

Beaufort County Stormwater Management Utility Board (SWMU Board)
Meeting Minutes

April 6, 2011 at 2:00 p.m. in Beaufort County Council Chambers
Draft April 19, 2011

Board Members

Present	Absent
Don Smith	Allyn Schneider
John Youmans	
William Bruggeman	
James Fargher	
Donald Cammerata	
Brad Samuel	

Ex-Officio Members

Present	Absent
Scott Liggett	CoB Representative
Ron Bullman	Tony Maglione

Beaufort County Staff

Daniel Ahern
Rob McFee
Lori Sexton
Billie Lindsay
Amanda Flake
Eddie Bellamy

Visitors

Reed Armstrong, CCL
Laura Lee Rose, Clemson Extension
Terry Logan, Logan Environmental
Paul Moore, Ward Edwards
Reggie Reeves, GEL
Jack Walker, GEL
Lamar Taylor, CoB

1. Meeting called to order - Don Smith.

- A. Agenda approved.
- B. March 2, 2011 Minutes were approved with correction on page 5.

2. Introductions

3. Public Comment - None

4. Reports

- A. **Stormwater (SW)/Form based code - Subcommittee Report** - Don Smith - nothing to report from the subcommittee. Don Smith asked if there was anything to review. Dan Ahern reported that Form based stormwater proposals have not been received.
- B. **Monitoring Update** – GEL - presented a power point on third year report and update on recent activities. This included changes in sample locations, recommendations from 3rd year report. Reported on year 4 activities that included: Eagles Point Copper evaluation; and work on Fecal Coliform Sediments. There were questions on purpose of BMP efficiency monitoring and why new location is needed. BMP testing has evolved from determining efficiency to what is quality of effluent. Brad Samuel asked if some new project like Tanger Outlet could be a BMP testing site. Scott Liggett asked what the finding about the loads being monitored is less than the SW Management plan. The loads being measured are less than predicted in the

management plan. William Bruggeman asked if we monitored before and after large projects like Tanger Outlet. Reported concern on Old Tanger Outlet was volume and Al Stokes was going to be observing if runoff is reduced as expected.

There were a number of questions on the copper evaluation testing and the result of the Biotic Ligand model tests and application sampling was presented in a recently submitted report. The report recommends an operational solution that would limit pond discharge for 24 hours after application to make use of the rapid reduction of copper concentration during this period. There has been discussion for future sediment testing with BJWSA Aquifer Storage and Recovery (ASR). This cooperative sampling activity is to determine impacts of FC concentration when known amount of water is discharged to a ditch. It is hoped that the two tests that are being monitored will shed some light on the fresh water discharge/fecal coliform interaction in our wetlands.

There were questions on temporary closing of some shellfish beds after rainfall events (conditionally approved). These are questions that are controlled by the national shellfish sanitation program procedures.

- C. Upcoming Professional Contracts Report** – Dan Ahern – reviewed one page document that is our ongoing proposal report. One of the contracts reported last month has been approved (Allison Ramsey contract) and there is a new request to assist on a new pilot. This request is to partner with a development at Coosaw Point to see if a development could easier retrofit their development rather than apply on-lot controls. We are expecting proposals on April 12th and will proceed after they are reviewed. We want to get board input on doing this because we may initiate before the next meeting. Board asked for description of Coosaw Point. It is an approved development that is only partially completed. This analysis will see how close this development is to meeting current Step 1 volume controls and if they don't we will look at various combinations of alternatives to meet volume controls

D. Utility Updates – Dan Ahern –reported on a few activities:

- ❖ **SW Financial** - Documents from our finance office are in your file. Alan Eisenman is due back in May for quarterly presentation.
- ❖ **Military SW Fees** - There have been some recent developments in this area and we have received recent GAO and DOJ opinions on the recent law. The February 25, 2011 DOJ opinion addressed the recent law stipulation about the fees must be appropriated before paying and stated that does not have to be. We have sent these two opinions to our county attorney to see if we should issue a new demand letter to the military bases.
- ❖ **NERRS Grant** - SCDNR is again competing for funding. This is the same proposal that was submitted last year and which was briefed to the board. If funded, it will provide some independent evaluation of the impact of retrofits and BMPs on Estuarine Water Resources.

If it follows the same track as last year they will be notified at the end of the summer. In your packets is our support letter.

