

Memorandum

Reference # 13134.202

Status: Correspondence

Date: 23 February 2021

Attention: Jeremy McBryan

From: Baird

RE: Meeting Notes – Modeling to Support an Appeal of FEMA 2019 Preliminary FIRMs – Kickoff Meeting Summary – Deliverable 1.1

Attendees

Jeremy McBryan – Palm Beach County

Gordon Thomson – Baird

Onur Kurum – Baird

Tadd Henson - Baird

Agenda

1. Confirm project objectives
2. Review the scope of work and schedule
3. Establish lines of communications for data sharing
4. Review available data and information
5. Clarify project requirements.

Notes

- Reviewed the scope that is outlined in PROPOSAL FOR MODELING TO SUPPORT AN APPEAL OF FEMA PRELIMINARY FLOOD INSURANCE RATE MAPS FOR EASTERN PALM BEACH COUNTY dated January 5, 2021 task by task in detail.
- 90-day appeal period will start before April 26. We should try and get a good portion of the modeling and report completed before then. Jeremy needs a 30-day lead time for the Board.
- For Task 1 it was noted that the Work plan should not just restate what is already in the proposal. The proposal will likely be a basis but make it useful with any concepts or approaches we may take. It was decided that Friday is a good day for status calls.
 - This meeting will act as our kick-off call.
- For Task 2 involves developing a more detailed mesh at several inlets and rerunning several storms. While most notable at Boynton Inlet, inadequate mesh size was also observed at Boca Raton, Lake Worth (or Palm Beach), and Jupiter Inlets. The current plan is to run Hurricane Wilma validation event and Storm 21 with the updated mesh. This should provide an idea of how the 1%

elevations may be impacted. Jeremy would like to submit a map in the appeal to show any differences.

- Onur has acquired the ADCIRC model. He has access to a high-power computer cluster to perform the modeling. He is currently compiling the source code.
- Task 3 involves refining Wind and Pressure Field Grid because the northern 32 miles of Palm Beach County were modeled using only the coarse grid. It is uncertain how much or if the refinement will impact the results.
 - We will extend the grid into Martin County.
 - If we find the revised grid has negligible effect, then we should reallocate time into other tasks that may have greater impact.
- Task 4 involves running Hurricanes Frances and Jeanne through FEMA's models to see if the model can reproduce these events. To complete this task the OWI (Oceanweather Inc.) wind and pressure fields from the East Central Coast Florida Study need to be requested from FEMA. Onur mentioned that there are several other items that should be requested as well to help with the modeling.
- Task 5 includes summarizing the results into an appeal package.
 - We should include the evaluations from our initial assessment even if we cannot or don't quantify the impact, such as the dune breaching issue.
- Onur mentioned that he has a good relationship with the ADCIRC model developer and could bring him on to the team if needed.