

**MEETING OF
ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON WATER INFORMATION'S (ACWI)
SUBCOMMITTEE ON HYDROLOGY (SOH)**

**1:00 p.m. – 4:00 pm, Eastern Time
October 20, 2011**

10th Floor

**NOAA NWS Headquarters
1325 East West Highway
Silver Spring, MD 20910**

MINUTES

AGENDA

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|---|--------------------|
| 1. Welcome and Introductions | Richard Raione |
| 2. Review and Approval of Agenda | Richard Raione |
| 3. Approval of Minutes from July 21, 2011 Meeting | Richard Raione |
| 4. Status of Action Items from July 21, 2011 Meeting | |
| 5. Guest Speaker: Discussion on Research to Develop Guidance on PMP Estimates | |
| | Peter Chaput |
| 6. Water Data Work Group Status | Dave Goodrich |
| 7. Work Group Reports | |
| a) Hydrologic Modeling Work Group | J. Webb/D. Gleason |
| <i>E-mail from Matt Römken, Chair, SOS, regarding joint conference.</i> | |
| b) Hydrologic Frequency Analysis Work Group | Will Thomas |
| c) Hydrologic and Hydraulic GIS Applications Work Group | William Merkel |
| d) Extreme Storms Work Group | Tom Nicholson |
| e) Satellite Telemetry Interagency Work Group | |
| 8. Current Events within Hydrologic Communities | All |
| 9. Announcements and Q&A on Business Reports from Member Organizations | All |
| a) Business Reports | |
| b) "The SOH CONNECTIONS" Newsletter Editor's Report | |
| c) Other? | |
| 10. Review Action Items | Richard Raione |
| 11. Plans for Next Meeting | Richard Raione |

Adjourn

ATTENDEES

Subcommittee on Hydrology Members

Martin Becker	Defenders of Property Rights (DPR)	<i>(phone)</i>
Ted Engman	National Aeronautics and Space Administration	
Siamak Esfandiary	Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)	
Joe Giacinto	U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission	
Claudia Hoeft	USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)	
Victor Hom	National Weather Service	
John Hunter	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers	
Sam Lin	Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC)	
Robert Mason	United States Geological Survey (USGS)	<i>(phone)</i>
William Merkel	USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service	
Peter Chaput	U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission	
Richard Raione	U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission	
Dan Schwitalla	United States Geological Survey (USGS)	
Doug Gleason	United States Geological Survey (USGS)	<i>phone</i>
Brian Beucler	U.S. Department of Transportation	<i>phone</i>
Will Thomas	Association of State Floodplain Managers	<i>(phone)</i>
David Wells	Environmental Protection Agency	
Michael Baker, Jr.	Association of State Floodplain Managers (ASFPM)	<i>phone</i>

1. Welcome and Introductions

Suggestions on how to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the SOH were presented by the Chair and members were reminded to submit input to the newsletter (new addition planned for December 2011/January 2012). Gene Stallings was fondly remembered as a person and for his significant contributions to the SOH over the years.

Martin Becker (DPR) suggested that SOH member organizations should be contacted to determine if the current list of working groups align with their respective needs. Other efficiencies associated with SOH meetings include having the work groups provide their narrative input to all members prior to the meeting

2. Review and Approval of Agenda

The agenda was reviewed with minor changes proposed and approved.

3. Approval of Minutes from July 21, 2011, meeting

Minutes were approved.

4. Status of Action Items from October 20, 2011, meeting

Richard Raione: Make final corrections/edits to minutes from the July 21 and October 20, 2011, meetings and send to Carol Lewis for posting on SOH web-site.	Complete for July meeting. In progress for October meeting.
Richard Raione: Make inquiry to the SOH member agencies and	Completed

6. Associate Editor of SOH Newsletter

Peter Chaput was nominated and approved for this position. Joe Giacinto remains as the chief editor.

7. SOH Guests (Follow-up discussion)

Claudia Hoeft requested to carry this item forward as she has not had the opportunity to develop a draft protocol.

8. Water Data Work Group Status

Dave Goodrich, ARS, reported recent HIS updates. The watershed network was established after the dustbowl to look at conservation practices (runoff, rainfall, etc.). There are more regional needs now which include looking at nutrients, pesticides, sediment, etc. He will send out weblinks to the SOH members for an upcoming webinar. Point was made that they are not collecting data but rather are developing tools to analyze data on desktops based on 40 – 50 years of watershed data. NWS and the USGS are heavily involved and the Hydro desktop was demonstrated recently – this has been spearheaded by Quasi who has been gathering data from local, state and federal sources.

