

Beaufort County Stormwater Management Utility Board (SWMU Board)
BMP Enhancement Workshop
Meeting Minutes

November 5 at 2:00 p.m. in County Council Executive Chamber
Draft November 24, 2008

Board Members

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

Ex-Officio Members

Present	Absent
Bob Gross	Scott Liggett
Jeff McNesby	
Ashley Mosley	

Beaufort County SW Staff

Daniel B. Ahern
Eddie Bellamy
Robert Klink
Lori Sexton

Visitors

Lolita Huckaby, Beaufort Today
Reed Armstrong, CCL
Rich Wagner, CDM
Billie Lindsay, BC Planning
Cody Palmer, Jr, GEL Engr
Denise Parsick, Beaufort S&W Conservation Dist.
Walter Lagarenne, CDM
Brett Wiliford, Andrews and Burgess
Mike Weatherly, Mike Weatherly, PE
Libby Anderson, City of Beaufort
Earl DuPriest, Carolina Eng
Bryan McIlwee, Town of HHI
Ray Pittman, Thomas and Hutton
Patrick Kelly, Habersham Land Co
Danielle Mickel, USCB Lab

Visitors Continued

Brian Whitworth, BES Inc
Chris Rains, Kern-Coleman Co
Paul Moore, Ward Edwards
Lamar Taylor, City of Beaufort
Ron Geiger, HDR Engineering
Jeff Buckalew, Town of HHI
Jennifer Hasting, Town of HHI
Earl Dietz, The Marsh Association
Van Willis, Town of Port Royal
Anthony Criscitiello, BC LM

County Council

1. Meeting called to order by Mr. Donald Smith.
2. The July 2, 2008 SWMU Board meeting minutes were approved. Postponed approval of October 1 minutes to December meeting.
3. **Initial Opportunity for Public Comment** – No comments.
4. **Background Presentation on County’s Water Quality Control Efforts** – Dan Ahern gave a power point presentation on the evolution of stormwater activities since 1994. The presentation outlined local efforts and actions that the county has taken including the 1998 and 2003 Best Management Practices (BMP) Manual. The 1998 Manual incorporated antidegradation goal for new

development and tied it to the equivalent impervious percentage of development. It included phosphorus as an indicator pollutant. The manual included detailed checklists to allow sizing of required water quality controls. The 2003 manual updates included Fecal Coliform as a second indicator pollutant. It set a more restrictive antidegradation goal for this indicator pollutant. An outline of the Phase 1 of the 2008 manual which included new required practices and recognition of these practices in drainage plans. It also addressed construction erosion and coordination of procedures in the May River. He also gave a statement on Beaufort County's Stormwater Activities impacts on water quality and as a base for presentation of the new water quality controls.

5. Explanation of Proposed Stormwater Control Requirements – Rich Wagner of CDM gave a power point presentation on the controls proposed in the 2008 updates. The First Phase adopted in May 2008 included modified worksheets to assess benefits for these required practices. The second phase being proposed includes nitrogen as a third indicator pollutant and worksheets to calculate compliance. Mr. Wagner reviewed the chart in manual that is the basis for meeting the antidegradation goals that have been established. He then presented the challenge with meeting nitrogen standards with a chart showing efficiencies of BMPs. BMPs that obtain high control of phosphorus and bacteria do not have as high efficiencies for nitrogen removal. Mr. Wagner described the general impacts of adding nitrogen as an indicated pollutant and walked through new worksheets showing how proposed nitrogen requirements will have to be met with combinations of site features and effective in-series BMPs. He then presented two implementation options and recommended that the board concur with adopting the proposed updates. This was initially also recommended by Mr. Bellamy.

Jeff McNesby asked a series of questions and directed the first one to Anthony Criscitiello, Land Management Director. He asked Mr. Criscitiello about coordination of these new requirements into DRT reviews. Mr. Criscitiello volunteered his concern about this leading in the direction of a collision of zoning and BMP efforts and if they are out of sync that we could have legal problems. Jeff McNesby then asked Mr. Criscitiello about workload issues and stated that Bob Klink would need additional time to review drainage plans because of the different BMPs that would now be in the plan. Mr. McNesby also asked how some of the new required BMPs (disconnected roof drains) would be verified since Engineering would not be involved after common drainage system was in place. He wanted to know if Arthur Cumming's group would be doing.

