

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

Note: Unofficial Meeting - Quorum not present at start of meeting

August 5, 2009 at 2:00 p.m. in Beaufort County Council Chambers
Final August 19, 2009

Board Members

Present	Absent
John Youmans	Allyn Schneider
Donald Smith	
Brad Samuel	

Ex-Officio Members

Present	Absent
Scott Liggett	
Bob Gross	
Jeff McNesby	
Chris Ahern	

Beaufort County Staff

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

Visitors

Reed Armstrong, CCL
Paul Moore, Ward Edwards
B Flewelling, BC Council
Mihir Mehta, SC DHEC
Denise Parsick, BC S&W Conservation Dist
Jack Walker, GEL
Reggie Reeves, GEL
Ife Ekpenuma, SC DHEC
John Durkee, Envir Eng Sciences
Paul Sommerville, BC Council

County Council

1. Meeting called to order by Mr. Don Smith.
2. Approval of the July Minutes was delayed due to lack of quorum
3. **Initial Opportunity for Public Comment** – No comments.

4. Monitoring Update – GEL Update

John Durkee, subcontractor to GEL, presented a 7 slide presentation giving a snapshot of year 2 work and summary of data. He reviewed the basis for the County's monitoring program and reviewed purposes of the monitoring. The analysis of monitoring data indicated few trends for this limited time of monitoring. One trend is runoff from high and medium-density residential is less than modeled. GEL will make some suggestions for consideration at the next monitoring meeting, including eliminating both grab and composite samples due to similar results. In response to board questions, it is too early to draft conclusions due to a limited time of sampling. The sampling location changes on some stations limited comparison of data.

Board member requested a summary of recommendations or suggestions from GEL. This will be included in 2nd year report.

There was discussion on BMP monitoring. Monitoring had changed from determining efficiency to just measuring the effluent of the BMP to see if it is good. Mr. Bellamy said we might study efficiency if we find a simple system where we can measure influent and effluent without interference.

5. Proposed SW Ordinance – Mr. Bellamy updated the board on actions since last board meeting. The county decided to hire a consultant to assist the county in developing the ordinance changes. The changes are addressing new contracts. The county is also doing a number of smaller contracts to cost out changes and plan a study by SC DNR on Hydrology that we hope to take to the October Natural Resource Committee.

The actual ordinance was brought to the Council and read as title only. We now have meeting set up to finalize final wording. Mr. Bellamy said that we will bring to planning commission and then final readings at the council.

Mr. Bellamy also said we need to address existing development separately.

6. Annual Maintenance - Dan Ahern reported that we did not have a report the last two months and only completed one new project summary since last month.

In last month's packets we had 17 project summaries that were distributed to the appropriate representatives and they have been posted on the SW website. .

Since we only had one project we will wait till next month to make a presentation.

7. Utility Updates –

Clemson Extension – Referred board to the update in their packets from Laura Lee Rose on her activities in support of SW Utility.

May River Coordination – Listed activities included updates to County Council on June 8, 2009 and July 27, 2009; periodic coordinating with ToB including; Bob Klink and I attended the May River TAC; and attended the May River Implementation committee meeting June 18; Staff presented an update to the May River Implementation Committee on July 22. Jeff McNesby and I have met bi-monthly (and in my absence he met with Eddie) to coordinate and we have started Monitoring efforts in Stoney Creek.

Explained sampling program with a slide showing sampling data. The results so far have been similar to what ToB has found with high values coming out of Wetlands. We have also worked with ToB to develop a May River Website on our SW Website where people can go to look at all documents on the May River. Ask the board to give feedback on any changes.

Jeff McNesby explained effort on workshop with a nationally recognized watershed expert to facilitate a discussion on what needs to be done on the May River

Volume Initiatives – As Mr. Bellamy mentioned we are still working with SC DNR (hydrologist) on a proposed water cycle analysis that will see if BC watersheds are operating according to predicted runoff models and what impacts that irrigation and pumping is having on the actual runoff volumes. The proposed agreement will be presented to the Natural Resources committee at their September meeting. SW Board and select members of the May River TAC have commented on the proposal.

Upcoming RFP, RFQ and contracts – We also are working towards a contract to design the Southside WQ Control Pond. This has the possibility to be a major cooperative success story between the City of Beaufort, Town of Port Royal and the County. It will treat 200 acres of existing development draining to Battery Creek (impaired water) and meet the Bacteria and Phosphorus standards and nearly meet the nitrogen requirements. The big RFQ that is out there now will be to procure a firm to guide the county

and municipalities in retrofitting in existing development. This was a major reason for our monitoring program and we have met and are coordinating with Rural and Critical Land program to link their efforts with this initiative.

SC LID Manual – SC DNR is trying to get a group effort to develop this manual. The work is continuing and SC can draw from work already done in NC and GA.

SW Volume Reduction Workshop – We have been considering sponsoring a ½ day workshop on SW Volume reduction solutions. There has been a recent EPA web cast that focused on LID solutions for reducing SW volume and we could include CDM’s initial proposals for reducing volume that would be proposed in BMP manual. Also at this workshop we could present the some of the SW Volume cost analysis that we are proposing to have some consultants develop for commercial and residential projects. Also could have another model development project that would be based on a previously approved project where we have collected flow data.

Lucy Creek Update – Brad Samuel had asked for an update on this. Lucy Creek is another one of our 60 impaired waters in Beaufort County. It’s shellfish harvesting use is impaired by elevated FC levels. We are currently monitoring two areas in this watershed and there is a proposed regional WQ site proposed in this area. We will be waiting for the results of the WQ study that is presently being advertized.

8. Utility Administration - Regional Cooperation –

At our July 16 SW Implementation committee meeting we agreed to align SW data efforts with the ToHHI’s GIS layers and attributes. We will be investigating their software separately.

9. Utility Administration - Military Fee Effort –

Since our last briefing Gary Kubic has sent out the proposed demand letter to all municipalities for their concurrence.

We got an update from JAX. They are now dealing with some legal issues based on the fact that JAX currently pays for some of the SW fees (Churches) from General Fund and feel that the Military might challenge this arrangement. This is what Beaufort County did before 2005

10. Utility Administration – Budget Carolyn Wallace reported on (2) items. The first item is the utility’s fiscal year 2010 budget. The budget received final approval from County Council intact and with very little revisions. The second item: is a handout of senate bill S453, a copy of which was given to the Board. Please refer to Section 2. This was a livestock and poultry bill with an amendment which does not allow land with agriculture use to be assessed a SWU fee. The bill passed but fortunately the new law also states that any county that assessed these fees on agriculture use land prior to the new law would be allowed to continue to do so.

11. Final Opportunity for Public Comment – None

12. Next meeting agenda – Reviewed proposed agenda in Board packets and agreed to follow the proposed September 2, 2009 agenda.

13. Meeting adjourned

