

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

February 4, 2009 at 2:00 p.m. in County Council Executive Chamber
Final Draft March 3, 2009

Board Members

Present	Absent
John Youmans	
Brad Samuel	
Allyn Schneider	
Donald Smith	

Ex-Officio Members

Present	Absent
Scott Liggett	
Jeff McNesby	
Ashley Mosley	
Bob Gross	

Beaufort County SW Staff

Daniel B. Ahern
Eddie Bellamy
Robert Klink
Lori Sexton
Rob McFee

Visitors

Ife S Ekpenuma, DHEC
Chris Marsh, Low Country Institute
Jeff Buckalew, TofHHI
Earl Dietz, Marsh Association
Denise Parsick, BC Conservation Dist.
Laura Lee Rose, Clemson Ext
Joe Corley, HHAAOR
Reed Armstrong, Coastal Conservation League
Lamar Taylor, City of Beaufort
Jim Fargher, no association

County Council

1. Meeting called to order by Mr. Don Smith.
2. The January 7, 2009 SWMU Board meeting minutes were approved.
3. **Initial Opportunity for Public Comment** – No comments.
4. **Election of Board Vice Chair** – Allyn Schneider was nominated and elected Vice Chair of the Board.

5. Stormwater Control Regulation – Adoption of SW Control Regulations

Mr. Bellamy requested the approval of the proposed additions to the BMP manual. He said the two issues on redevelopment issue discussed at the last meeting had been staffed. The jurisdictions have discussed the definition of redevelopment and they will be different. The other was if the new requirements would be applied to redevelopment. The proposal to address this is to say yes with a caveat. This caveat is proposed to read as follows:

Redevelopment must meet requirements for impairments in receiving waters and maximum extent practicable (MEP) for other targeted pollutants

There were questions by Bob Gross on applicability of this caveat to various impairments and Mr. Bellamy said that the Board would get another look at this since we would not be ready to get on the February Agenda of the Public Services Committee. Any improvement to this wording would be appreciated.

Jeff McNesby asked what the current impairments were and Dan Ahern described the current impairments in Beaufort County. There are 60 impairment and over 40 are for elevated FC in Shellfish Harvesting waters. The other impairments are Dissolved Oxygen, Copper, Turbidity and two FC impairments for recreation.

The board voted recommending approval of nitrogen requirements for new development. At next board meeting we would have the changes to the manual adding the caveat and the recommendation that would be going to the Public Service Committee.

5. Monitoring Update – Bob Klink reported that

- We are reinstating Bacterial Source Tracking at two station in the May River to help direct Fecal Coliform reduction efforts. MST tracking horse, deer, dog and human.
- The last six months of data has been posted on the county web site.
- Next monitoring meeting is 1PM Tuesday February 24 at PW Conference room

Jeff McNesby explained how the Town of Bluffton will be taking MST sampling in coordination the county.

Don Smith asked at this time about the Sun City Public Hearing Meeting. Bob Klink explained the problem concerning the Sun City Lagoons issues. Dan Ahern reported on the January 22, 2009 meeting had reported 500 people. The overall system is designed to a higher standard than would be required today (pond volume is 4 times current requirements). The county is concerned about public safety and water quality and the problems in Sun City appear to be esthetics and total SW volume. Plan to work with Sun City on developing a predictive model for their flow into the Okatie. Thomas and Hutton will be doing the modeling and Sun City POA will be doing the monitoring at 4 locations. Also considering putting on a SW 101 course with Clemson Extension to assist in understanding of SW issues since people are associating current pond issues with water quality and public safety issues.

6. Clemson Extension - Laura Lee Rose gave an update of Clemson Extension update. A key activity that they support is the Master Gardener program. These 150 active Master Gardeners have:

- worked beautification project like Buffer Demonstration Garden, Convenience Centers and Habitat for Humanity projects
- Gardeners attended two training programs on Enviroscope and volunteers are presenting at schools
- Piloting a Turf Love program in Sun City and have had over 100 applicants sign up to reduce fertilizer and pesticide use.
- Active Master Gardeners (MG) must volunteer at least 20 hours a year to the community.

Latest MG training class has 24 students and Laura Lee has been working with schools on programs on gardening, water harvesting, composting and recycling. She has been donating Rain Barrels to several schools and non profits.

Have participated in workshops on low impact gardening and other workshops

She has also been active in pesticide applicator training classes and recent training has trained 6 participants.

