Service (NWS)
BREWSTER, Jim	National Weather Service (NWS)
CARR, Rachel	Nurture Nature Center (NNC)
GAUL, Andrew	Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (PADEP)
HUGHES, Thomas	Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency (PEMA)
KELCHNER, George	Delaware Riverside Conservancy
KERZIC, Duane	Brodhead Watershed Association (BWA)
MCCLELLAN, Richard	Delaware River Joint Toll Bridge Commission (DRJTBC)
MILLER, Jason	United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), Philadelphia District
OLIVIO, Dana	New York City Department of Environmental Protection (NYCDEP)
ROLAND, Mark	United States Geological Survey (USGS) - PA
RUGGERI, Joseph	New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP)
RUPERT, Clarke	Delaware River Basin Commission (DRBC)
SMITH, Cleighton	Bergmann Associates
SURO, Thomas	United States Geological Survey (USGS) - NY
SZATKOWSKI, Gary	National Weather Service (NWS)
TESSIERI, Laura	Delaware River Basin Commission (DRBC)
TUDOR, Bob	Delaware River Basin Commission (DRBC)
WHITE, Kirk	United States Geological Survey (USGS) - PA
WILLIAMS, David	Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency (PEMA)