

Olive Flood Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes
Thursday, August 28, 2014
Olive Town Meeting Hall, Shokan, NY
6:30pm—8:30pm

In attendance:

Sylvia Rozzelle
Heather Gierloff
Ed Kahil
John Ingram
Dom Covello
Jimmy Hyde
Leslie Zucker
Judith Coutinho
Jody Hoyt
Nick Burger
Andrew Emrich
Danyelle Davis
Aaron Bennett

Supervisor Update

Sylvia introduced Heather Gierloff, who is now able to join the committee, and gave an overview of the agenda. Getting the Requests for Proposals (RFP) to engineering firms is a high priority. If NYS Community Rising funds come through next year, they want to be able to combine all resources to implement projects. Sylvia expressed dissatisfaction with NY Rising, but she is hopeful they will see funds from it soon.

Review Local Flood Analysis RFP Scope of Work

The Committee needs to do a final review of the Scope of Services for the Request for Proposals. The Ashokan Watershed Stream Management Program (AWSMP) will administer the RFP on behalf of the Town of Olive.

Scope of Services: Decisions need to be made about outreach and how many public meetings will be held. Study area boundaries in Boiceville and West Shokan need to be looked at, so that all major flooding concerns are addressed. Town of Olive will decide what engineering firm will be hired to do the Local Flood Analysis (LFA).

There are three phases of LFA.

Phase 1: Flood Engineering Analysis

Task 1: Outlines consultant responsibilities for coordination, reporting, and outreach.

Task 2: Data collection/ field verification: The modelers will use this data to build models and validate. They will run the models and make sure their results match the FEMA flood study results. The duplicate FEMA model will be updated and corrected if necessary, and run for 2, 10, 25, 50, 100, and 500-year flood conditions. They will be gathering input from multiple sources on mitigation solutions that the community wants to test. They want to find solutions that will reduce the extent of inundation. Ideas can be run through the models quickly and will add negligible cost.

It is important to look at structural solutions, but also non-structural, like education, flood proofing, elevation of properties, relocation, emergency response plans, and improvements to the current system.

Once mitigation alternatives are modeled, a quick feasibility analysis will be done. A technical memorandum will be issued to show if the solution is effective. It is critical that the report is distributed to the Town Board and the committee, as recommendations will be made from it and determine what projects will move to Phase 2: Feasibility Analysis. Current infrastructure, or infrastructure being implemented, will need to be built into models. It is important to narrow down the most feasible projects.

There is continual effort to bring in all funding sources for projects, from New York State, Catskill Watershed Corporation, AWSMP, and FEMA for emergency disaster declarations. Consultants will be able to give s advice on which funding sources fit their projects best.

There is not a town-wide flood mitigation plan in Olive that qualifies it for FEMA's Community Rating System. Brent Gotsch (AWSMP) did a detailed comparison of the requirements of CRS with what happened with NY Rising and there was a large gap that needs to be made up.

Phase 3: Completing a Town Flood Hazard Mitigation Plan

Outreach strategy - Olive could follow Shandaken's example of six meetings. Outreach is ongoing during project; overall project will take approximately 6 to 8 months to complete. Since the hamlets (Boiceville and West Shokan) are small, fewer public meetings could be held in a central location in Olive. A larger scope of meetings, with break-out meetings, could work. Can reduce six meetings to four. Shandaken is using engineering firm MMI and they have been very flexible with their meeting availability.

Study Area Boundaries for LFA

The Boiceville map shows the Esopus Creek. The yellow lines across the creek on the map are cross-sectional surveys done by consultants hired to complete the FEMA flood studies. A detailed map was made to create the hydraulic models. The outer edge of the study area should be the end points of the cross sections (as modeling can only extend to the ends of the cross sections), but the edge of the 500-year floodplain should be included.

The small bridge on the road coming off the Trib 8 stream (coming off Bostock Road) was almost washed out. It is important because if Boiceville and Route 28 are under water, the only

way to get east and west is to use DeSilva Road or Upper Boiceville Road and go through school parking lot. The culvert at the bottom of DeSilva Road is substandard, as is the bridge up on Upper Boiceville Road. It needs to be higher, wider, etc.

LFA funds are currently only available for population centers. The proxy used to determine population centers is the MOA-designated hamlet areas. Boiceville is in a designated area, but some of the floodplain area is outside and needs to be addressed.

Boundaries were discussed. The scope is mostly centered around modeling and replication of FEMA models. Where there aren't models in place, an additional scope item will need to be added.

It was asked if another boundary upstream in West Shokan can be added. Hamlet expansion and streambanks need to be addressed. LFA is limited to deal with population centers. Anyone who models this will have to consider treatment upstream.

If an area doesn't qualify for LFA funding, another study looking at sediment sources and transport in these areas will be needed. It would build on data that has already been collected. It would be a good AWSMP SMIP grant application for the Town to make: a sediment dynamics study. The City may also be able to provide support through a professional engineering agreement with MMI. This study would be separate from LFA.

It was noted that in just a few meetings, Olive has generated a lot of different project ideas. Leslie suggested that Ulster County Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) be there for the next meeting and discuss objectives for projects and start ranking project ideas.

AWSMP has \$2 million grant funds over five years available to fund projects mostly in Olive and Shandaken. The next grant round will be in October 2014. Think about the long-term plan for implementing projects, and start with asking for funding for engineering and design work. Funding for construction will come later.

One grant program that we can apply to now for match to complete a town-wide flood mitigation plan is Hudson Valley Greenway Community Grants. The maximum request is \$10K. Ulster County will assist with preparing the grant application. A Town Resolution in support of the grant application would be due by September 8.

Next steps: AWSMP will finalize changes just made and will be sent out for one last review and the Town will have to sign off on it. One of the AWSMP partners, Cornell Cooperative Extension (CCE) of Ulster County will issue RFP. In the Rondout-Neversink watershed they set a three-week deadline for submission of proposals. AWSMP would like to do the same.

The contract with engineering and planning firm will be held by CCE, but nothing will be done without Town approval. After approval, CCE handles administration.

There are several engineers to choose from. The Rondout-Neversink program received five proposals from MMI, Dewberry, Woidt Engineering, HDR, and Barton & LoGuidice. Each

proposal received was between 10 and 20 pages. They have to submit detailed cost sheets and show how they generated their estimate. The committee scores each applicant and makes recommendation, and the Town Board makes the decision. We reserve the right to refuse proposals.

Next Meeting

A meeting with Ulster County SWCD to discuss the list of projects should be scheduled when Bobby and Adam return from a 2-week training in October. Meeting should be timed with RFP and consultant proposals as well.