

NORFMA Conference Call of October 14, 2009

attendees:	Henry Hu	Chair
	Dianna Woods	Vice-Chair
	Alan Wald	Secretary
	Paula Cooper	Treasurer
	Dan Sokol	Washington
	Monica Mannerstrom	British Columbia
	Taunnie Boothby	Alaska
	Christine Shirley	Oregon
	Mary McGown	Idaho

Conference Wrap-up. We had 85 attendees in Yakima. The conference generated net proceeds and NORFMA has a current balance on account of \$15k.

Training and Education. participants discussed offering a FPM101 and CFM exam on an outreach basis in Salem, Boise, Coeur D'Alene, Seattle, and Anchorage. Specific classes need to be tailored to individual state laws and regulations. Oregon has statewide building codes and a statewide planning program. Oregon would benefit from classes in north, south, and coastal locations. Oregon offers CAP scholarships to attend (typically an \$80-100 registration fee to cover food and handouts, with a \$50-80 CAP subsidy. Classes should be for building officials, planning officials, public works, and real estate professionals. Alaska has held an L273 (formerly E273) course in Anchorage (2008). Alaska would benefit from teleconferencing, video streaming, and web capability in hub communities to reach small villages. CAP funds could be available to defray some of the cost. Idaho has county extension offices with network capability. NORFMA could test web meeting capability with a membership review of proposed bylaw changes and new directions for the organization. B.C. has a Canadian Water Resources Association and an Engineering Association based on volunteers (meetings are informal and casual). FPM101 classes need to address federal regulation, state regulations, and local programs. Basic costs are for the instructor, facilities, handouts, and refreshments.

Standing Committees. NORFMA is proposing we form a Conference Committee to plan our 2010 conference, an Education and Training Committee to develop educational outreach for the region (Dan Sokol, Dianna Woods, Taunnie Boothby, Christine Shirley, and Alan Wald would like to participate in the Education and Training Committee), a Policy and Bylaws Committee to update the bylaws and set new directions for NORFMA, and a Nominations Committee to review the terms of office and proposing candidates for upcoming elections. There is interest in extending the terms of office because a 1-year term is so short. We could consider 2-year terms with elections in alternate years. Jerry Louthain was suggested as lead for putting together the Conference Committee. Alan Wald will help put together the Education and Training Committee. All board members are expected to participate in the discussions of policy and bylaws. Committee leads will solicit member interest in participating on the committee.

Legislative Agenda. FEMA Region 10 is encouraging state NFIP coordinators to form individual state organizations to provide a conduit to state legislatures. There is ongoing discussion of NORFMA setting up a state caucus for each state vs. other stand-alone (non NORFMA) state organizations for legislation and lobbying. NORFMA bylaws currently do not allow for lobbying or directly influencing legislation. A legislative committee could be established for tracking and reporting on new laws and policies adopted in the different states.

Regional Representation. Other regional organizations include multiple states (i.e. California FMA includes Nevada and Hawaii). We should check their bylaws to see how they provide regional representation. Mary McGown and Henry Hu will check the bylaws. The next conference call will discuss a caucus-type structure. NORFMA needs to build greater membership in other states besides Washington, based on services we can provide them.

To-Do List.

1. The bylaws need to be updated to adjust the Spring conference dates, and other housekeeping measures. For example, NORFMA needs to update the 501 (c)(3) nonprofit status and filings. Henry Hu will make an initial list.
2. Mary McGown and Henry Hu will check the bylaws of other regional organizations.
3. NORFMA needs a webmaster to provide regular updates and information on the webpage. Alan Wald would like to be the coordinator initially.
4. Henry Hu will call Jerry Louthain for a conference committee.
5. Monica Mannerstrom will provide a write-up on floodplain issues and management in BC.

Next Call/Meeting. The next in-person board meeting should be coordinated with the annual FEMA state coordinators meeting (probably in February) so we can all sit down together. The next conference call is scheduled for 9:30 am, PST, November 4, 2009.