The Complex Path Forward for Minot and the Souris River Basin to Recover from Devastating 2011 Flood

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Speaker Bio:

Nathan Wallerstedt, a project manager and civil engineer with the St. Paul District USACE has worked on a variety of civil works projects within the district including Devils Lake, ND and Roseau, MN flood risk management projects and multiple Continuing Authorities Program projects and is currently the Continuing Authorities Program Manager and Section 408 coordinator for the District.

Joe Waln, a project manager and civil engineer at Barr Engineering, works on floodplain management design and analysis, detailed hydraulic and hydrologic modeling, scour analysis, storm water management, and watershed best management practice studies. Joe is a certified floodplain manager and is LEED accredited. Prior to engineering, he taught high school physics, computers and English.

Mark Kretschmer, a project manager and civil engineer at Barr Engineering primarily works on projects related to flood control, hydroelectric, and stormwater management projects. He has provided design expertise for large-scale flood and risk management efforts and has worked with FERC, MN DNR, MPCA and USACE. Mark is also LEED accredited.

Presentation Synopsis:

Minot, ND and the Souris River Valley have successfully fought several past floods and have had Federal assistance from the Corps of Engineers in constructing major flood risk reduction projects including levees, channel enlargement and upstream flood storage. However, even with the projects functioning as designed, the winter snowmelt and late spring rains resulted in 2011 flood flows five times greater than design flows and devastated residents of Minot and all along the river. Over 4000 homes were damaged and over 10,000 residents were displaced from their flooded home.

Local communities and State and Federal interests all focused on flood recovery and looking to reduce the impacts of future floods of this magnitude on the valley residents. Easier said than done. The State of North Dakota took the lead in helping the City of Minot and the four counties affected by the flood, develop a concept plan to provide projects that would prevent future damages from a recurrence of another 2011 magnitude flood. However, changes that the proposed projects would have on the existing Federal projects, the high costs and environmental aspects of the plan, and the changing hydrologic conditions have all combined to present implementation challenges. The complexities of the Corps of Engineers 408 process of approving changes to existing Corps projects, the benefit-cost requirements for Federal funding, evaluation of the changes to the existing frequency/discharge relationship, integration of various State and Federal programs, and phased implementation strategies all add to the complexity of addressing the needs of the area residents.

Meeting Location:

LOCATION CHANGE: Stantec, 2335 Highway 36 West, Roseville, MN 55113. Park in the south parking lot off of Fulham St. near the intersection of the Hwy 36 Service Road.

Agenda:

Social time and lunch (if you so desire) will be from 11:30 AM to 12:30 PM. A boxed lunch will be available for $10. Please RSVP no later than September 23, 2016, with your intent to either partake in the lunch or to come for the presentation only; this will help to ensure that an adequate amount of food is prepared. Either leave a message with Michelle Larson at 651-290-5632, click the RSVP button in the left-hand column of page 1, or send an email to michelle.j.larson@usace.army.mil.
At the June 2016 technical presentation, Sherry Van Duyn, PE from Landmark Environmental, LLC and Ben Hodapp, PWS from Anderson Engineering presented “A Unique Cleanup Spurs Redevelopment of a Blighted Beach -- South Shore Lake Bemidji”. The project was a creative environmental cleanup of a blighted beach on Lake Bemidji. Piles of wood debris in the lake and on the beach, remnants of Bemidji’s rugged sawmill and lumber industry, were cleaned up for public use and ecological restoration. The project included a unique environmental design that included construction of a 5.5 acre cofferdam and dewatering to remove and recycle wood debris from the lake and along the shoreline. The project also included removal of contaminated soil and sediment and ecological restoration. Significant permits were required for working in the lake and shoreline and a collaborative approach was successful. The project was funded by the Outdoor Heritage Fund.

Prior to our annual golf tournament in July, Ms. Kristine Kubes, Esq. (pictured in bottom right with Wayne Wambold), provided a two hour discussion on professional ethics. Kristine talked about our liabilities and responsibilities as architects and engineers for our built environments. We had a lively discussion on the requirements of licensure and a professional’s responsibility to be accountable for the work they sign and reviewed what titles mean and when they can be used. Another topic was working on a project within another state and how the responsibilities for licensure were impacted. The presentation closed with a couple of case examples which were reviewed by your group. The case studies exemplified typical ethical dilemmas that have been faced by engineers and architects in the course of their daily careers.

This training satisfied the MN state licensure boards requirements for two hours of ethics training.

Highlights of the Previous Meetings

A Note From the President

Readers,

Our Post has had a busy summer. We held our 31st Annual Education and Mentoring Fund Golf Tournament in July. Thank you to all of the hole sponsors and golfers. We went for a 3 hour tour on the Motor Vessel Mississippi in August. We also held our Post’s Annual Awards Banquet at the Como Park Zoo and Conservatory. Our regular, monthly meetings will start up again this September. Keep an eye out for our upcoming programs, events and volunteer opportunities. I look forward to serving as your Post President. Do not hesitate to reach out to me with questions, comments, or to discuss ways in which you can help our post be successful, wwwam-bold@sehinc.com or 651.490.2108.

