

FEMA Risk MAP Flood Risk Review meeting for the Little Wabash River watershed.

Three Flood Risk Review (FRR) meetings were held for the Little Wabash River watershed.

- Flora Fire Department
300 East 2nd Street
Flora, IL 62839
Tuesday February 18, 2020 10:00 AM – noon
- Effingham City Council Chambers
City Hall
201 East Jefferson Avenue
Effingham, IL 62401
Tuesday February 18, 2020 2:00-4:00 PM
- Bob Boyles Hall
Frontier College
102 Frontier Drive
Fairfield, IL 62837 (please see attached map for building's location)
Thursday February 20, 2020 1:00 – 3:00PM

The Flora meeting focused on Clay County, the Effingham meeting on Effingham County and the Fairfield meeting on the Village of Crossville, the City of Fairfield and the Little Wabash watershed.

Save the date emails were sent out to all watershed CEO's and FPA in January, 2020.

Invitations to the meetings were sent out 01/16/2020 with a link to an Interactive web map in which the draft data were presented and into which comments about the data could be added. An FAQ within the Interactive map shows the user how to input the comments, as well as a link to a YouTube video which runs through the steps.

Interactive Map link:

<http://www.illinoisfloodmaps.org/commentmap/littlewabash.htm>

Username: watershed

Log in: illinoisfloods!123

A reminder email was sent out 02/14/2020, a second reminder including the meeting agendas on 02/17/2020. Follow-up individual emails and telephone calls to those who did not respond to the meeting invitations were carried out starting the week before the meetings- up to the day before.

Flora- Clay County meeting

ISWS:

Glenn Heistand- Sr. Hydraulic Engineer and Project Manager

Addison Jobe - H&H Engineer for project

Ryan Meekma – Sr. Hydrogeographer and GIS Specialist

Curt Abert – Hydrogeographer and ZGIS Specialist

Diana Davisson- Mapping Project Manager

Mary Richardson – Outreach Coordinator and Assistant Engineering

Communities invited:

City of Flora, Village of Clay City, Village of Sailor Springs, Village of Iola, Village of Louisville, and Clay County,

who RSVP: 5

Attendees:

Community	Name	Title	Email Address	Phone #
Clay City, Village of	Tyler Turner	Utility Supervisor	cvillage@yahoo.com	618-676-1441
Clay County	Darin A. Koelm	County Engineer	claycohwydept@wabash.net	618-665-3346
Flora, City of	Chad Bayles	Building & Zoning Official	cbayles@florail.us	618-662-4625
Flora, City of	Mike Bridges	City Engineer	Mike.bridges@charleston-engineering.com	618-392-0736
Flora, City of	Toby Rinehart	City Utility Superintendent	publicworks@florail.us	618-662-4625

For agenda and presentation see *Little_Wabash_FRR_Agenda_Clay.pdf* and *20200213_Clay_County_FFR_Presentation.pdf*

The final section of the meeting was given to one-on-one discussion with the community members. Several of the attendees had been online and viewed the Interactive Map before the meeting, and were very keen to discuss issues over the paper maps that were provided.

Conversation log:

DMD:

The Clay County Engineer/FPA, provided a comment and indicated that data was available for a new bridge that will be under construction Spring 2020.

He also provided a comment on an area where they have had multiple water rescues from vehicles.

We looked through many county panels together and he said the floodplains appeared to be representative of what he has seen in the county.

Ryan spoke with Tyler Turner the Utility Superintendent regarding the floodplain delineation within Clay City from the Little Wabash River. The new delineation stops at the railroad. Effective Zone A shows floodwaters crossing the railroad and inundating the baseball diamonds. He worked with Curt to add comments to the web-map. I also made note of this on the workmap. We drove by this area and there is a visible crossing under the railroad for water to move back and forth. High water marks were visible on some of the industrial buildings.

CA:

Tyler Turner of the Village of Clay City identified areas in the village that flood on unmodeled tributaries to the Little Wabash River.

RPM:

I spoke with the City of Flora Utility Superintendent regarding the floodplain delineation within Clay City from the Little Wabash River. The new delineation stops at the railroad. Effective Zone A shows floodwaters crossing the railroad and inundating the baseball diamonds. He worked with Curt to add comments to the web-map. I also made note of this on the workmap. We drove by this area and there is a visible crossing under the railroad for water to move back and forth. High water marks were visible on some of the industrial buildings.

GNH:

_____ made comments regarding watershed area boundaries on the west side of Flora not being accurate. Will provide sewer mapping that helps show tributary areas more accurately.