- ❖ **First Retrofit - O'Bryan Pond** - This project is proceeding and we had a preconstruction meeting with the engineer and based on this we developed a construction schedule. We will need a temporary easement on this property to temporarily handle the excavated dirt from the pond. Planning a final meeting with home owner on April 8, 2011
 - ❖ **Gascoigne Bluff Retrofit** - This project may be making some progress. After not hearing from the POA for some time, thanks to efforts by the Town of Bluffton, we did get a counter easement proposal from the POA. This was reviewed by our attorney and sent back with comments. We are now awaiting response and evaluating use of dirt from the site.
 - ❖ **Water Budget Study** - We are now into plan C with this study. This had been approved with a proposed agreement with SCDNR hydrology department. The State budget situation has lead to SC DNR to back out. Dr Badr the Head of SC Hydrology section is now a professor with Clemson University and the Department of Civil Engineering has agreed to work with us on this study. It is hoped that the agreement will be authorized shortly. It will be the same scope as originally authorized. A copy of their offer of support is included in your packet. The board asked what the study was. It was a comparison between a developed and undeveloped watershed to determine how much additional runoff is occurring. The cost will be \$50,000 for the two year study.
 - ❖ **Beaufort County Participation on Center for Watershed Protection/Chesapeake Stormwater Network Webcast** – We are continuing to work with the Center on our participation in an April 13th Webcast on stormwater design for the coastal plain. Bob Klink and I had a preliminary meeting conference call March 21st and a practice run on April 5th. We have been asked to provide 10 to 20 minute local perspective on the coastal plain issues that influence the county perspective and provide a top 10 tips for local stormwater managers and designers. We will also be highlighting our on-lot tool for handling stormwater volume. The free webcast is being opened to those in SC due to our participation and we have announced this at last month's SCASM meeting.
- E. Maintenance Project Report** – Eddie Bellamy – He reported to the Board on 5 major projects (Ashepoo Drive; Chisholm Hill Road Outfall; Cherry Point Road; Leo Green Road Outfall; and Colonial Heights, Phase III) and 5 minor project summaries completed since last report. Planning to implement a new automated system in the next two months and this should simplify preparation on project summaries. A board member asked about our involvement in road construction and Rob McFee said they are managed by SCDOT.

5. Unfinished Business

- A. Lots of Record but not Built Status** – Since our last meeting we are continuing to address the two main actions requested by the Natural Resource Committee at their February meeting. On the homebuilders concern side we have conducted a workshop on March 4 and then addressed a Homebuilders Association Meeting on March 22. As part of these meeting we have agreed

to drop mandatory storage and reuse, from the worksheet, if home has installed irrigation system. This will reduce costs to meet the volume reduction requirements. We are partnering with BJWSA to consider linking an incentive program for water conservation to increase voluntary use of SW storage and reuse.

The outreach to municipalities and neighboring counties is also being worked and we included a briefing on Step 2 controls at the IGA workshop for municipalities on March 18 and had David Jirousek, planning director for Jasper County, brief the Natural Resources Committee on their plans for a new SW Ordinance, that could be addressing volume controls, at the NRC April 4th meeting.

We are targeting to come back to the Natural Resources Committee on May 2, 2011.

- B. Regional Coordination – Dan Ahern** – The SW Implementation Committee (SWIC) had two meetings in March (9th and 17) and then prepared presentations and coordinated the March 18, 2011 IGA workshop in the Town of Bluffton.
- C. Utility IGA Agreements – Rob McFee** – Reported on the March 18, 2011 meeting that included senior members from all municipalities. The county comments on the ToHHI’s draft should go out in the next few days. There are two sticking points (Administrative fee and water quality commitments) on the table and also consideration on extending current agreement to give time to resolve the sticking points.

Don Smith asked if similar issues exist in other municipalities. Mr. McFee said this was true on administrative fee and the water quality commitment varies based on geographic location and impact on infill and redevelopment.

6. New Business

- A. WQ Retrofit Report – Dan Ahern** – Introduced Paul Moore, Ward Edwards, to present their phase 1 report on regional retrofit. Report was electronically available and will be posted on the stormwater website. Initially 8 sites from the SW Management Plan were studied and a ninth retrofit was identified in the Okatie River. Some of the original sites are no longer viable options and some retrofit relocations were changed to improve the potential improvement. The sites were ranked as high, medium and low priority. There are two high priority sites in the Okatie and one high and 2 medium sites in Battery Creek. A power point on each of the recommended sites with the volume and water quality implications. The report recommends that the county consider:
 - gain property now for all viable sites
 - do two sites per year starting in Okatie
 - prequalify local contractors for additional assistance if needed
 - continue education on importance of retrofits to assist in dealing homeowners
 - explore partnering with BJWSA and POA’s on use of stormwater for irrigation.

Ron Bullman said we are talking about volume but volume is just part of the fecal coliform load and do we know about the water quality. This is the reason the utility has been doing existing water quality monitoring that GEL explained. Don Cammerata asked if these are

included in the budget. These are updated cost numbers and these exact numbers are not included in budget. Don Smith asked if retrofit in areas with no water quality controls give the best return. The SW Management Plan related current impairments to area without water quality controls. The reason for addressing volume in these retrofits is to address the adverse impact we have been seeing in headwaters of tidal creeks from excess runoff.

7. Public Comment – Don Smith asked about designating a representative from the City of Beaufort. A Representative from City said it should be designated soon.

8. Next meeting agenda – Approved the proposed agenda for May 4, 2011 meeting.

9. Meeting adjourned.