

Minutes from CHPS Meeting Thursday May 20, 2010

Attendees:

ABRFC – Billy Olsen, Eric Jones, Jeff McMurphy
CNRFC – Rob Hartman
NERFC – Rob Shedd, Ron Horwood, Alison MacNeil
NWRFC – Harold Opitz, Joe Intermill
NOHRSC – John Halquist
Deltares – Peter Gijssbers
OCWWS HSD – Randy Rieman, Dave Riley
OHD – Jon Roe, Chris Dietz, Mark Fresch

Pre-reading:

- Support Log distributed via chps_ops on May 19, 2010

1. Health check on Support Log (major issues, show stoppers)

APRFC: the database support issue has been ongoing for a couple of weeks now. Deltares is waiting for Frederik to resolve. If it hasn't been resolved by Friday (5/21) Frederik will address it during the System Manager's training next week.

NWRFC: the sync problem continues. We experienced another GUI crash and will forward details.

From Deltares/Erik: the CM crashes with the latest build will be fixed with the next (June) release. There will be no need to clean out the database this time.

CNRFC: Same issue with configuration upload problem as others are seeing. No new major problems to report.

Action: none.

2. HIC agenda, August 2010

Billy asked for feedback on the proposed agenda item for CHPS.

- Jon won't be able to attend. Don Cline could lead the session if needed.
- Suggested focus might capture RFCs' concerns for moving CHPS into operations
- Another suggestion: how do RFCs want to leverage CHPS to accomplish more? We need to start the dialogue concerning the "C" in CHPS and start taking advantage of opportunities which are presenting themselves now. CUAHSI could provide access to numerous universities. If we don't take full advantage of the upcoming July conference we will miss a golden opportunity that won't present itself for another 2 years. This is something Pedro should tackle. Meanwhile Don Cline is looking at the current budget process and ways to improve it; the post-CHPS focus for RFCs will be tied to this.
- Open a discussion on how to define and guide the "ship" once CHPS is deemed operational. What happens to the CAT?
- Avoid providing status reports and focus on important discussion topics
- 3 hours will be enough.

Action: none.

3. Development Registry review

Additional items were due by COB 5/19 (yesterday).

NERFC has sent their additions to Edwin

NWRFC has sent an email to the infolist

CNRFC has sent an email to Edwin

ABRFC will send an email within the next couple of hours.

Edwin will compile a complete list tomorrow. The next step is to prioritize.

Action: none.

4. Advanced Configuration Training class at NWRFC w/c June 7

Chris said the number of students is 12-14, requiring 7 workstations. NWRFC indicated they only expected to set up 4 – is this an issue? No, NWRFC will make sure there are enough workstations available.

Peter reiterated the need for students to have significant practical expertise in FEWS (CHPS) as a prerequisite. The instructors will provide NO basics. There will be a lot of information and large numbers of exercises; if anyone struggles there will be no “rescues”. Students without the necessary experience would not get enough benefit from the class and potentially would slow down everyone else as they ask questions.

Student counts are currently as follows: NERFC (2); ABRFC (1); CNRFC (2); NWRFC (3); OHD (4); HSD (2). Peter is concerned about the level of practical experience within HSD; HSD will review their participation.

Class starts at 8:00 am Monday and runs through noon on Friday. Peter asked for one RFC to volunteer to provide gridded forcings in a mountainous area. During the class the participants will configure a distributed model – not a Sacramento, but one developed by Jaap which is on operational use elsewhere. NERFC will supply data but pointed out that Deltares should already have it. All students should bring a few segments to “play” with and improve so they are more efficient; he recommends they select a flooding period so that some thresholds are exceeded. Peter will send out an email with information.

Action: none.

5. Other items

- i. Chris has asked Don Cline to attend the CAT-II workshop in Boulder; he hasn't responded yet. If Don doesn't go to Boulder, RobH and Harold will come to Silver Spring on Friday 6/18.
- ii. RobH is concerned that the adapter for ESPADP needs to be changed. The extent of configuration files is too granular; it would be better to have a single configuration file. CNRFC needs continued support for the legacy/ESPADP solution to continue with their “build-your-own” interface on the Web server. Mark will discuss with Hank to see if the ESPADP change is feasible.

Mark sought confirmation for requirements to make the Graphics Generator operationally viable/acceptable:

- Test with the “operator client” version of CHPS (Note: this really means test with a Live System, as there is an Operator Client with both the SA and Live Systems)
- Include testing of Graphics Generator in SAT (Note: Hank’s schedule means he won’t make the June SAT so he’ll target the September SAT instead)
- Update the user’s manual with field-suggested improvements
- Ensure the web products generated meet the AHPS Web Page requirements (work with Donna Page)
- Training provided
- Operational support provided
- Re-factor when new API is developed (Note: this item should be added to the Development Registry)

Other notes:

Any work on ESPADP will detract from Graphics Generator activities.

The focus from CNRFC’s perspective is to assemble only the essential pieces for CHPS operations in October.

Future Graphics Generator development would benefit from quarterly releases not monthly – monthly requires too much effort. We have heard the same from Deltares re. FEWS releases. All releases (patches included) consume precious developer resources.

Hank might be able to put out an interim GG release between June and September.

- iii. NWRFC’s COE requirement is a top priority. NW has already discovered that running an OC remotely by exporting the display is painfully slow and hence unacceptable. We (NW, Deltares, OHD) are currently looking into other potential solutions. One recommended approach from Deltares is to run VNC at the COE; NW has this up and running and will test locally tomorrow, then with the COE on Monday. If this solution doesn’t work we must consider another alternative.
- iv. Deltares needs to send foreign national information for Jaap to NWRFC before the Advanced Config class. Deltares will not need access to NWRFC on Sunday June 6. Harold will arrange for a block reservation at a local hotel and will distribute information.
- v. Chris will send Boulder hotel information to Eric.

Action: Deltares to forward foreign national data on Jaap to NWRFC before the class in June.

Action: Chris to send Eric hotel details for the CAT-II workshop in Boulder, June 21-25.

Next meeting: Thursday May 27, 2010.