-Wayne Wambold, Post President

Small Business Corner

The MSP Post is working on our next panel discussion for the fall which will include experts on Mentor Protégé. On July 25, 2016, the Small Business Administration published a final rule significantly expanding its mentor-protégé program to now include all small businesses. The purpose of the mentor-protégé program is “to enhance the capabilities of protégé firms by requiring approved mentors to provide business development assistance to protégé firms and to improve the protégé firms ability to successfully compete for federal contracts.”
2016 SAME-MSP Awards Banquet

The Sixth Annual Minneapolis-Saint Paul Post Awards and Recognition Banquet held on August 10, 2016 was another great success. Approximately 50 people were in attendance, one of our best turnouts! The banquet consisted of recognition of outstanding SAME members, an update from the St. Thomas University SAME Student Post, a presentation from a camp attendee, and presentation of the Great Lakes Regional awards by new RVP Tom Heinold.

Chris Afdahl inducted the new board members including: Wayne Wambold, Jon Gustafson, Peter Allen, Nate Meisgeier, Rachel Pichelmann, Lindsey Roberts McKenzie, Ann Banitt, Bonnie Greenleaf, Paul Dierking and Sherry Van Duyn. Jon Gustafson rolled out the new Post Strategic Plan.

Motor Vessel Mississippi Tour

On August 8th, members of the Post participated in a tour of the Motor Vessel Mississippi, the largest diesel towboat built in the United States and commissioned in 1993. The MV Mississippi spends the majority of its time as a working towboat for the Memphis District, operates as a floating command post during emergency response efforts and performs high and low water inspections on the river. The tour departed from Lambert’s Landing in St. Paul to Lock and Dam No. 2 in Hastings. During the tour Mark Koenig, Terry Zien, Nate Wallerstedt, Nate Campbell and Chris Erickson provided a briefing and information session of the St. Paul District Corps of Engineers Civil Works Programs. A great big thank you goes out to the presenters and Brett Coleman for coordinating this fantastic opportunity.
ASCE/COPRI/SAME Workshop—P3 and Alternative Financing for Waterways Infrastructure

Please see the following link to register for a joint COPRI/ASCE-MN/SAME workshop in St. Paul, MN on September 20th: [http://events.r20.constantcontact.com/register/event?oeidk=a07ecn7g2ac309c00c8&llr=xfl8oepab][events.r20.constantcontact.com]. More information is provided on the registration page.

**Calling All Volunteers!** The organizing committee is also looking for volunteers to assist with setup/sign-in (~8 to 9:30 am), notetaking of facilitated stakeholder discussions (~1 to 3 pm), and facilitation and report out of stakeholder breakout discussion sessions (~1 to 4 pm). Please contact Bob Beduhn (Bob.Beduhn@hdrinc.com or 402.399.1090) if interested in helping with the workshop.

Minnesotan Military Family Foundation Golf Classic

The 7th Annual MMFF Charity Golf Classic was held at Bunker Hills Golf Course on Tuesday, August 16th to raise funds for support of deployed military personnel and their families. The weather was awesome, and the torrential rain held off until all golfers were in the event hall for dinner. The MMFF has raised over $1 million dollars to support military families in their time of need. Our Post sponsored Hole #8 on the West course and were represented by Peter Allen, Chris Afdahl, Joe Dvorak and Wayne Wambold. Fifty-two teams participated in the event, with the winning team posting a score of 17-under par. Our team had a lot fun and posted a modest 6-under par, with one eagle.

31st Annual MSP Post Education and Mentoring Fund Golf Tournament

The 31st Annual MSP Post Education and Mentoring Fund Golf Tournament was held at Oak Marsh Golf Course on July 14, 2016. The Post sincerely thanks all the golfers who participated and the hole sponsors who supported the event, ensuring financial success. This year’s hole sponsors included Anderson Engineering, Barr Engineering Co, CTA Architects, HDR (hole-in-one contest sponsor), Landmark Environmental, SEH, SEH/ Himalayan JV, Stanley Consultants, and Stantec. Our 2016-2017 scholarship recipients (Kaitlin Hennen, Grace Pelowitz, and Justin Eayrs pictured top right with Jon Gustafson) and our 2016 SAME Engineering Camp attendee (Matthew Steiner) were also present to assist with the event and be recognized at the dinner.

Congratulations to the 1st place team, which included Roger Anderson, Nick Hillmer, Eric Sautbine and Joe Lucht (pictured top left). The 2nd place team included Wayne Wambold, Tom Novak, Tom Crump and Mark Babich (pictured bottom left). The contest winners were Chris Erickson (men’s longest drive), Mike Knoff (longest putt), and Wayne Wambold (closest to the pin). Chris and Mike are pictured to the left.