

Best Mapping Practices – Phase 1 Project (TA-04)

06.20.02 Meeting Minutes – Bastrop (Initial CCO Meeting)

DATE: July 24, 2002
MEETING LOCATION: Bastrop City Council Chambers
MEETING DATE: **June 20, 2002**
MEETING NUMBER: MM-02

TO: Attendees

Lynn Lovell, Halff Associates
John Ivey, Halff Associates
Jack Quarles, FEMA
Don Chovane, LCRA

John McLeod, LCRA
Melinda Luna, LCRA
Mark Jordan, LCRA
Saul Nuccitelli, PBS&J
Vicki Box, Bastrop County

Martha Juch, TCRFPC
Sue Burke, Watershed Concepts
Rick Prosser, Watershed Concepts
Jack Page, City of Smithville
Renee Blaschke, Mayor, Smithville
Wes Vela, City of Bastrop
Cecil Pennington, City of Bastrop
Gary N. Cooke, City of Elgin
Ronnie McDonald, Bastrop County
James Gurka, Bastrop County

CC:

ATTACHMENTS: List of Attendees

FROM: Lynn Lovell, Halff Associates, Inc. &
Melinda Luna, LCRA

June 20, 2002 – Initial Community Coordination and Scoping Meeting – Bastrop County Flood Insurance Re-Study, DFIRM Mapping Project

A. Introduce Project Management Team – Wes Vela, City of Bastrop welcomed group and introduced Jack Quarles, FEMA Region VI. Jack Quarles asked for everyone to sign the sign-up sheet and to introduce himself or herself. Ronnie McDonald, Bastrop County Judge, asked two of the County staff to come over (Vicki Box and James Gurka), to assist in the review of the county needs. Jack Quarles told the group how the LCRA, Texas Colorado River Floodplain Coalition (TCRFC), and FEMA were cooperating on the TA-04 mapping activity, and the role each play. He introduced Saul Nuccitelli, PBS&J, as a representative of the MCC (a review contractor for FEMA), who would be reviewing engineering and mapping products prepared by Halff Associates, Inc. and Watershed Concepts. He emphasized the desire to get input from the local governments and to be able to map as much area in as much detail as limited budgets/funding would allow.

B. Overview of Proposed Project:

A one page Fact Sheet explaining the DFIRM Mapping Project was distributed to all attendees.

1. Purpose of Project – Jack Quarles gave an overview of the federal Flood Insurance Program and what the meeting was about.
 - 1.1. Jack Quarles discussed the current maps and goal of revising the old FIRM's with updated digital maps (DIRMS). He stated that we were trying to gain information from the local governments on needs related to historical flooding and development pressures in our near floodplains in the county.
 - 1.2. Jack Quarles introduced Sue Burke, Watershed Concepts, who presented a Power Point slide presentation of the steps in the scoping and completion of a flood insurance study. This included steps in data collection, preparing the technical data, examples of approximate, limited detail, and detailed mapping.
 - 1.3. Example DFIRM maps were also show by Watershed Concepts and compared with the current style FIRMS. Various scales from 1"=500' up to 1"=2,000' were shown.
2. Potential flooding sources that have been identified so far (including limits of project)
 - 2.1. Lynn Lovell showed two county maps, one with current FIRM panels and background of current flood hazard maps; and one with proposed DFIRM panel layout.
 - 2.2. Lovell described briefly the Colorado River Corridor flood study prepared for the Corps and LCRA and how the data would be the basis of the Colorado River floodplain maps in the county. Some of the topographic coverage from that study could help with tributaries in the communities of Bastrop and Smithville.
3. Why community/flooding sources were chosen for project.
 - 3.1. Martha Juch, TCRFC, gave an overview of the Coalition's role, the input from the coalition on the initial priorities that included Bastrop and Wharton Counties.
 - 3.2. She also discussed the role the TCRFC would have in helping the communities keep abreast of the DFIRM mapping project, especially for their counties.
 - 3.3. She asked for additional contact member names, including local TXDOT reps. She received several names for possible contact.

C. Discuss Community's Assessment of Flood Mapping Needs and Memorandum of Agreement

- 1.1. Jack Quarles discussed the need for a MOA and reminded them that a copy had been mailed to each community and the county. It was described as an open-ended agreement.

- 1.2. He asked for them to review and submit back to FEMA. He emphasized that they are not obligating the cities to any funding, only for cooperation in providing data and willingness to adopt new ordinances, as needed when revised mapping is available. He asked for the agreement to be signed by the communities in the next few weeks.
- 1.3. Martha Juch will follow up on each of the communities' MOA's.

D. Discuss Potential Data Sources (e.g. Digital Base Maps, On-going Projects, and Data Collection Efforts). Request for Data from Communities, such as Mapping, Flood Studies, Flood Photos, High Water Marks, and Survey Data.

