

NORTH CAROLINA/SOUTH CAROLINA HAZUS USER GROUP CONFERENCE CALL

Meeting Minutes

04/01/2010

Call to order

Eric Coughlin and Melissa Berry called to order the conference call business meeting of the North Carolina and South Carolina HAZUS User Groups at 2:00 pm.

Roll call

Eric Coughlin conducted roll call for [North Carolina group](#). The following persons were present:

- Eric Coughlin, PBS&J
- Andrew Bailey, NC Division of Forest Resources
- Lucy Eckert, Dunklee and Dunham
- Jessica Phillips, Dare County EM
- Leah Wolter-Schwizer, Booz Allen Hamilton
- Darrin Punchard, AECOM
- Margaret Griffith, PBS&J

Melissa Berry conducted roll call for [South Carolina group](#). The following persons were present:

- Melissa Berry, SCEMD
- Rich Hamilton, Town of Hilton Head Island
- Joe Noll, Beaufort County
- Tammy Dreher, SCEMD

Representatives from FEMA Region IV

- Gene Longenecker
- Moses Wilkins

Guest from Louisiana State University

- Carol Friedland

NCHUG Update – Eric Coughlin

- NC HUG is now holding bi-monthly conference call meetings.

- Currently have 32 members with an average of 5 people participating per call; please call in if you can, we try to present interesting, current content that will help you reach your HAZUS goals and network with other users.
- We welcomed two new members and heard their brief bios. Thank you Leah and Lucy!
- Not a whole lot going on with the group outside of the conference calls; if there is somewhere you'd like to see the group go please speak up. This is a grassroots members group that can only survive with active members; stay in touch with other members at usehazus.org/nchug
- We are going to try and hold future calls with webinar content and guest speakers. This seems to make the calls more appealing.

SCHUG Update – Melissa Berry

- SCHUG holds bi-monthly meetings
- Over twenty members with an average of 10 people participating per call
- Last month, the College of Charleston came to Columbia to give an earthquake presentation to county Emergency Managers and SCEMD employees.
 - They discussed the geological and physical attributes of an earthquake
 - In the afternoon session, Norm Levine gave a presentation on HAZUS – what it is, and how it works.
 - He walked the class through several scenarios that we could expect to see in South Carolina, and how the effects vary over the state.
 - Two weeks ago, we taught a Basic HAZUS-MH course in Columbia, SC
 - The course was the first of its kind because it was taught via the web and conference call.
 - Kevin Mickey, course instructor, led the class from Kentucky
 - In addition to South Carolina, Mississippi, Washington, and Maryland also participated on the call.
 - Over 100 people were trained in a 3 day time period on HAZUS and received EMI certification

- The course went really well and we would like to offer more courses like this in the future.

FEMA Region IV Update - Gene Longenecker

- Brief update of activities at Region IV in Atlanta
- Next release of HAZUS-MH will incorporate a storm surge model
- Work progressing on the coastal flood inundation loss atlas project
- Involved with the basic HAZUS course referenced above; webinar course was a huge success and FEMA will try to hold course again soon. NC could be next on list for training.

HAZUS Outreach – Margaret Griffith

- Help Desk is launching in the coming months; currently have 3 flyers available for general information, after training, and after software installation regarding the Help Desk
- 2 new News Articles and a new Success Story
- HAZUS Hot Zone Newsletter coming out in April
- Results from the HAZUS User Study coming out soon
- New HAZUS series in a Technical Compendium with 2 articles thus far; please contact me if you have something to contribute
- New HAZUS Trained Professionals and Practitioners on the HAZUS Websites
- 4th Annual HAZUS Conference is August 23-25, 2010 in Indiana. Abstracts are being accepted until April 30. You can register at www.hazus.net/2010

SC CDMS Presentation and Demo – Melissa Berry

- South Carolina has a [web-based CDMS system](#)
- Melissa Berry presented a slideshow with system background and highlights and then did a live demo of the system.

Web Links to items discussed on the call:

- **HAZUS User Community:**

<http://www.usehazus.com/hugs/>

- **Download CDMS 2.5 program from FEMA:**
<http://www.fema.gov/plan/prevent/hazus/#2>
- **South Carolina CDMS Portal Information:**
http://www.scemd.org/Mitigation/Risk_Assessment.html
- **NOAA Digital Coast:**
<http://www.csc.noaa.gov/digitalcoast/>
- **North Carolina Integrated Hazard Risk Management (IHRM) program:**
<http://www.ncihrm.com/>
- **Wildland Fire Decision Support System (WFDSS):**
http://wfdss.usgs.gov/wfdss/WFDSS_Home.shtml

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 3:15 pm.

Minutes submitted by: Eric Coughlin