

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

July 6, 2011 at 2:00 p.m. in Beaufort County Council Chambers
Draft July 14, 2011

Board Members

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

Ex-Officio Members

Present	Absent
Scott Liggett	
Ron Bullman	
Andy Kinghorn	
Tony Maglione	

Beaufort County Staff

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

Visitors

Reed Armstrong, CCL
Joe Croley, HHAAOR
Denise Parsick, BC S&W Conservation Dist.
Paul Moore, Ward Edwards
Lamar Taylor, City of Beaufort
Laura Lee Rose, Clemson Ext
Charles Waldruf, Self
Van Willis, ToPR
Chris Marsh, Low Country Institute
Kathryn Madden, Port Royal Sound Foundation
Dick Stewart, Port Royal Sound Foundation
Ann Bluntzer, Beaufort Open Land Trust

County Council

Paul Sommerville

1. Meeting called to order – Brad Samuel

- A. Agenda approved.
- B. June 1, 2011 Minutes approval was postponed and approved as posted at end of meeting.

2. Introductions

3. Public Comment – Reed Armstrong spoke about Stormwater Fee agenda item and recommended favorable action on proposal concerning Conservation Easements.

4. Reports –

- A. **Stormwater (SW)/Form based code – Subcommittee Report** – Brad Samuel – Two board members attended meeting June 29, 2011 with planning on proposed form-based code wording. Brad asked what we will see next. Comments will be sent to contractor from planning and then a revision will be made.

B. Monitoring Update – Bob Klink – Not much to report since no June meeting – Copper report will be delayed because Alan Warren did not develop power point. We got a very high reading below the commercial development at 170/Parris Island Gateway and coordinated with BJWSA to make sure there was no sewer issues involved, they reported there was none. We are going to monitor the pond in the Cross Creek Shopping area. Board asked if reading was after rainfall event and was it expected. It was after a rainfall event and higher than expected.

C. Upcoming Professional Contracts Report – Dan Ahern – Since last meeting we have funded the two small contracts for updating the on-lot web based program. The first part (correct new agreement on storage and reuse) has been completed and the second part will be initiated later. The new request from CDM comes out of our meetings on the BMP manual reformat.

D. Utility Updates – Dan Ahern – reported on the following:

Military Fee Letter – Mr. Kubic signed, June 30, 2011, a letter to the Marine Corps Installations General concerning payment of the SW Fees. It is hoped this will initiate discussions on payment of fees.

SW Financials – Included in agenda were attachments on the SW Financials and Alan will be back next month to do the quarterly presentation of the unaudited end of year figures.

BMP Reformatting – Bob Klink and I met again with Rich Wagner on reformatting the existing BMP manual and identified some additional improvements that need to be included.

First Retrofit – O’Bryan Pond – The project has been marked and we will be starting work next week.

Water Budget Study – Planning another meeting with Dr. Badr next week which will hopefully lead to final monitoring plan.

Step 2 exemptions – Received a report on Coosaw Point and this development will meet SW Volume controls on a development basis and therefore lots will be exempted. We are still working the appropriate language on the report but the decision is final. Also received a report from Dataw Island claiming exemption and it is under review. Have also received inquires on Habersham.

ATM Memo on Deliverables – The report requested by the SW Board was attached to the agenda and hopefully this will satisfy your request for Task Order deliverables.

FEMA CRS Efforts – The FEMA application was submitted in the beginning of June and with the help of Thomas and Hutton we are claiming that Beaufort County is an Island by FEMA guidelines. We also learned that 99% of our watersheds have critical peak flows less than one day. There are a small portion of watersheds that have 4 and 7 day critical peak events. Bob Klink and I are considering whether to require different analysis on these watersheds. It appears that if our application is accepted we will generate a class change by Stormwater activities only and with the other activities the county is doing should be able to get 2 class changes and save nearly a million dollars per year to policy holders.

Beaufort County Presentation at SCASM – The SC Association of Stormwater Managers has asked BC to present our Volume control initiatives at their September 15, 2011 meeting. This will be the day after we sponsor a webcast on “Rainwater Harvesting as a Stormwater Management Practice” on September 14, 2011.

There were a number of questions by the board on military stormwater fee issue.

- E. Maintenance Project Report** – Eddie Bellamy – Reported on the compiling of project summaries has slowed this month during the transition to the system using PUBWORKS, our new automated work order and reporting system. He said he was pleased to report that the first project using the new system and will be posted on the website; that project is Sheppard Road.

Reported on (3) large projects: **Twickenham Plantation Road and Swallowtail Lane, Polite Drive Outfall, and Colonial Heights –Phase 4** and (8) small projects. There was questions and discussion on Twickenham project which was part of a major effort in the Big Estate area.

Don Smith also asked a question at this point on the ATM report and wanted to know about one item on their reviews of the earlier cost analysis.

There were some additional questions on the military fee issue.