- 1.1. Lynn Lovell discussed the various data needs and asked for any input on topographic mapping, drainage or flood studies, flood high water marks, bridge plans, channelization or other flood control project plans, photos, descriptions of flooding events (especially in areas outside of Colorado River effects), and survey bench marks. He said that Halff had contacted TxDOT and received all bridges on the main stem river.
- 1.2. Smithville mentioned that they had some 1' topographic mapping.
- 1.3. Cecil Pennington, City of Bastrop Planning, said that the US Forest Service had considerable mapping/GIS data on portions of the county.

E. Identify Key Players (e.g. Regional or State Agencies) - Martha Juch received additional names to add to contact list, including CAPCO, the Texas Forest Service, TxDOT, TNRIS and TNRCC.

F. Other Topics of Discussion – Mr. Jack Page, Smithville, asked about how to get a BFE (100-year flood elevation at a given location) changed, since the October 1998 flood had gotten higher than their BFE's. Mr. Quarles discussed this briefly and told him that with the new study, new BFE's would be shown along the river in Smithville. (Note: Based on current FIRM's there are no official FEMA BFE's in Smithville, but apparently the City has established some from the FIRM data using a surveyor. The new BFE's will be higher than the October 1998 flood, based on preliminary information).

Public notice of the project will be distributed by Halff to local newspapers. LCRA will also create a web site for the project.

G. Outline Schedule of Future Activities –

- 1.1. Mr. Quarles, Ms. Juch, Mr. McLeod (LCRA), and Lovell discussed the developing schedule.
- 1.2. Mr. Lovell said that Halff is already underway on the project, preparing hydraulic data for the river corridor.
- 1.3. Mr. Quarles said that the Watershed Concept contract for the remaining areas would be negotiated in next few weeks.
- 1.4. Next formal meeting will be Final CCO Meeting, however interim coordination would probably occur. Ms. Juch suggests that the quarterly TCRFC meetings include a briefing for the county DFIRM project and a special called meeting for the individual counties affected by the project, if necessary. Jack Quarles cautioned about holding any coordination meetings that are not considered public meetings. Ms. Juch said that the TCRFC meetings are open to public.
- 1.5. Contacts for Project:
 - 1.5.1. City of Bastrop – Mike Fisher, FPA
 - 1.5.2. City of Elgin – Gary Cooke, FPA
 - 1.5.3. City of Smithville – Jack Page, FPA
 - 1.5.4. Bastrop County – James Gurka, FPA

- 1.6. The preliminary maps should be ready in fall of 2003. Steps would include:
 - 1.6.1. Preliminary DFIRMS to communities
 - 1.6.2. Community Review (30 days)
 - 1.6.3. Final CCO Meeting
 - 1.6.4. Revisions by FEMA/MCC if required after CCO Meeting
 - 1.6.5. Issue of Public Notices (2 – Ten days apart)
 - 1.6.6. 90 - day appeal period (public notices)
 - 1.6.7. About 6 months after appeals to process/print final maps by Government Printing Office.
 - 1.6.8. Community/county ordinance updates required by time of release of final printed maps.

H. Breakout for Individual Community/County Review of Mapping Needs

City of Elgin

Gary Cooke represented the City of Elgin
Rick Prosser represented Watershed Concepts
John Ivey represented Halff Associates

1. All of Elgin Study needs are shown on FIRM Panel 75 (Scale 1" = 2000')
2. The City of Elgin has annexed areas to the west and south. The City now extends into Travis County and development pressures are mostly along the county boundary and into Travis County. The City utilizes two FIRM Panels in Travis County.
3. Study Priority #1 Elm Creek (5 stream miles +/-) in both Bastrop County and Travis County and Elm Creek Trib (1 mile)
4. Elm Creek Trib was studied by the Wallace Group (Killeen) and Hunter Associates (Austin). BFE's were established.
5. Study Priority #2 Little Sandy Creek (3.6 miles) and 6 tributaries (5.6 miles +/- total). There are two Little Sandy Creeks in Bastrop County. This is the one located south of Elgin within the ETJ.
6. Study Priority #3 Burlson Creek (6.1 miles +/-) This includes the Elgin Water Treatment Plant located at the confluence of Burlson Creek and Little Sandy Creek. This is the Little Sandy Creek located East of Elgin.
7. Study Priority #4 Unnamed Trib of Wilbarger Creek (4.1 miles +/-).

City of Smithville

Jack Page and Renee Blaschke represented the City of Smithville
Sue Burke represented Watershed Concepts
Lynn Lovell represented Halff Associates

1. All of Smithville Study needs are shown on FIRM Panel 0275 (Scale 1" = 2000')
2. The City of Smithville has annexed areas to the west and south and will send WC and Halff a copy of latest city limits. Development pressures are generally in those new annexed areas.
3. Study Priority #1 Gazley Creek, a tributary of Colorado River, flowing from west to east through town.
4. Study Priority #2 Willow Creek, a tributary of Colorado River, flowing from west to east through south end of town, with new subdivisions planned in the area.
5. City uses Texas A&M professor for GIS/mapping work. They will get contact name to Watershed Concepts since they need any of this data ASAP.

