



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

August 16th, 2023, at 2:00 p.m.

County Council Chambers, 100 Ribaut Rd, Beaufort, SC

### Board Members

#### Present

James Clark  
Marc Feinberg  
Ron Buchanan  
Dennis Ross  
Ed Warner  
Ellen Sturup Comeau  
Jacob Terry

#### Absent

Steve Andrews

### Ex-Officio Members

#### Present

#### Absent

Nate Farrow  
Jeff Netzinger

### Beaufort County Staff

Katie Herrera  
Linda Augustine  
Dafiney Butler  
Pamela Cobb  
Stephen Carter

### Visitors

Alice Howard, County Council

#### 1. Meeting called to order – Marc Feinberg at 2:00 pm

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

#### 2. Introductions – Completed.

#### 3. Public Comment(s) – None.

#### 4. Special Shout Out – Welcome Dafiney Butler aboard as the new Environmental Assistant.

#### 5. Reports

*Reports attached in agenda*

#### **Highlights:**

##### A. Utility Update – Katie Herrera

- ✓ Stormwater Utility Budget was approved by County Council.
- ✓ Southern Lowcountry Regional Board (SoLoCo)
  - Amendments were approved in late January and Beaufort County continues to coordinate with other implementing partners.

- ✓ Special Presentation
  - Chairman Feinberg requested the Board members to discuss a potential fall meeting, location TBD. Katie Herrera mentioned possibly the Church of God, Cypress Wetlands, or the Town of Bluffton.
  - 6 different areas where we have projects going on (take a look at those).
- ✓ Annual Financial Report
  - After the discussion with the Municipalities last year, unaudited information was fine due to them not coming into compliance until a later date.
  - C/O of fiscal year 2023

**B. Monitoring Update – Katie Herrera**

***Highlights:***

- ✓ The Current Principal Investigator has resigned from her position effective August 18<sup>th</sup>.
- ✓ USCB is considering rewriting the Memorandum of understanding in place. USCB is still operating under the previous MOU for Beaufort County.
- ✓ County Installed a continuous monitoring sampling station on the 278 overpass.
  - It's been collecting data as of 8/15/2023.

**C. Stormwater Implementation Committee (SWIC) Report – Katie Herrera**

***Highlights:***

- ✓ Staff met last Friday to talk about the CWI fee report. The report will be out by August 16<sup>th</sup>.

**D. Regional Coordination – Katie Herrera**

- ✓ Katie Herrera provided an update on the status of the Old Woodlands neighborhood and the driveway replacements have been completed. There has also been a surveyor engaged to survey the drainage easement, and this too has been completed.
- ✓ Town of Bluffton, regarding the baseline water quality study in partnership with DNR. Supporting their efforts within the county.

**E. Stormwater Related Projects – Katie Herrera**

***Highlights:***

- ✓ Shell Point Community –1 Bid came back. On August 22<sup>nd</sup> staff will inform the community of what to expect. Mailers will go out the community as well.
- ✓ Huspah Ct N – should start next Fiscal Year/Month
- ✓ Bessies Lane – Approval received on Last Monday
- ✓ Church of God – CWI just wrapped up. Minor sink holes was fixed
- ✓ Tuxedo Park Pond – should go back out for bid. Chairman Feinberg asked questions about the project. Revised the bid to make it more clear for bidders.
- ✓ Author Horne Project- No update

**F. Professional Contracts Report – Julianna Corbin**

***Highlights:***

- ✓ Brewer Memorial – Closing out with engineer of record.
- ✓ Stormwater engineering consulting services – Woolpert
  - b) Scope #11 – Northern Lady’s Island Drainage Study Phase II – Report draft is pending. Allocated funds – \$213,650.00
  - c) Scope #12 – Monitoring Station and rain gauge at Okatie River headwaters almost in. Allocated funds - \$58,804.15
  - e) Scope #14 – Rivers End Water Quality Improvements – Data compilation, stormwater inventory and survey, potential BMP identification, Model development, alternatives analysis, and drainage report. Allocated funds - \$174,465.00. Approved February 16, 2023. Inventory complete and survey to begin first week of April.

## **G. Municipal Reports**

### ***Highlights:***

- ✓ Town of Hilton Head (Brian Eber)
  - New Stormwater Maintenance Program Administrator
  - 2 New Stormwater Inspectors
  - July 1<sup>st</sup> Stormwater Plan review fees
- ✓ Town of Bluffton (From Bill Baugher)
  - Passed their budget
  - Rivershed Action Plan – watershed retrofit projects funding secured.
  - May River baseline study got approved, 2004, update baseline study for right now.
  - Sewer program is moving forward.
- ✓ City of Beaufort (Katie Herrera)
  - Leveraged funds from Federal Program for the Baynard St Drainage Project.

## **H. MS4 Update – Katie Herrera**

### ***Highlights:***

- ✓ Plan Review – steady influx.
- ✓ Stormwater Permits
- ✓ Monthly Inspection summary – staying very busy, team is excited about keeping in compliance.
- ✓ Weather Station Data
- ✓ Education Report presented by Julianna. (Pond Buffers, Riverside Buffers, harmful bacteria)
- ✓ MS4 Statewide General permit – Have a draft version created. Also creating a
- ✓ Staff working with Hilton Head Airport.
- ✓ Trying to fill positions within Public Works. Taylor Brewer will be our new Stormwater Program Manager starting September 5<sup>th</sup>.
- ✓ Carolyn W went to Capital Projects, Julianna leaves on June 28<sup>th</sup>, continue to interview for vacant positions. 4 staff members attended the International Erosion Control conference in Tennessee. New camera truck in, Scott Youmans is jumping in to get it operational. Stephen Carter is now the Superintendent of Infrastructure.

- ✓ State Meeting, September 7<sup>th</sup>.
- ✓ No approvals from DHEC as of current date

**I. Maintenance Projects Report – Stephen Carter.**

**Highlights:**

- ✓ Major projects:
  - Wimbee Landing Road
- ✓ Minor or routine projects:
  - Bluffton Vacuum Truck
  - Hilton Head Island Airport-Bush hog
  - Port Royal Island Vacuum Truck
  - Town of Hilton Head Island Vacuum Truck

**J. Liaison Report – Alice Howard**

- ✓ Staffing concerns for department. Stephen Carter mentioned about county paying for the CDL program to get members certified.
- ✓ Green Print committee members have been meeting about the 1 cent sale tax can be used for major projects.

**6. Unfinished Business –**

- ✓ Board Consolidation
  - Stormwater Utility
  - Solid Waste and Recycle
  - Keep Beaufort County Beautiful
- ✓ Current Boards will be ending as of December 31<sup>st</sup> and there will be only one board starting January 1<sup>st</sup> as The Environmental Board.
- ✓ It was requested a study be performed on what the consolidation would look like, to include cost estimates.

**7. New Business-**

- ✓ Research the consolidation of other combined Solid Waste and Stormwater Boards.

**8. No Public Comment.**

- ✓ None.

**9. Meeting Adjourned**