

MSFA Board of Directors

Jerry Hancock

Executive Director

Jerry Hancock has a BS in Forestry from Michigan Technological University and an MS in Environmental Planning from Eastern Michigan University. He has worked for the City of Ann Arbor in various environmental roles since 1990. He is currently the Stormwater and Floodplain Programs Coordinator for the City's Systems Planning Unit and has been a Certified Floodplain Manager (CFM) since 2005. Some of his duties include: implementation of the City's Hazard Mitigation Plan; Community Rating System administration; Hazard Mitigation Grant administration; Stormwater Utility implementation; Public project planning; implementation of Watershed Improvement Plans; site plan review; and support the City's soil erosion and sedimentation control program. Jerry served on the Statewide Advisory Committee for the Low Impact Development Manual for Michigan (2008). Jerry has been actively involved with the board of the Michigan Stormwater Floodplain Association (MSFA) since the mid-1990s, and is the 2018 recipient of the MSFA George Hosek Outstanding Service Award.

Aaron Hacker, P.E., CFM

Chair

Aaron has over 15 years of experience as an Engineer and Project Manager. He specializes in project management, stormwater management, water, wastewater, transportation and site development. Aaron also has extensive construction and field inspection experience, including inspection services for the Detroit Water and Sewer Department, Detroit Public Works, and the City of Rochester, for road projects including force main piping, trenching, gravity piping, milling, green infrastructure installation, full reconstruction, sidewalks, etc.

Kristina Geelhood

Vice Chair

Kristina Geelhood has a bachelor's degree in Environmental Engineering from Michigan State University. She currently works with Fishbeck but has previous experience with local and State government. She has been very excited to see the collaboration and education that MSFA provides regarding stormwater and floodplain management issues. She looks forward to her continued participation in the group through the Community Rating Systems Committee, and her current position as Vice Chair.

John Bayha, P.E.

Treasurer

John Bayha is an Environmental Engineer in the Water Resources Division for the Kalamazoo District Office for the Department of Environment, Great Lakes and Energy (EGLE). He has a B.S. and M.S. in Civil Engineering from Western Michigan University (WMU) and teaches Civil Engineering part-time at WMU as well. He previously worked in private consulting for 6 years, working primarily on water and wastewater infrastructure projects before joining EGLE in 2013. In his current position as an Environmental Engineer he completes permit reviews and compliance activities for public and private projects that include impacts to floodplains and the Lake Michigan shoreline in southwest Michigan.

Carol Thurber, P.E., CFM

Secretary

Carol Thurber has a BS in Civil Engineering from The Ohio State University. She has 35 years of related work experience and is currently employed by Nowak & Fraus Engineers. She has been a Certified Floodplain Manager since 2011 and was drawn to MSFA because of her passion for hydrology and floodplain management. She enjoys the association's continuing education opportunities and the synergy between public and private professionals.

Matt Occhipinti, P.E., CFM

NFIP Coordinator

Matthew Occhipinti is the NFIP Coordinator for Michigan and a floodplain engineer. His duties include assisting communities with NFIP regulations, adopting new floodplain maps, and joining the NFIP; technical assistance to communities, engineers, and the regulated community. Before becoming the NFIP coordinator, Matt was a district floodplain engineer with EGLE for 17 years, working in the state floodplain and great lakes shorelines programs. Matt graduated from Michigan Technological University in 1999.