5. Unfinished Business –

- A. Lots of Record but not Built Status** – Dan Ahern – Gave the last update on this ordinance update. It was finalized at County Council on June 13, 2011 and is now in effect. Bob Klink and Dan Ahern have met with Zoning and Building Codes a couple of times to facilitate implementation.
- B. Regional Coordination** – Dan Ahern – The SWIC met on June 30, 2011 and received a briefing on the new NOAA Coastal Geospatial Services Contract and how it was used by all GA Coastal Counties to save a reported 50% over separate LIDAR contracts. Also coordinated efforts on IGA agreements and coordinating on education outreach for FY2012.
- C. Utility IGA Agreement** – Rob McFee – The ToHHI IGA is on the agenda for the Natural Resources Committee meeting July 26, 2011. If approved by this committee it will go on to the County Council. Attached to this agenda is the Town of Bluffton proposed draft. This draft followed the ToHHI’s draft with a minor change is dealing with reporting back to us. We would like your concurrence with this draft so we can take it through the approval process. The Board made a motion after Ron Bullman, Town of Bluffton, provided some explanation. The board made a motion to “Support Draft Town of Bluffton IGA and recommend forwarding for approval”.

Tony Maglione asked about the status of the IGA’s north of the Board. Rob McFee said some issues with City of Beaufort and Town of Port Royal are different. He feels that infill issues have been resolved. If we do not make significant progress we will probably be seeking a year extension to the existing agreements.

6. New Business –

A. Five Year Restoration Plan – We have completed Step 2 and are now formulating a retrofit plan (Step 3). We have drafted up a preliminary 5 year plan and it proposes a watershed approach. Summarized draft plan and requested Board input as we develop our official plan. The board will get comments back in 3 weeks and staff will send out an email reminder. There were questions on how future population will be incorporated into this plan. This plan is restoration of existing impairments and prevention measures are already in place. Restoration, if our prevention measures are correct, should be a fixed target. Scott Liggett asked if we plan 5 year plans for other aspects of the Stormwater Management Plan. Priorities in other areas are generally addressed annually using the SW Management Plan as a guide. This 5 year plan was to address the shortfall in recommended levels in water quality improvement investment from Management plan. Discussed the program element on road overtopping. Rob McFee said that the board may need to decide if we have the appropriate level of investment.

B. SW Ordinance Change concerning Conservation Easements – we recently had an appeal of SW fee that raised some interesting questions concerning runoff factors and lands being managed under perpetual conservation easements. After meeting with the landowner and both the CCL and RCL staff we are proposing to acknowledge the conservation efforts with a proposed change to the Adjustment and Credit Manual. The problem is with Silviculture which has two runoff factors depending whether it is “disturbed” or not. It also was noticed that with our new volume controls requirements that this manual is in need of updating to reflect these new requirements. We have two requests:

- Concurrence with proposed addition to adjustment section
- Development of a Board subcommittee to update the manual to reflect volume and step 3 incentive credits.

Discussion and presentation by Ann Bluntzer of the Beaufort Open Land Trust who said there were 98 easements with 74 being managed by the Trust. The ones managed by the Open Land trust receive annual reviews. After further discussion the Board passed the following motion concurring with the following addition to the User fee adjustment section 2.1.1:

“Owner demonstrates that agricultural land is managed under a perpetual conservation easement. The County may apply the lowest agricultural runoff factor to vacant agricultural class land”

The Board said they wanted the staff to look at options to update and present a proposed draft of the changes to the Adjustment and Credit Manual to the board. The board also asked about the State Law on Agricultural land and SW Fees. This law prohibited new stormwater fees on Agricultural land but allows existing fees to continue.

C. Clemson Extension 319 Buffer Initiative – Laura Lee Rose – Presented a power point presentation on their part of the 319 Okatie Grant. This is to encourage people to restore their current buffers to more natural river buffers with help of master gardeners. This grant is focused on buffers impacts on fecal coliform and how views and native vegetation can be balanced. The

D. Port Royal Sound Foundation – FY2012 Education Plan – Dick Stewart, Chris Marsh and Kathryn Madden – Dick Stewart was here on behalf of David Harder the Chairman of the Port Royal Sound Foundation. Chris Marsh described the proposed FY2012 Plan that was left with the Board. It will be the same cost as in previous years. The plan includes:

- Increasing radio ads coverage– 5 more stations
- Developing new ads
- Setting up regular schedule of on-air interviews
- Revising and expanding the RiverSmart Web site

Chris also introduced Kathryn Madden who is now the executive director for the Port Royal Sound Foundation. An example of one of the radio ads was played for the board.

Don Smith asked if there will be efforts concerning buffers. Chris said that the County’s aerial photography will be used to help in educating people on buffers.

7. Public Comment – No comments

8. Next meeting agenda – Approved the proposed agenda for August 3, 2011 meeting. Carolyn Wallace will be acting Stormwater Manager for this meeting.

9. Meeting adjourned.