ASJ:

2D flow area is a major flooding issue for community with depths occurring at even small rainfall events. They added an additional pipe upstream of the railroad but the railroad has thus far refused to increase their drainage structure. The parking lot in front of the building not included in the new Zone AE floods frequently. The 2D area that branches out from the stream east does not see the effects we have mapped, but does pool at our outlet location for the 2D model.

The drainage sub basins for Flora are slightly different than what we have on map because of storm pipes with slightly more going to Seminary than originally included.

They want additional mapping upstream of the Elm Creek Trib past 2D area and inclusion of the stream along the highway that runs in front of the hospital. During floods they have to use the fire trucks to transport people across the hospital's driveway because of the water.

Big Buck Creek floods as bad as we have it washing over HWY 45 flooding out vehicles.

Effingham- Effingham County meeting

The same group from ISWS ran this meeting.

Communities invited:

City of Altamont, Village of Beecher City, Village of Dietrich, Village of Edgewood, City of Effingham, Village of Teutopolis, Village of Watson, and Effingham County. South Central Illinois Regional Planning and Development Commission (SCIRPDC) and Greater Egypt Regional Planning and Development Commission (GDRPDC) were also invited.

RSVP: 7

Attendees:

Community	Name	Title	Email Address	Phone #
Altamont, City of	Gary M. White	Zoning Administrator	gwhite@altamontil.net	618-486- 3115
Beecher City, Village of	Dail Schonshack	Village Trustee	None	217-690- 2139?
Dietrich, Village of	Brad Hardiek	Village President	bhardiek@threez.com	217-821- 3525
Effingham, City of	Robert Hanfland	City Engineer/Consultant	rhanfland@civildesigninc.com	217-340- 0347
Effingham, City of	Jeremy Heuerman	Director of Public Works	JHeuerman@effinghamil.com	217-342- 5300
Effingham, City of	Steven W. Miller	City Administrator	smiller@effinghamil.com	217-342- 5303
Effingham, County	Gregory A. Koester, P.E.	County Engineer	gkoester@effinghamil.com	217-821- 7731
Effingham County	Pamela Jacobs	Effingham County Emergency Manager	ema@co.effingham.il.us	217-540- 1669
Fayette County	Kendra Craig	EMA Director	fcesda@yahoo.com	618-283- 4292
Milano & Grunloh Engineering	Michael Tappendorf	Project Engineer (Jasper County)	mgengineers@mgengineers.com	217-347- 7262

For agenda and presentation see *Little_Wabash_FRR_Agenda_Effingham.pdf* and *20200213_Effingham_County_FFR_Presentation.pdf*

Conversation log:

CA:

I spoke with **Brad Hardiek** from the Village of Dieterich who wanted modeling and mapping extended on Dieterich Creek up through the village. Apparently someone at OWR made a HEC-RAS model of the creek through the village.

DMD:

I spoke with **Brad Hardier** from Dieterich. He inquired as to why no SFHA was shown for the community.

He indicated that they are an NFIP participating community and that they had conversations with OWR (Paul Osman and others)) concerning flooding issues in town.

He said a HEC-RAS model exists for the stream within the corporate limits.

I also spoke with a consulting engineer from Jasper County. He asked if a model was available for the Embarras River in Newton, IL. (this was probably Michael Tappendorf-mjr)

I provided my card and asked him to email me as he was not familiar with data available from FEMA.

I also joined a conversation between Mary and Kendra Craig, Fayette, County about the Kaskaskia River and the need for a new study.

MJR:

Kendra Craig-Fayette Co ESDA Director asked why Fayette Co was not being restudied, and when might the study start. I mentioned that FEMA did plan to study the Kaskaskia River and Lakes along the river, but it was not one of the priority counties for the near future.

Fayette is in the process of writing up their Hazard Mitigation Plan- with a consultant- and it was a far greater task than they had first thought- the number of meetings and tight schedules were cause for concern. Kendra had attended the Mt. Vernon FEMA HMP workshop.

Pamela Jacobs-Effingham County Emergency Manager is also writing up the County HMP, with the same consultant. She too is finding the task more involved than she had first thought but has been receiving a lot of assistance from IEMA in Springfield. Pamela once again offered ISWS the use of the ESDA facility for any future FEMA/ISWS meetings.

Dail Schonshack and Ms. Felty's sister (Ms. Felty is Village President) were present at the meeting on behalf of Beecher City. They have flooding issue with a creek that is dry until after heavy rains "when the creek becomes a lake" Mr. Schonshack left a comment (E3).

ASJ:

3 or more LOMRs in Effingham City, are they being superseded, what effect may take place on the existing LOMRs? Gravel pit was filled in and Equity Agri has built bins and other structures on top of it, our mapping may not agree with LiDAR since it has been filled. The wastewater plant for the city is in the

floodplain and has flooded multiple times; the worst is when they had to sandbag the control room and water was only inches away from the electrical boxes which barely stopped the plant from shutting down during a storm.

