

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

February 6, 2008 at 2:00 p.m. in County Council Executive Chamber
Final Draft February 22, 2008

Board Members

Present	Absent
Donald Smith	Allyn Schneider
John Youmans	Brad Samuel
Ronald McKenney	

Ex-Officio Members

Present	Absent
Scott Liggett	
Jeff McNesby	
Bob Gross	

Beaufort County Staff

Daniel B. Ahern
Eddie Bellamy
Robert Klink
Lori Sexton
Carolyn Wallace

Visitors

Reed Armstrong, Coastal Conservation League
Laura Lee Rose, Clemson Extension Service
Amanda Flake, BC Planning
Dave Payne, DHEC
Alice Massey, Clemson Extension
Doug Plank, Ward Edmonds Inc
Denise Parsick, Beaufort S&W Conservation Dist
Jan Paul Sherwood, ATM
Damon Williams, Sun City

County Council

Laura Von Harten

1. Meeting called to order by Mr. Donald Smith.
2. The January 2, 2008 SWMU Board meeting minutes were approved.
3. **Initial Opportunity for Public Comment** – None
4. **Stormwater Control Regulations - BMP Manual Update** - Bob Klink gave an update on the draft BMP changes that we had received from CDM. He also reviewed the results of a staff meeting with the consultant on January 16, 2008 and the comments that the County supplied to the consultant. The two key comments from the county were:
 - Incorporate a write up on nitrogen like we have for phosphorus and fecal coliform explaining why it will be necessary to control this pollutant.
 - New examples for commercial and a residential development showing how the nitrogen reduction can be met.

Bob Klink also mentioned that we had met with the Town of Bluffton and would be considering including a number of requirements from the Bluffton BMP and would be proposing weekly sedimentation and erosion control certifications.

These key changes were in Section 3 and Mr. Klink explained that the key figure in this section was Figure 3.5. He pointed out that our consultant is saying that the Total Nitrogen required removals for

impervious areas in development is similar to TSS. As an example that a 25% impervious development will require removal of 40% of the Nitrogen in the runoff to make it equivalent to a 10% impervious type development. Mr. Klink said the 10% figure is the bench mark in our BMP manual for not having any adverse impacts. He then walked through the new calculation sheets, which indicated that expected removals of total nitrogen from wet detentions ponds will be less than we expect for phosphorus and Fecal Coliform.

There were numerous comments from the board and they were:

- Ron McKenney asked if Table 5-4 would be updated on innovative technology BMP's since it has been 5 years since we updated.
- Bob Gross requested the Nitrogen write up explain the significance of nitrogen load and whether Beaufort waters are nitrogen or phosphorus limited
- Jeff McNesby asked if the sedimentation form would be the same as the DHEC form.

It was reported that Rich Wagner of CDM is available for the March 5th Board meeting, and Bob Klink and Dan Ahern will discuss the staff and board comments with him to determine if a new draft can be developed before the March meeting. Otherwise his visit would move to the April Board meeting.

5. Water Quality Monitoring – The monitoring consultant had a scheduling conflict and this will be rescheduled. Staff reported on the January 16, 2008 meeting with the Master Plan consultant and the follow-on meeting to determine action levels. It was also reported that we had received permission to set up automatic samplers at Eagles Point to compare measured removals to expected removals. The initiation will be February 13, 2008

6. Annual Maintenance - Project Status Reports – Staff reported on 5 projects that had projects summaries completed.

Prior to the status reports the board was referred to three handouts. One was a listing of stormwater webcasts and the board members were asked if they wanted the staff to plan a group viewing for the stormwater retrofitting webcast scheduled for April 9, 2008. The new utility tracking system for projects was explained. Finally, a map of the infrared flyover of the May River area was given to the board and inspections of sites in the county did not turn up anything that required action.

7. Public Information – Clemson Extension Service – Laura Lee Rose gave a slide presentation highlighting the many activities the Extension Service is providing outreach and assistance to, including: Civic Organizations; Education; Profession Development; Professional Outreach; Master Gardeners. She also mentioned future initiatives like the Gateways to Beaufort; 29 School District Campus and the Palmetto Pride Grant to Beautify Convenience Centers in St Helena and Bluffton.

8. Public Information – Low Country Institute – Staff reported that we had received a proposal from the LowCountry Institute to put on workshop for County staff involved with planning and construction on “ The Uniqueness of the Port Royal Sound and How to Protect it” Also reported that staff has contacted Clemson University and is trying to bring a shortened version of their “Certified Erosion Prevention and Sediment Control Inspector Program” to Beaufort County.

