

Central HAZUS-MH Users Group Meeting

May 22, 2007

Attendees

- Roxanne Gray (Wisconsin Emergency Management)
- Kevin Mickey (Indiana, The Polis Center)
- Jamie Caplan, (Caplan Associates)
- Pam Soule (LaGrange County)
- Tony Bellovary, (Bay Lakes Regional Planning Commission)
- Kristen Taylor, (Minnesota Emergency Management Agency)
- Jonathan Marsch, (FEMA)
- Jeremy Klein, (Minnesota Emergency Management Agency)

State Reports

Minnesota -

FEMA Region V sponsored an Advanced HAZUS-MH Flood course in Duluth, May from May 15 to 17, 2007. There were a total of 16 participants. Kristen Taylor reported that the class went well. Several participants indicated their intent to use HAZUS-MH. For example, the Town of Redwing was represented by 4 participants at the class. They anticipate using HAZUS-MH in the near future since they have a dam inundation risk in their area.

Jeremy Klein indicated that he will probably be leaving Minnesota in early June. Kristen will be assuming the role of HAZUS-MH liaison for the state at that point.

Wisconsin -

Roxanne reported that Kent MacLaughlin has assumed another position at WEMA. He is no longer working with directly with HAZUS-MH but will remain on the CHUG distribution list for the time being.

Roxanne also reported that Wisconsin has submitted a 2007 PDM grant request to contract with the University of Wisconsin and The Polis Center to complete a statewide flood

and coastal risk assessment using HAZUS-MH. Roxanne stated that the PDM has been noted as being approved for further consideration and she is hopeful that it will be fully funded in the near future. Tony indicated that the Bay Lakes region anticipates supporting this project as well.

Wisconsin has increased the number of counties for which a level 1 flood analysis has been completed to 18.

Tony reported that has become aware of a National Geospatial Intelligence Agency effort to collect essential facilities data as part of an effort to update the HSIP database. Tony will circulate a copy of the letter that he received from NGA to the group.

Kent submitted two maps to Jaime for the HAZUS-MH for Decision Makers poster.

Ohio

No Report

Indiana

Kevin reported that the Polis Center is working on a joint proposal with USGS that will involve the HAZUS-MH flood model. This proposed project will take advantage of the latest technological advances in HAZUS-MH as well as in H & H analysis to produce a more real-time and accurate flood loss estimation. The project is nearly fully funded and more details will be forthcoming at a future CHUG meeting.

Pam reported that Lagrange County is moving forward on their planning initiatives. She anticipates that HAZUS will take a more significant role in response and recovery efforts.

Kevin M reported that the Indiana PDM projects are continuing to proceed on schedule.

Illinois

No Report

Michigan

Jonathan M reported that Mike Franzak has taken another job with the City of Muskegon, MI. We therefore need to find another CHUG contact in Michigan. Roxanne suggested that the Michigan SHMO - Matt Schnepf (schnepfm1@michigan.gov) - be added to the distribution list. Kevin M will contact Matt to invite him to participate in the CHUG.

FEMA Region V

Jonathan reported that there is still no solid indication from FEMA headquarters about the status of the national level 1 earthquake analysis. This product has the potential to be of great value as an input to state mitigation plans. He hopes to receive word soon on the status of this project.

Jonathan indicated that there is a proposed reorganization of the Mitigation and Risk Assessment branches at FEMA. The final details of that have not yet been worked out.

HAZUS-MH Users Conference

The first annual HAZUS-MH National Users Conference will be held in San Diego, California on June 19 and 20, 2007. At present there are approximately 275 persons registered. The HAZUS-MH Conference will be held concurrently with the ESRI International Users Conference being held that same week. No additional cost is required for the HAZUS-MH Conference. Information about the conference, including how to sign up can be found at http://www.esri.com/events/uc/hazus_07.html.

Committee members are encouraged to attend and also to tell their constituents about this important opportunity.

It was suggested that webcasts be done of the conference activities. Jamie contacted the conference organizers during the meeting and

was informed that, while a webcast would be a valuable way to share the conference with HAZUS-MH users, no funding is available this year for that purpose.

CHUG Website

Tony asked if we can get the CHUG website updated since the information is several months out-of-date at this time. Kevin indicated Shane Hubbard is responsible for update the CHUG site, but that he has been exceptionally busy and unable to work on it for the past few months. He will talk with Shane about updating the site before the next CHUG meeting.

Tony also offered to work with Shane to keep the CHUG site updated.

Jamie will send Shane the final version of user story article that Tony sent to Jamie. That article will be posted to the CHUG site.

Status of HAZUS-MH MR3

Kevin M reported that there has been no change since the last CHUG meeting.

Next Meeting

The next meeting is schedule for Monday, July 9th, 2007 at 10:30 am CT / 11:30 am EDT. A dial-in number will be circulated in the near future.