



Beaufort County Stormwater Management Utility Board (SWMU Board)

Meeting Minutes

August 17th, 2022 at 2:00 p.m.
Beaufort County Council Chambers

Board Members

Present

Steven Andrews
Ron Buchanan
Patrick Mitchell
Dennis Ross
Ed Warner

Absent

James Clark
James Fargher
Marc Feinberg

Ex-Officio Members

Present

Bill Baugher
Van Willis
Jacob Terry

Absent

Nate Farrow
Jeff Netzinger

Beaufort County Staff

Katie Herrera
Neil Desai
Julianna Corbin
Jon Spencer
Carolyn Wallace

Matt Rausch

Visitors

Alice Howard, County Council
Ellen Sturup Comeau, Clemson Extension
Danielle Mickel

1. Meeting called to order – Mr. Patrick Mitchell at 2:00 pm

- A. Agenda – Approved
- B. Approval of Minutes – Approved.

2. Introductions – Completed.

- ✓ Mr. Mitchell welcomes Mr. Ron Buchannan, Mr. Dennis Ross, and Mr. Ed Warner.

3. Public Comment(s) – None.

4. Special Presentations – None.

5.Reports

A. Utility Update – Mrs. Katie Herrera

- ✓ Mrs. Herrera presents the Barrett Lawrimore Award before the council, which was received for collaborative efforts to develop and implement the Southern Lowcountry Stormwater Manual.
- ✓ Southern Lowcountry Regional Board (SoLoCo)
 - a) The current schedule for completion and finalization on the document and activities of Center for Watershed Protection (CWP) is as follows:
- ✓ Regionalization
 - a) Staff continues to support coordination on permitting standards. Scheduling a meeting with the technical subcommittee scheduled for August 18th.
 - b) Staff continues to support other municipalities in their efforts to move forward with adoption.
 - c) The SoLoCo Manual was the winner of the Barret Lawrimore Regional Cooperation Award from the South Carolina Association of Counties.
 - d) Upcoming SoLoCo presentations – StormCon (September – MD), SESWA (October – HHI)
- ✓ Special presentation suggestions –
 - Suggestions for Future Meetings
 - Research performed by Dr. Montie – Summer 2022
 - Open House – Evergreen Regional Pond – Fall 2022
 - Mike Johnson – CP&P Pipe
 - Dr. Warren Lab update – Fall 2022
- ✓ Military installation and other State and Federal properties SWU fees – See “Delinquent Accounts” below.
- ✓ Delinquent accounts – Phase I Investigations with Gentry Locke Attorneys (looking at data, laws, ordinances, synopsis of case law) to provide recommendations and likely outcomes of either negotiations or litigation.
 - IGA amendments for the Town of Port Royal have been approved. At time of report, still awaiting copies.
- ✓ Reminder: Annual Financial report from the Municipalities are due – Per the Intergovernmental Agreements for the Utility, each year on September 30th, the City and Towns are required to submit a summary of revenue and expenditures for the previous fiscal year.
 - a) Beaufort County – Received.
 - b) Town of Hilton Head Island – Received.
 - c) Town of Bluffton – Received.
 - d) Town of Port Royal – Not received.
 - e) City of Beaufort – Not Received.

B. Monitoring Update – Mrs. Danielle Mickel

- ✓ Mrs. Danielle Mickel addressed the water lab monitoring.

C. Stormwater Implementation Committee (SWIC) Report – Ms. Julianna Corbin

- ✓ Mentioned the Shell Point Task Force implementation and planning meeting with J. Bragg Consulting, Inc.

D. Stormwater Related Projects – Ms. Julianna Corbin

- ✓ Easements – Staff is working on easement requests and meets monthly to review status of each as well as any new easements coming in. Edits to the Extent of Service and Level of Service documents pending Council guidance prior to finalization
- ✓ Complaints – Staff continually works numerous drainage related complaints each month.
 - a) Shell Point Community – Notice to proceed issued to J. Bragg Consultants, Inc August 1, 2022 and kick off meeting scheduled shortly thereafter
- ✓ Factory Creek Watershed Regional Detention Basin “Phase II” (Design Cost = \$63,390, Tree Mitigation Cost is pending, Construction Cost by the Developer) –Staff sent a final letter to the property owner in late June and is preparing to take legal action.
- ✓ Graves Property / Pepper Hall Public / private partnership – Construction continues on site
- ✓ Whitehall property purchase – Construction continues on City property.
- ✓ Lady’s Island Plan, Sea Level Rise, and “no-fill” ordinance – No update at this time
- ✓ Tuxedo Park Pond Dredging- Bid opportunity closed on July 18th with two bids. At time of report, staff is collecting further estimates.
- ✓ Huspah Court North- Bid opportunity closed on July 22nd with no bids. This has prompted staff to draft an RFQ for on-call contractors for such work and to act as an extension of the infrastructure team when needed. This work could be done in house pending schedules.
- ✓ Bessie’s Lane- Similar project scope to Huspah Court North. In house designs were finalized and bid documents posted on July 18th.
- ✓ Arthur Horne Park- County staff continues to cooperate with the engineering team doing the Preliminary Investigatory Feasibility Report (PIFR) and our Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) representative. The majority of this work thus far has been collecting water quality, shellfish, and project information within the HUC-10 watershed. The draft PIFR delivery date is August 22, and the final report will follow mid-September. There may be opportunities to do additional projects within the area as well. The PIFR is being funded through NRCS at no expense to the County.