9. Utility Administration – Regional Cooperation – Erin Gripp, ex-officio member from Town of Port Royal has moved and a new representative from ATM will be representing the Town of Port

Royal. Mr Jan Sherwood introduced himself and will take over the position when the town approves his selection. Since Erin was the lead on this, no report was available.

10. Utility Administration – Military Base Collection Effort Staff reported on meeting with military bases on January 24, 2008 that include legal representatives from bases, county and City of Beaufort. There was no agreement at this meeting and the County is awaiting receipt of formal response from the General in Camp Lejuene that is expected to say they will not pay the fee.

11. Utility Administration - 2009 Budget Presentation – Staff presented the proposed FY 09 budget in a new Revenue and Expenses format that presented two directions that could be taken with the FY09 budget. Changes from current budget were explained. On the two directions, one alternative involved “business as usual” and the other involved bonding to address the two historic issues facing the county, these being modeled road over topplings during designed storms for evacuation and priority routes and retrofitting water quality controls in previously developed areas. The alternative involving bonding would allow eight million additional dollars to be available to address the two Master Plan elements that are not being addressed. This bond paid back in 10 years at 5% would require approximately \$1,000,000 per year to retire. This revenue could be generated by a dedicated \$9 SFU rate increase.

Staff shared a proposed letter and attachment that would ask for municipality concurrence in this dedicated \$9 dollar increase to address the jointly developed needs.

Alternative of bonding received a number of comments:

- Scott Liggett- had concern that the letter was deviating from framework established in our charter whereby level of service plans would be developed for each of the unincorporated area stormwater districts. He said HHI would have objections in sharing in county wide costs when the Town has already paid 100% of some of the projects within the town jurisdiction in these two master plan elements. They have already corrected two of the listed road overtoppings in the attachment and have used their stormwater funds to procure potential sites for retrofit BMPs. Mr Bellamy said the proposed letter may be changed.
- Bob Gross – wanted to know what we would do if we can not do bonding and what would be the increase needed to do with out bonding. Mr Bellamy said that if we do not bond we would continue to focus on establishing a routine maintenance that will keep or reconstructed ditches and address opportunities as they occur in the County
- Ron McKenney – questioned if bonding can be authorized by the county council and this was checked during the meeting and it was reported that the council can authorize.
- Ron McKenney – felt that bonding would need a more defined project list and what is generally on the list must be done.
- Scott Liggett – said that the attachment should be revisite since it lists projects that the Town of HHI have completed. He also felt that using Master Plan cost estimates did not include the design and other costs. He felt they needed to be reviewed before including.
- Ron McKenney – asked about the Air Station overtopping project. Mr Bellamy said the project list would be scrubbed.
- Bob Gross – asked if an increase would be needed if we didn’t do the capital projects. Mr. Bellamy said we should be able to increase routine maintenance with the new bushhogs without a rate increase.

The board approved a motion that “Staff is encouraged to investigate the possibility of bonding and keep in mind the Board’s discussion on this idea”

12. Final Opportunity for Public Comment – David Payne reported that a state-wide DHEC requirement for posting of fish advisories will be taking place and we should expect to see mercury advisories posted at public boat landings. Denise Parsick offered on behalf of the Beaufort Soil and Water Conservation District to present the Together for Beaufort initiative that they initiated. The chairman asked if they would be available to present at the May board meeting and she said yes.

13. Next meeting agenda – The Chairman of the Board requested the following agenda for March. The GEL presentation and the CDM visit will be in different months (One March and the other in April).

- Stormwater Control Regulation
 - o BMP Manual update or CDM presentation on BMP
- PSMS Enhancements
 - topic discussed in 2009 budget discussion
- Water Quality Controls for Existing Development
 - topic discussed in 2009 budget discussion
- Water Quality Monitoring
 - o GEL Report if no CDM presentation
 - o DHEC infrared “thermal imaging” work
- Annual Maintenance
 - o Project Status Reports
- Additional/Ongoing Study and Analysis
 - no topic this month
- Public Information
 - o Low Country Institute Initiative
- Utility Administration
 - o Military Base Collection Update
 - o Regional Cooperative Initiative
 - o 2009 Budget Update
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10. Meeting adjourned.