9. Work Group Reports

a) Hydrologic Modeling Work Group

As reported previously, **the SOH agreed to continue to host the 2014 and future joint conferences in conjunction with SOS**. A number of persons from SOH have already volunteered to fill various roles for coordinating the next joint conference and members were reminded to notify Jerry Webb as soon as possible if they are willing to help with the conference. Dates for this conference have not yet been established. There was a meeting last week in Denver and the SOS passed a resolution to plan a conference of similar size to that from the 2010 conference. Possible conference site locations include Reno or Las Vegas, Nevada, Tuscon, Arizona, or New Orleans. Doug Gleason, Jerry Webb and others are working on the conference site selection process.

b) Hydrologic Frequency Analysis Work Group

Will Thomas reported that the testing of the Expected Moments Algorithm (EMA) using observed data for 82 gaging stations and simulated data is being conducted by the USGS (Tim Cohn, Nancy Barth). This testing involves three estimators: Bulletin 17B with the current Grubbs-Beck low outlier test, Bulletin 17B with a new Multiple Grubbs-Beck low-outlier test, and EMA with the new Multiple Grubbs-Beck low-outlier test. The testing is intended to determine what improvements in flood frequency estimates may be obtained using the new Multiple Grubbs-Beck test with the existing Bulletin 17B technique and using the EMA procedure in conjunction with the new Multiple Grubbs-Beck test. Data sets which have been completed include: observed annual peak data at 82 long-term gaging stations across the U.S., simulated data from assumed log-Pearson Type III distributions; simulated data from theoretical frequency curves developed by Beth Faber (USACE) that include a Pearson Type III distribution, mixed distributions of two log-Pearson Type III frequency curves and mixed distributions of two Generalized Extreme Value (GEV) distributions; and resampling from the observed record for those gaging stations with more than 100 years of annual peak data.

The USGS is preparing a report that summarizes the testing results to date. Tentative plans are to send out this report in late November 2011 to the HFAWG and have a December 2011 meeting to discuss the testing results and make future plans on revising Bulletin 17B.

c) Hydrologic and Hydraulic GIS Applications Work Group

(NEED WRITE-UP: Bill Merkel)

d) Extreme Storms Work Group

This group reported that John England (USBR) has made significant progress in his Pilot Project evaluating PMP estimates for North and South Carolina. He and his colleagues have analyzed radar data and hurricane related precipitation data to make estimates of PMPs. In some cases the PMP values for certain Depth-Area-Duration categories may need to be modified. Although the concepts are identical to those in HMR 51, the methodology has been improved to include analysis of radar information, and other new technologies not used to examine the old hurricanes of the previous HMRs. Setting a date for a briefing to the work group and the SOH is in progress

e) Satellite Telemetry Interagency Work Group

Joint working group between SOH and Need to get a status of this working group. (NEED WRITE-UP: Dan Schwitalla)

10. Current Events within Hydrologic Communities

How SOH provides information to new members and to the public was discussed. Use of the SOH and ACWI websites and the history of the SOH was suggested. Updates as appropriate may need to be conducted also. Much discussion and interest by the SOH on item 5 truncated this topic.

11. Announcements and Q&A on Business Reports from Member Organizations

a) Business Reports

b) “The SOH CONNECTIONS” Newsletter Editor’s Report

Joe Giacinto encourages submittals for the newsletter and encourages members to submit information gleaned from other newsletters if they feel it is noteworthy. The next issue is planned prior to the January 19, 2012 meeting.

12. Review Action Items

Claudia Hoeft: Draft a standard procedure regarding welcome to meetings and expectations / needs of guests who wish to attend SOH meetings.	Carry forward
Claudia Hoeft: Investigate what is required for a final report and dissolving a work group.	Carry forward
Dan Schwitalla: STIWG draft statement of concern regarding bandwidth sell off impact on hydrology and hydraulic data collection and availability.	Carry forward
Work Group chairs: Prepare draft reports for the October 20, 2011 meeting minutes	
All members: Submit current events items and business reports for the October 20, 2011 meeting minutes.	
All members: Submit current events items and business reports for the	

January 19, 2012 meeting minutes.	
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13. Plans for Next Meeting

SOH regular quarterly meetings are scheduled for the third Thursday of the first month of each quarter starting at the beginning of the fiscal year. Thus, meetings are the third Thursday of October, January, April, and June. Therefore, the next SOH meeting is scheduled for January 19, 2012, and will be held at the USDA South Building, Washington DC (stay tuned for the room number and telecon information) from noon until 3:00pm EST.

Review survey results from member organizations.