

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

February 2, 2011 at 2:00 p.m. in Beaufort County Council Chambers
Draft February 4, 2011

Board Members

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

Ex-Officio Members

Present	Absent
Scott Liggett	CoB Representative
	Ron Bullman
	Tony Maglione

Beaufort County Staff

Daniel Ahern
Rob McFee
Lori Sexton
Bob Klink
Gary Kubic
Eddie Bellamy
Bryan Hill
Tony Criscitiello

Visitors

Reed Armstrong, CCL
Laura Lee Rose, Clemson Extension
Cary Gaffney Town of Hilton Head Island
Paul Moore, Ward Edwards
Steve Andrews, Andrews and Burgess
Van Willis, Town of Port Royal
Joe Croley, HHAAOR

County Council

Paul Sommerville

1. Meeting called to order by Don Smith.

- a. Agenda approved with one modification on delay of FY2012 budget presentation.
- b. January 11, 2011 Minutes were approved.

2. Introductions

3. Public Comment – None

4. Reports

a. Monitoring Update – Bob Klink – updated Board on outcome of two meetings on January 25 GEL meeting and January 21 pre-meeting between Utility and Town of Bluffton. ToB, USCB and BC have developed better protocols on weekly FC sampling. Alan Warren of USCB has agreed to write up a report to results of testing in Rose Dhu Creek USCB will perform a regression analysis on FC and Turbidity data to see if there is a correlation. BC was doing this sampling to generate sampling for this study and stopped turbidity testing to focus resources on additional FC testing.

GEL completed the remaining two Biotic Ligand Tests and all three tests indicate copper levels at Eagles Point are below toxic levels. They will submit a report on this and the operational testing that was tested last year. We expect that there will be recommendation to not discharge for 24 hours after application of Copper Sulfate. Copper levels reduce considerably in the first 24 hours.

GEL will be submitting a proposal to conduct limited Sediment and Wetland FC testing. This is being done in part to try to increase wetland/sediment interaction as a result of recent fresh water discharge by BJWSA that caused a peak in FC sampling results. Have been coordinating with BJWSA and may do further testing with their next round of testing discharges.

On a separate item we have been coordinating with DHEC and hope to be able to get real time Shellfish monitoring monthly data that we can compare to our weekly FC testing.

Don Cammerata asked how copper is added and when is it done. Generally it is in liquid form and done when algae appears- on call basis.

Bob Klink had Dan Ahern present a short power point on the Rose Dhu creek sampling data that is showing low/no water levels in natural drainage system upstream of developed area discharges. The developed area Fecal Coliform discharges are very low and immediately below the discharges the concentration raises to higher levels.

b. Second Quarter Financials – Alan Eisenman – Is reporting as part of county initiative to provide financial reports for different Boards across the board. This was the first of his quarterly reports. He explained the three different financial reports in the board handout. They were the Statement of Net Assets – with comparison to the Budget; Statement of Revenues, Expenses and Changes in Fund Net Assets for both this year and report as of last year. Board asked about the Capital Purchase and how this is presented. Alan explained that the Utility is an enterprise fund and these costs are capitalized and go into change of net asset. Don Smith asked what was purchased services and Alan said he would get back with the particulars on this category.

c. Professional Contracts Report – Dan Ahern – presented the first report as requested by Mr. Kubic to keep board aware of contracts in the pipeline. There were four contracts over \$5,000 that is being processed for approval. The four contracts are Administrative Parking lot design, Reformatting the BMP manual, Technical support on Form-based Code and Support for Development of FEMA application. Don Smith asked about the posting of contracts and asked what contracts done for Step 1 contracts cost. The criteria for posting contracts were those over \$19,000 and these were under that – thought they were around \$10,000 each.

d. Utility Updates – Dan Ahern – will report on a few activities:

- **Dataw Buffer initiative** – Board member James Fargher reported on the January 24, 2011 meeting with Al Segar's of SC DNR on starting an initiative to protect or improve Jenkins Creek. A data sheet was given to the board. The Dataw Board was receptive and will be exploring a Buffer improvement program, possibly with their Garden Club. Allyn Schneider asked what was going to be done to the other side of Jenkins Creek. Jim said that Al Segar's looks to take lessons learned at Dataw to the other side.
- **Retrofit at O'Bryan Pond** – It appears that we are close to starting the first WQ retrofit. We have finally received a COE permit and now awaiting an OCRM permit.
- **Federal Law on Federal SW Fees** – While this law appears helpful, we might have to wait the regulations are published

- **Education Area of Emphasis** – passed out the Friends of Rivers and Clemson Extension proposed areas of emphasis for FY2012. Don Smith asked if we planned to solicit other partners. There were no plans to change partners but the SWIC recommended that a small contract would be issued Carolina Clear to transition to having a one contract to manage the Education and Outreach requirements we will have to meet under permits. Don Smith asked what we planned on outreach on buffers. Mentioned that Clemson Extension is doing a buffer enhancement project as part of the Okatie 319 grant. Brad Samuel thought that a meeting might be in order. Allyn Schneider felt that the need is education of real estate and contractor community on buffers. Brad feels a subcommittee needs to be formed (with municipal representative) to discuss. I stressed that these are small contracts and if we are going to increase in some areas we will have to decrease other areas.