Dieterich community does not have any mapped floodplains but it does have a flooding problem. The community has had work and meetings done by IDNR and Paul Osman. I am not sure what the extent of that partnership produced.

If we need a larger space for Open House they suggested the training center at the police station right behind City Hall for a more open area.

GNH:

Gary White representing Altamont made comments (with assistance from GNH) regarding two unmapped/unmodeled streams that convey flow into the Big Creek Tributary detailed study stream. He indicated that the finger of flooding shown on the workmap that extends to La Jean Drive has more flow than the trib coming in from west of Aker/Fairlane Circle. He pointed out several spots where flood water overtops E Cumberland Road/Route 40 and wondered why our study didn't go upstream to pick up the residential areas north of E Cumberland Road/Route 40 where he knows flooding exists. Gary will see what information he has available for these areas where ISWS did not study and send them to us. I told him that ISWS would need culvert/bridge size, shape, material, length, and inverts in order to extend the modeling further upstream. He will consider retrieving this data for us himself and send along. He is retiring within the next couple years, so he might decide it is too much effort to retrieve this information and would stir up too much trouble with property owners who would not like to see floodplain mapped on their property/house. When he left, it wasn't clear to me what his intentions were for providing additional data.

Steve Miller representing Effingham shared (via email to me) three flood photos he took last summer (2019) at the intersection of Maple/Illinois Ave (LW River Trib N1) when major flooding happened. Said the workmaps look just like the real event. Was less convinced the model/map were accurate at the grain elevator near Evergreen Ave/ 4th St. Did think it (Salt Creek Trib G1) had ever flooded enough to overtop the culvert. Had some concern about the culvert overtopping shown on Salt Creek Trib C near Banker St/Hoffman Dr at the shopping center, but couldn't say it definitely never flooded like the maps show.



Photo 1 from Steve Miller. Standing on W Temple Ave, looking West towards Maple St intersection.



Photo 2 from Steve Miller. Standing on W Temple Ave, looking West towards Maple St intersection.



Photo 3 from Steve Miller. Standing on W Temple Ave, looking West towards Maple St intersection.

Fairfield- Little Wabash River watershed meeting

ISWS:

Glenn Heistand- Sr. Hydraulic Engineer and Project Manager

Ryan Meekma – Sr. Hydrogeographer and GIS Specialist

Mary Richardson – Outreach Coordinator and Assistant Engineering

Communities invited:

All communities within the Little Wabash Watershed.

Focus Communities:

City of Fairfield, Village of Golden Gate, Village of Jefferson, Village of Mount Erie, and Wayne County

who RSVP: 3

The communities of Sims and Wayne City were invited to discuss flooding in the Skillet Fork watershed.

Attendees:

Community	Name	Title	Email Address	Phone #
Coles County	Kelly Lockhart	Executive Director Cole County Regional Planning and Development Commission	kjlockhart@co.coles.il.us	217-348-0521
Fairfield, City of	Brent Maguire	Mayor	mayor@fairfieldilcitygov.us	618-842-3871
Fairfield, City of	Eugene McGill	Alderman	eugene.mcgill@fairfieldilcitygov.us	
Fairfield, City of	Flo Simpson	Executive Director Fairfield Chamber of Commerce	flosimpson@siu.edu	618-842-6604
Richland County	Kevin Parker	Richland County EMA Director	richlandema@richlandcogov.com	618-843-8034
Wayne City	Diana Wood	Trustee	Personal email supplied on sign-in sheet	618-267-2592
Wayne County	Jeff Jake	Wayne County EMA Director	director@wabash.com	618-599-3043

For agenda and presentation see *Little_Wabash_FRR_Agenda_Fairfield.pdf* and *20200213_Fairfield_County_FFR_Presentation.pdf*

Conversation log:

GNH:

Kelly Lockhart will provide comments on the web portal. He indicated that the Coles County workmaps seemed generally consistent with actual flood events that he knows of, with several exceptions (Paradise Lake and other locations to be noted in web portal comments). Kelly was very interested in how FEMA prioritizes work and was complimentary about the Little Wabash project.

Diane Wood from Wayne City indicated the city has a new wastewater treatment facility (in the floodplain). She experienced a flood in the 1960's that covered a large section of Route 15 coming into the north side of town. She used a boat to get home during that event. I indicated that after the presentation I would help her make comments on the maps, but she left promptly after the presentation before I was able to talk to her.