City of Bastrop

Wes Vela and Cecil Pennington represented the City of Bastrop
John McLeod and Melinda Luna represented the LCRA

1. City of Bastrop ETJ - The city has two ETJ's. The largest ETJ extends west to the county line and the second ETJ is much smaller and is around the existing city limits.
2. Study Priority #1 - Cedar Creek - Cedar Creek runs almost parallel to SH 71 and is south of SH 71. The developmental pressures seem to be along the SH 71 corridor between SH 21 to the City. Cedar Creek experienced a flood in 1998.
3. Study Priority #2 - Piney Creek -The second priority is Piney Creek. Lake Bastrop is on Piney Creek. Melinda Luna will look into information on the Lake Bastrop Park.
4. The City of Bastrop requested that the ETJ be mapped at 1" = 1000' and the City and the SH 71 corridor be mapped at 1"=500'. This will add DFIRM panels to the TA-04 Project. They requested that the creeks should be studied at least at a level (limited detail information).
5. All Study needs were shown on marked up county map given to Halff Associates, Inc. Currently effective FIRM Panels, include eight FIRM's, Scale 1" = 500' maps.
6. DFIRM Panels Summary:
 - 6.1. Proposed Corridor Panels (prior to CCO Meeting) included: 11 panels at 1"=500' (Bastrop & Smithville) and 10 panels at 1"=2,000'. This was a total of 21 panels.
 - 6.2. Requested Panels from CCO Meeting include: 14 panels at 1"=500', 4 panels at 1"=1,000', and 10 panels at 1"=2,000'. This was a total of 28 panels.
 - 6.3. Please note that two of the requested 1"=1,000' panels are out of the corridor. Also, the work to be provided by Watershed Concepts on the non-river streams is not included in the 6.1 summary of panels.

Bastrop County

Vicki Box and James Gurka represented Bastrop County
Lynn Lovell represented Halff Associates, Inc.
Sue Burke, Watershed Concepts

1. All Study needs were marked up by County staff (the weeks after meeting) on county maps and sent to LCRA (see attached map). They were sent to Halff and forwarded to Watershed Concepts on July 18th. The county staff met with each of the four county commissioners to get any mapping needs defined by them, before they marked up the maps.
2. Current FIRM Panels, include only 1"=2000' scale maps.
3. Study Priorities - The county commissioners/staff marked 16 streams, several which were already shown on Bastrop's and Elgin's map needs list. The largest streams marked were Barton Creek in the south, Piney Creek near Bastrop, and Sandy Creek near Camp Swift.

Action Items:

Status	Item	Resp.	Date Issued	Due Date
	• Follow up on each of the communities' MOA's	TCRFC/Juch	6-20-02	8-20-02
	• <u>Table/Maps of detailed vs. approximate for the counties—for FEMA to see what needs to be studied.</u>	Halff/WC	6-20-02	???
	• Notices to local newspapers when scope is finalized	Halff	6-20-02	8-20-02
	• Look into Lake Bastrop issues	LCRA	6-20-02	8-5-02
	• Create A Website or Link to Website	LCRA	6-20-02	8-5-02

BASTROP MEETING ATTENDEES

NAME	AGENCY	EMAIL ADDRESS	PHONE
Lynn Lovell	Halff Associates, Inc.	llovell@halff.com	817-847-1422
John Ivey	Halff Associates, Inc.	jivey@halff.com	817-847-1422
Jack Quarles	FEMA, Region VI	jack.quarles@fema.gov	940-898-5156
Don Chovane	LCRA	dchovan@lcra.org	979-249-8706
John McLeod	LCRA	jmcleod@lcra.org	512-473-3333
Melinda Luna	LCRA	Melinda.Luna@lcra.org	512-473-3200
Mark Jordan	LCRA	mark.jordan@lcra.org	512-473-4023
Saul Nuccitelli	PBS&J	sanuccitelli@pbsj.com	512-327-6840
Vicki Box	Bastrop County	ossf56@hotmail.com	512-332-7276
Martha Juch	TCRFPC	mfjuch@austin.rr.com	512-633-4183
Sue Burke	Watershed Concepts	sburke@watershedconcepts.com	512-391-4995
Rick Prosser	Watershed Concepts	rprosser@watershedconcepts.com	919-460-6895
Jack Page	City of Smithville	jpage@smithsys.net	512-237-3282
Renee Blaschke	Mayor, City of Smithville	mayor@smithsys.net	512-360-4938
Wes Vela	City of Bastrop	wvela@cityofbastrop.org	512-581-0895
Cecil Pennington	City of Bastrop	cpennington@cityofbastrop.org	512-721-0457
Gary N. Cooke	City of Elgin	garycity@totalaccess.net	512-281-5724
Ronnie McDonald	Bastrop County	RMcDonald@aol.com	512-332-7201
James Gurka	Bastrop County	Jgurka@bearacuda.com	512-332-7276