Eventually the Board and Utility will develop annual education focus areas and programs will be developed to address these focus areas. Bill Bruggeman asked about the Okatie Buffer initiative and Laura Lee explained her programs. Allyn Schneider asked if she has addressed real estate agents or contractors. She said she had not been asked Allyn suggested that we might ask to speak to them.

e. Maintenance Project Report – Eddie Bellamy – based on organization changes he will now be reporting project reports. He reported on 4 major projects and 9 minor projects. Allyn Schneider asked why projects under \$1,500 were being reported. Eddie Bellamy said that the current cutoff is \$15,000 for maps and presentation to board. Bill Bruggeman asked if drainage is better. Eddie Bellamy said we are now dealing with chronic problems and not the acute problems we were dealing with in the past.

5. Unfinished Business

a. Lots of Record but not Built Status – Dan Ahern - Since the last Board meeting the proposed Step 2 ordinance changes was taken to the Planning commission and Natural Resources Committee. The planning commission unanimously approved the proposed changes with one modification that allowed the Zoning administrator to make exceptions if the requirements made a lot unbuildable.

The Natural Resources Committee at yesterday’s meeting voted to table a decision for no more than 4 months so that two additional actions can be taken:

- Questions raised by the homebuilders’ association. They raised the following during meeting:
 - a. Questions on cost
 - b. Confusion on exceptions in ZDSO
 - c. Applying controls in all areas of the county
- Meetings with Municipalities and adjoining county to discuss these changes. Committee was concerned that by the County adopting these ordinance changes we might start another round of annexation by municipalities by zoning shopping. They asked the Utility to set these up and a number of the committee representatives volunteered to participate in these meetings.

While this delays adoption it fits into our initiative on working towards new IGA’s on operation of the Utility that need to be in place by September of this year.

Asked board to check our draft web based program that is on our web site. Don Smith asked who had developed the excel and web based program. Mr. Ahern replied that staff had developed them with CreateAndSolve.com.

b. Regional Coordination – Dan Ahern – In your packets is two documents. They are a proposed schedule to have agreements in place by September and a draft summary of operational agreement and MCM recommendations developed by SWIC.

At the January 20, 2011 meeting the committee finalized the last MCM recommendation and will formally endorse these recommendations in a single document at our February meeting. MCM #1 recommendation calls for a small contract with Carolina Clear in FY2012 also developed a recommended schedule that would be needed to get new agreements by September 2011.

Thank the ToHHI for taking the lead in this new agreement process and they are developing a template that can be acted upon by the other municipalities and county. I would like to highlight a few of the key milestones in the schedule; these are bolded in your attachment;

- We need to get SW Board input at next month's meeting on the agreement being developed by TOHHI
- The schedule also calls for a return visit to SW Board at the May meeting as the document goes forward for Council approval at both County and Municipal levels.
The linkage between the request of the Natural Resources Committee (NRC) and this effort is in the Operational Alternative that was developed by the SWIC and approved by the County Council. This has one alternative that is in the existing agreement and proposed for the new agreement that has been receiving some push back. This is number 3 in your handout and reads:
“Minimum Water Quality Controls in municipalities must be a protective as the County's requirements”

It appears that the NRC is concerned about acceptance on the Step 2 controls but there is also some concern on the application of volume controls for redevelopment and other applications. The NRC has now also expanded this to our neighboring county and municipalities that are not involved in our new IGA. This will be a significant challenge but an opportunity has been given and this has been something that the board has been interested in having happen.

Don Cammerata asked how this will be enforced at all these lots. While the universe is 20,000 vacant lots, the mechanism is tied to an existing system and the solutions will be checked as part of building inspections, maintenance will be another issue.

Don Smith asked if there are going to be separate MS4 permits. The recommended operational alternative was to have separate permits. Billy Bruggeman asked if Step 2 controls will be county wide. It will only be applicable to unincorporated county. Don Smith asked if we had heard about a replacement ex-officio member for the City of Beaufort. We have not heard anything. Don Smith suggested someone contact the City concerning a replacement member.

6. New Business

a. Stormwater Basics Series –Paul Moore, Ward Edwards – Paul presented a power point presentation on “Principals of Runoff Estimation” that included a summary of last month's presentation on runoff characteristics and new topics of rainfall-soil interaction and common runoff calculation methods. Allyn Schneider asked when the rational method is used. Paul said it is used for pipe design but NRCS is generally used in pond design.

b. FEMA Initiative – Dan Ahern - We are now in a rush mode to help Arthur Cummings develop an application for a new class rating. We have found out that we have to implement activities before submitting application. Currently Beaufort County is a Class 7 and needs another 500 points to go to class 6. This will lower premium reductions by 5% across the board. Staff is working on three activities that we think can supply at least 500 points:

- Activity 441 – Elevation Ref Mark for 90 points
- Activity 450 – Stormwater Management – at least 300 pts
- Activity 540 – SW maintenance – another 300 pts

We plan to submit this application in April and this was the reason for the contract to assist.

To implement this we have started a pond inspection program for post 1999 ponds and are finalizing our choke point identification and drainage inspection program.

7. Public Comment – None

8. Next meeting agenda – Reviewed proposed agenda for March and board decided to not have a design storm presentation next month. They will be requested as needed. Added the delayed Budget presentation and the Clemson Extension update. Don Smith asked if ATM was preparing packet for the board. Staff has not received information on this.

9. Meeting adjourned.