E. Professional Contracts – Ms. Julianna Corbin

- ✓ CIP FY 18 Grouping Stormwater Projects – (Design - Ward Edwards \$202,000, Andrews Engineering \$560,490, Const. est. \$5,512,900)
- ✓ Brewer Memorial –Closeout process is in progress, and as-built survey data was collected July 25. Educational Signage expected to be received the first week of August and installed shortly thereafter, soft opening event to be scheduled following that milestone.
- ✓ Evergreen Regional Pond 319 grant project – (Design=\$89,286, Construction=\$590,000. Grant=\$229,124) – Project work complete on August 1.
- ✓ Stormwater engineering consulting services – Woolpert
 - Scope #1 – General Services – Anything relating to Stormwater as a catch all scope. Allocated Funds – \$15,000.00.
 - Scope #2 – Southern Lowcountry Design Manual Training – This was completed prior to June of this year. Training set up for in house staff as well as developers in the County. Allocated funds - \$30,000.00.
 - Scope #3 – Comprehensive program audit. Reviewing all components of the MS4 program, CIP list, Utility, asset management, etch. Allocated funds - \$105,000.00. Audit has been completed. Staff are making adjustments to program in accordance with recommendations of the audit.
 - Scope #4 – Tax Run and Utility assistance. In the event the County needed assistance with assessing SW Fees, we have them available on call. We will also look to have them QA/QC data from previous years. Allocated funds - \$29,900.00.
 - Scope #5 – Battery Creek Pond – The grate-style trash rack recommended to relieve issues of trash reaching the marshes of Battery Creek has been installed and staff makes frequent visits to observe function and efficacy. See attached photos.
 - Scope #6 – Turtle Lane drainage study. Continuously flooded property, Stormwater staff wanted to determine if it would be useful to purchase and put BMP in place. Determination was no BMP yet but could fit into larger study of Northern Lady’s Island. Allocated funds - \$10,000.00. Project Completed.
 - Scope #7 – NPDES SMS4 general permit assistance
 - Scope #8 – St. Helena Drainage Study. Final report draft received 6/30
 - Scope #9 – Arthur Horne Park 319 Grant Funding – SC DHEC sent 319 grant decision letter to county staff on July 29 that the project was not selected for funding through the grant opportunity.
 - Scope #10 – Lady’s Island Drainage Study Phase I – County staff received GIS data on 6/30, Phase II (hydrologic and hydraulic modeling) scope authorized by county staff on July 20.
- ✓ Scopes on County and Woolpert Radar:
- ✓ Mint Farm and Rivers End Water Quality Retrofits

F. Regional Coordination – Mrs. Katie Herrera

- ✓ County Staff working with NRCS engineering firm to incorporate projects for water quality amongst the City of Beaufort and Town of Port Royal.

G. Municipal Reports

- ✓ Town of Bluffton – Mr. Bill Baugher
 - Establishing an infrastructure water flow study.
 - Installed a new tidal gauge.
- ✓ Town of Port Royal – Mr. Van Willis
 - Establishing a water park study for Cypress Wet Lands duplication.
- ✓ Town of Hilton Head – Mr. Jacob Terry
 - Working on software updates.

H. MS4 Report – Mrs. Katie Herrera

- ✓ Plan Review
- ✓ Stormwater Permits
- ✓ Monthly Inspection Summary
 - Averaging over 700 inspections.
 - Currently interviewing candidates for senior inspector position.
 - DHEC late fee bill has been resolved.
- ✓ Public Education – Mrs. Ellen Comeau
 - There has been an increase of calls pertaining to septic systems, which is a good thing.
 - There are plans for more festivals in the upcoming months.
- ✓ Public Education – Mrs. Katie Herrera
 - BMPs for Sea Island Parkway open house will be in September.
- ✓ MS4 Statewide General permit – Katie Herrera
 - September 1st will be the SCASM meeting.

I. Staff Update

- ✓ Stormwater Infrastructure is nearly fully staffed
- ✓ Stormwater Regulatory budget for a Senior Stormwater Inspector has been approved.

J. Maintenance Report

- ✓ Several major projects and minor projects.

6. Liaison Report – Beaufort County Council – Alice Howard

Highlights

7. Unfinished Business – Mr. Patrick Mitchell congratulated Mrs. Alice Howard on the winning of her award.

8. New Business

- ✓ Mrs. Katie Herrera is planning to coordinate a special presentation with Woolpert to demonstrate a drainage study with Mr. Glover

9. No Public Comment

10. Meeting Adjourned