7. Annual Maintenance – The staff completed 8 projects summaries since the last board meeting. Five of them were over \$1,500 and were reported at the meeting. Gave hard copies of project in board representatives' area to reduce amount of copies. Projects will be posted on SW Website within a week.

8. Utilities Updates – Reported:

- Had copy of resolution and transmittal letter to Ron McKenney's family
- That the County met Jan 8 and 14 with Town of Bluffton coordinating efforts to address rising Fecal Coliform levels in the upper reaches of May River. Also attended the May River Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) on Jan 22. Future meetings are planned.
- Reported earlier on the Sun City partnering efforts and meeting on Sun City Lagoons Jan 22, 2009
- Okatie Village RFP will develop a model to analyze WQ impacts
- Establishing a pond inspection program as part of our efforts to earn credits for the Community Rating System (FEMA) and inspected the May River post 1999 ponds on January 30, 2009 utilizing a checklist developed by our the utility inspector. No problems were noted. Also working to identify
- Planning to have our inspector visit Charleston County permitted stormwater program and review their procedures on construction and illicit discharge inspections. Will also attend their county-wide meeting on February 25
- Explained new proposed HB 3088 that is the reintroduced version of HB 4337. Staff will be reanalyzing the impact since this bill contains more exemptions (churches) that the last time we did this analysis. Read what the Association of Counties said on their web site.

- **Stormwater Fees** – [H. 3088](#). This legislation is the reintroduction of last year's proposal to exempt farm lands, forest lands, undeveloped lands and church buildings from fees to support storm water, sediment or erosion control programs. Fifteen (15) counties would be impacted in their efforts to comply with the mandates of the Federal Clean Water Act. This bill would cause a shift to other properties for the cost of these federally required programs. H. 3088 has been referred to the House Ways and Means Committee.

9. Utility Administration – County/Municipal Workgroup – Dan Ahern reported that the January Meeting lead to a finalization of committee's recommendation and the tasking of the team was to report back at the February meeting on support from jurisdictions. A copy of the signed recommendations was given to Board members. The committee has been creative in their resolving of challenges and TofHHI is stepped up and volunteered to manage one of the FY 2010 proposed studies on Water Quality Controls in existing development.

10. Utility Administration – Military Base Collection Effort – Dan Ahern gave the monthly update from CDM on the Jacksonville utilities experience with the Naval Air Station. There has been no progress and they were having a big meeting the day of the Board meeting today to map out a strategy. We are now going to Plan B.

We plan to open dialogue with a new contact at the Navy Office in Jacksonville. We plan to send them the Naval Hospital Bill to them and deal directly with them. If we can resolve payment on this parcel I think we can resolve the payment issue. This would set a precedent that the Marine Bases would have to respond to.

11. Utility Administration – Budget – Dan Ahern gave the Budget update.

The preliminary proposals from the Utility will be developed by the end of the first week of February but it will not be finalized till the following:

- Feedback from municipalities on requested maintenance services due February 13
- Feedback from municipalities on Implementation team recommendations at February 19 meeting
- Feedback from the county on new maintenance and insurance costs on equipment.

Of special interest this year is that we are developing three year budget projections and this will help in long term planning.

Distributed handout on new subcategories in the Utility Activities budget and the contributions that municipalities and county will make based on the SW Implementation team recommendation.

Mentioned the Utility efforts on enhancements and have been able to plug requirements into

12. Final Opportunity for Public Comment – no additional comments

13. Next meeting agenda – Reviewed proposed agenda in Board packets and concurred.

- Call to Order (Roll Call)
Donald Smith
- Feb 4, 2009 Minutes Approval
Donald Smith
- Initial Opportunity for Public Comments
- Stormwater Control Regulations – Package for Public Service Committee
Robert Klink, Eddie Bellamy, Dan Ahern
- Water Quality Monitoring
Bob Klink
- Utility Updates
 - **Dan Ahern**
- Education Update
 - **Friends of Rivers**
- Maintenance – Project Summaries
 - **Dan Ahern**
- Utility Administration – Regional Cooperation – County/Municipal Workgroup
 - **Dan Ahern**
- Utility Administration – Military Base Collection Effort

- **Dan Ahern**
- Utility Administration – FY 2010 Budget
 - **Carolyn Wallace**
- Final Opportunity for Public Comments
- Next Meeting’s Agenda
- Adjournment

14. Meeting adjourned.