

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

April 1, 2009 at 2:00 p.m. in County Council Executive Chamber
Final May 5, 2009

Board Members

Present	Absent
John Youmans	Donald Smith
Brad Samuel	
Allyn Schneider	

Ex-Officio Members

Present	Absent
Scott Liggett	Ashley Mosley
Bob Gross	
Jeff McNesby	

Beaufort County SW Staff

Daniel B. Ahern
Eddie Bellamy
Robert Klink
Lori Sexton
Rob McFee
Danny Polk
Amanda Flake

Visitors

Reed Armstrong, CCL
Richard Brooks, Bluffton Today
Denise Parsick, BC Conservation Dist.
Damon Williams, Sun City

County Council

1. Meeting called to order by Mr. Allyn Schneider.
2. The April 1, 2009 SWMU Board meeting minutes were approved.
3. **Initial Opportunity for Public Comment** – Reed Armstrong commented on the proposed Hwy 278 bridge widening. Said that the BC SAMP called for the water being channeled off the bridge for treatment and the present design does not have this incorporated.

4. Stormwater Control Regulation – Final Recommendation

Mr. Bellamy described how we have been discussing the BMP Manual updates for a number of months. This positive dialogue has lead to a very positive effort to now address the existing water quality problems we have in the county. He explained the two documents in the board packet:

- The memo to the Public Services Committee on BMP updates approval.
- The listing of changes to clarify that the BMP requirements are applicable to redevelopment with the agreed upon caveat.

The board endorsed these additional wording changes and incorporating nitrogen as a target pollutant.

5. Monitoring Update – Bob Klink reported that

- Planning a meeting April 9 with Eagles Point on pond management practices and have CDM evaluation of 11 years of data at Eagles Point indicating good results except for Copper. Plan to recommend elimination of ongoing monitoring requirements
- Next monitoring meeting is 1PM April 28, 2009
- We are working with municipalities to soliciting a new contractor for monitoring due to ending on the current contract.

6. Inspector Activities Update – In response to the Chairman’s request concerning the Utility inspector an activity report was developed and given to Board. Danny Polk, utility inspector, was introduced to the Board. The report listed activities on FEMA Community Rating System; May River and other activities.

Bob Gross asked how the county planned to get the authority to implement the NPDES requirements. The final decision has not been made, but it may require the county adopting a new SW Ordinance.

7. Annual Maintenance – The staff completed 15 projects and all these were over \$1,500 and reported to the board. Project status summary for FY 2009 includes 93 completed projects, and 42 projects required final compiling for project summary. Mr. Schneider asked why some projects were done so long ago. This was a because of a backlog that new employees are addressing.

8. Utilities Updates – Dan Ahern reported:

May River efforts – since the March Board meeting the County has met with the Town of Bluffton and DHEC (Mar 9) and then made another joint presentation to the BC Council (Mar 16) on the continuing efforts to address concerns with rising Fecal Coliform levels in the upper reaches of the May River. Jeff McNesby and Dan Ahern met with BJW&SA (Mar 18) to discuss their role in reducing fecal coliform and their interest in partnering on SW reuse (they are). Coordinated with Town of Bluffton on Mar 30 and Jeff and I attended the March 30 Council meeting in Bluffton. The county also did a septic tank inspection and a boat trip up the Rose Dhu and Stoney Creek tributaries.

Okatie Village Modeling – the county has received 6 proposals for this work and are reviewing them to decide on a recommended proposal to accept. We plan to narrow down to 2 or 3 proposals and then invite these proposers in for a presentation.

Tanger Mall and SW Volume Reduction – One of the potential causes of the rising FC levels in the upper reaches of the May River might be increased SW volume from development. Both the Town of Bluffton and the County do a good job of handling SW peaks and water quality control, but have not controlled SW volume.

Last month we had a presentation saying that Tanger Mall is causing problems in Saw Mill Creek from excess Stormwater.

A power point presentation was presented showing the impacts of development on SW flow and what current controls correct for – like peak attenuation and water quality control. The presentation

presented this story two ways and then described how Tanger Mall was a small portion (4% of watershed) of the total Saw Mill Creek watershed. The Board was asked to comment on which presentation told a better story.

Allyn Schneider said that people at council meeting left feeling that the new Tanger proposal would solve the problem. The Tanger proposal will make it better but is only part of problem.

Scott Liggett said that it is not a simple issue and smaller rainfall events should be handled for water quality and big rainfall for flood control but folks have not been that concerned about volume.

Jeff McNesby said that volume is now becoming the new issue in SW.

Allyn Schneider asked what we are trying to do with this information.

Eddie Bellamy said that the volume issue is just a hypothesis and we need to get it studied and determined if it is a factor in our rising FC levels in our headwaters creek. If we are going to make our waters better we need to study and determine where to put our assets.

John Youmans said that the volume issue should be used in addressing proposals for addressing density

9. Utility Administration – County/Municipal Workgroup –

Dan Ahern reported that the March workgroup meeting focused on implementing the recommendations that were accepted. Bob Klink and Dan Ahern met with the town of HHI and we have decided to make some modifications in the solicitation for the joint projects dealing with Water Quality Controls in existing development and monitoring.

- The county will now be doing the solicitation for both efforts.
- The Town of HHI has drafted a proposed scope of work for WQ controls in existing development and the county will be adding the scope on evaluating proposed regional sites.

10. Utility Administration – Military Base Collection Effort –

Utility is now working Plan A again. The plan B effort was derailed when the Navy legal folks said they were not going to get involved since the Marine legal folks had made a determination. On the plan A track we have updated the Marine Corp demand letter and met with the County contract attorney to get input. We plan to staff this letter and get Mr. Kubic and possibly the City of Beaufort and Town of Port Royal to sign. This will put the ball in the Marine Corps court again.

Also on Plan A we have gotten the latest status report from our friends in Jacksonville. The city is not taking any action until the basing of the nuclear aircraft carrier is finalized. This is expected by the middle of April.

11. Final Opportunity for Public Comment – Reed Armstrong commented on the Volume issue. He feels that we need to work stormwater issues on the watershed level rather than the site or community level. Reed also said that making dense development (same number of homes) is of less impact than spreading out the development.

12. Next meeting agenda – Reviewed proposed agenda in Board packets and agreed to follow. Bob Gross asked that we should get an update on how DHEC plans to permit SW in Beaufort County. Scott Liggett announced that ToHHI has promoted employee to handle increased responsibilities that the Town is facing. Also discussed implications of the recent septic truck spill.

13. Meeting adjourned.