Jeff McNesby also had concerns about Nitrogen Trading and the difficulties this might cause. Mr. Bellamy addressed this by saying this was not a staff recommendation and we were seeking input from the workshop if it should be included.

Bob Gross then had a number of questions. He wanted to know the basis for the BMP removals (literature) and if this basis held true for our area. (Ans. – not sure) Mr. Gross had a question on one of the credit charts and wondered what happens to the factor when there are roof drains discharging to large lawn areas where a larger portion of the runoff percolates into the soil. He wanted to know what levels of nitrogen cause algae problems in salt water and if there are identified problem levels of nitrogen in our coastal waters (Ans. -don't know). Mr. Gross wondered since municipalities must have similar BMP requirements to the county, if this was going to present problems for the more densely developed municipalities where land for BMPs likely would not be available. (Ans. - It was mentioned that these requirements were for new development but there may be need for different

BMPs in these areas.) Bob Gross also asked about metals. (Ans. - it is felt that most are settled out in detention ponds.)

Brad Samuel asked Mr. Criscitiello to expand on his concerns on the proposed changes. Mr. Criscitiello said his concern is synchronization between the stormwater requirements and the other requirements in the ZDSO. The current ZDSO was developed in 1997 and has not evolved as fast as the BMP requirements. He is concerned that there might be an implicit conflict in looking at this from different perspectives. Mr. Criscitiello is also concerned that these new BMP requirements might be a “catch 22” at the end of a long process. He feels we need to work these requirements into the ZDSO if necessary so people know up front about what they can do with their property.

Don Smith then asked Mr. Criscitiello if the problem is the percentage impervious allowed by zoning and the constraints of the proposed BMP Manual. Mr. Criscitiello said that their might be engineering solutions but he wanted to make sure ZDSO charts reflect the BMP constraints. He said that the open space requirements in urban environments are 20%. Don Smith said the board supports planning and stormwater coordination.

Allyn Schneider then asked Mr. Criscitiello what needs to be done to address his conflicts. He said they wanted to identify necessary changes to the ZDSO to avoid conflict. Mr. Schneider said that if this is done then the approval can go forward and Mr. Criscitiello said yes.

Mr. Bellamy said the staff no longer has a recommendation but will have one for the December Board Meeting.

A short intermission was held at this point.

6. Questions and Alternatives Discussion Panel– A panel consisting of Bob Klink, Rich Wagner and Dan Ahern was set up to answer questions and take recommendations on the proposed BMP enhancements. The comments and responses are listed below:

Ray Pittman – How will major redevelopment be handled? ANS -Redevelopment will need to meet current BMP requirements.

Earl Dietz – System seems cookbook and how will we know it is working? ANS- BMP system requirements are tied to making development equivalent to 10% impervious property. Research has indicated that below 10% there is little impact. This system has been the basis of BMP controls in the County since 1998.

Ron Geiger – Series of recommendations to consider

- Define what redevelopment triggers meeting new standards
- Specify if necessary cover on pervious cover to meet reduction credits
- Continue linking with Zoning – consider exemptions in special cases like parking requirements
- How will we insure disconnected roof drains stay disconnected
- Give consideration for credits for non traditional BMPs like street sweeping and catch basin cleanouts

Reed Armstrong – recommended:

- Giving special consideration to protecting headwaters of creeks
- Need to monitor effectiveness of BMPs

Don Smith asked about River Overlay District – Mr. Armstrong said this was recommended by the SAMP and there is a section in the ZDSO but it is empty.

11. Final Opportunity for Public Comment – no additional comments

12. Next meeting agenda – Agreed to go back to normal updates on schedule:

- Call to Order (Roll Call)
Donald Smith
- Oct 1 and Nov 5, 2008 Minutes Approval
Donald Smith
- Initial Opportunity for Public Comments
- Stormwater Control Regulations – BMP Recommendation
Robert Klink
- Water Quality Monitoring
Robert Klink
- Utility Update
 - **Dan Ahern**
- Maintenance – Project Summaries (large presentation)
 - **Dan Ahern**
- Utility Administration – Regional Cooperation – County/Municipal Workgroup
 - **Dan Ahern**
- Utility Administration – Military Base Collection Effort
 - **Dan Ahern**
- Final Opportunity for Public Comments
- Next Meeting's Agenda
- Adjournment

13. Meeting adjourned.