Brent Maguire, mayor of Fairfield, indicated interest in providing structure data to enhance the approximate study affecting Fairfield. We discussed that FEMA had not funded that level of study in Fairfield, but ISWS would let FEMA know of Fairfield's desire for detailed studies in town. I mentioned that ISWS can also collaborate directly with the community for additional study if the community would be able to provide funding. This suggestion seemed coolly received.

MJR:

Jeff Jake – Wayne County EMA Director expressed concern about Golden Gate being an island during flood- he agreed with the delineation shown, but noting that he had only once in his 6 years of being in Wayne County seen the flood waters as high as they are shown in the SE of the Village (S. King Street)

Jeff also noted that if the levees along the river were to fail there would be large areas of the county that would flood.

Jeff has flown a drone over the flooding which he will forward on to us.

Jeff spoke with Ryan and requested PDF Maps be sent for the work that we have done in Wayne County.

Kevin Parker -Richland EMA Director- noted that the site of the WWTP in Olney was designated as a flood zone- he was not sure that this was ever flooded- Wayne County is writing their HMP and he does not think that mitigation for the plant is included.; Kevin will add this as a comment to the interactive map.

Diana Wood- Trustee for Wayne City – attended on behalf of the Village- she has worries about their WWTP becoming inundated during a heavy flood. Although nothing happened in the most recent flood, she wanted to draw out attention to the location. I spend some time explaining what we hope to gain from the Village in way of data for the future study of the Skillet Fork, and sent some of the basic FEMA Risk MAP fact sheets for the Village with the offer of being at the end of the telephone if the Village has and questions.

Jeff Jake offered to send one of his men across to Wayne City to photograph the flooding and might be able to send drone footage. He is concerned about the flooding in Wayne City. I mentioned the need for HWM etc- and pointed him to the Data Request sheet that was part of the meeting handout.

Jeff has agreed to be our local contact for Wayne County- he cannot guarantee being any better able to get responses from the smaller communities than we get- but he is willing to try.

RPM:

Kelly Lockhart spoke with Ryan and requested XS shapefile and Floodplain polygons for the Zone A study that was completed in the southwest corner of Coles County.

Brent Maguire, Mayor of Fairfield, spoke with Ryan about the printed floodplain map for Fairfield. 3 areas were identified on the printed map where the ISWS floodplain should be larger and more closely reflect the Effective FIRM's Zone A. A box culvert is located along Johnson Creek Trb A between 4th st and 2nd street. This area shows a very small floodplain compared to the effective FIRM. ISWS should explore expanding the floodplain here b/c they have witnessed more flooding than what we have mapped. The next area we discussed was along Johnson Creek Trb C at the intersection of Main St and Union Ave. The mayor indicated there is some type of culvert outlet here that backs up during flood events that causes more flooding than what ISWS has mapped. Upstream of this location just north of the intersection at Summer St and 7th St the effective FIRM's Zone A is showing crossing the road. New ISWS work shows floodplain cut-off at the road. They indicated that there is flooding on both sides of the road. ISWS should explore expanding our flood zone west of the road to cover the pond and drainage area.

A post meeting email was sent out to all the invited stakeholders. Links to the Interactive Map and the ISWS hosting the meeting presentation and other information were included in the email.

The stakeholders were asked to continue reviewing the data and adding comments to the Interactive Map, or if they preferred to fill out a comment form and submit that. The comment period closes March 31, 2020.

Pre- and Post- meeting surveys:

10 people returned the survey forms at the Effingham meeting, 5 people at the Clay meeting, and 6 people at the Wayne meeting.

Survey forms may be found in

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Pre-meeting Questions	Possible answer/ %				
	a lot	some	not much	yes	no
How much do you know about your community's flood risk?	38.9	61.1	0	NA	NA

How much do you know about FEMA Risk Mapping, Assessment and Planning (Risk MAP)?	3.3	78.9	17.8	NA	NA
Are you able to communicate flood risk to your community?	NA	NA	NA	74.4	25,6
Would you know where to go to get flood mitigation help?	NA	NA	NA	58.9	41.1
Post-meeting Questions	a lot	some	not much	yes	no
After this meeting how much do you know about your community's flood risk?	70	30	0	NA	NA
After this meeting how much do you know about FEMA Risk Mapping, Assessment and Planning (Risk MAP)?	58.9	41.1	0	NA	NA
Has this meeting helped you know how to better communicate flood risk to your	NA	NA	NA	96.7	3.3
Has this meeting helped you know where to go to get flood mitigation help?	NA	NA	NA	100	0

General summary of results: the participants found the meetings to be helpful in their understanding of their community's flood risk, how to communicate flood risk to their community, where to go to get help with flood mitigation, and what FEMA Risk Map entails.

Comments:

FRR comments and responses are located :

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