

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

February 3, 2010 at 2:00 p.m. in Beaufort County Council Chambers
Final March 3, 2010

Board Members

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|-------------------|-------------|
| Present | Absent |
| Don Smith | Brad Samuel |
| James Fargher | |
| Allyn Schneider | |
| William Bruggeman | |
| Donald Cammerata | |
| John Youmans | |

Ex-Officio Members

| | |
|-------------|---------------|
| Present | Absent |
| Bob Gross | Jeff McNesby |
| Chris Ahern | Scott Liggett |

Beaufort County Staff

Daniel Ahern
Eddie Bellamy
Lori Sexton
Rob McFee
Carolyn Wallace
Seth Stanbery

Visitors

Reed Armstrong, CCL
Joe Croley, HHAAOR
Doug Plank, Citizen
Denise Parsick, BC S&W Conservation Dist
Robert Barlow, Citizen
Steve Andrews, Andrews and Burgess
Matt Green, Buckwalter Place
Tom Zinn, Buckwalter Place
David Tedder, David Tedder PA
Lamar Taylor, City of Beaufort
Paul Moore, Ward Edwards

County Council

Paul Sommerville

1. Meeting called to order by Don Smith.
2. January 6, 2010 Minutes were approved.
3. **Initial Opportunity for Public Comment** – Donald Cammerata asked about the final Utility Priorities list and staff will get the final December 7 version.

4. Monitoring Update –Dan Ahern for Bob Klink

Updated board on the January 26, 2010 contractor monitoring meeting

- o Had our new contractor (Ward Edwards) attend to brief status of WQ retrofit.
- o Moved a number of existing water quality monitoring sites based on proposed locations of WQ retrofits.
- o Asked GEL to finalize plan to do Bacterioidetes sampling plan to determine if increase is wildlife or re-growth. Study will be in Rose Dhu watershed. They will coordinate with NOAA and DNR on the proposal so all will be agreeing to study.

Reported on new testing for dissolved copper and are getting lower values but still above standards at some locations. This will be a topic of a meeting Bob Klink and I will have with Eagles Point on Feb. 16th as a follow-up to our letter to Golf Course and POA.

Donald Cammerata asked if the source is the copper sulfate. This is the only input we know about. Application rates are within standards and James Fargher said that it would be based on surface area. Bob Gross asked about the method of application and it is liquid.

5. BMP Manual Update – Eddie Bellamy

Eddie Bellamy reported that we did receive Jan. 7th a staff review edition of a new Appendix C edition that addresses Stormwater volume reduction practices. Bob Klink and Dan Ahern reviewed the draft and sent a number of questions and some comments to Rich the next week.

Since then we have gotten to additional drafts on Feb. 1st and Feb. 2nd and have posted the latest draft on the SW Web page.

We plan to hold a workshop on this appendix this month and have Rich come up to help answer questions. This is scheduled for February 15, 2010 at 1:00 p.m. here in County Council Chambers. We will be inviting area engineers to walk them through the use of the new appendix.

The plan we are hoping to follow is:

1. Post Appendix C on web site - Completed
2. Report this plan to Board for input - Now
3. February Workshop on the 15th
4. Incorporate changes to Section 3 that address issues with re-development and infill and remove appendix that includes ToB ordinance
5. Propose approval at the March Meeting
6. Take to Natural Resources committee at their April Meeting
7. Council notification in April
8. Post final BMP manual in May

The controls for stormwater volume will have a significant impact on water quality requirements and we plan to revisit and reformat the BMP Manual in FY 2011 to reflect this.

6. SW Regulation and Drainage Problem Update – Eddie Bellamy

Since the last meeting we met with ATM and have asked them to develop on-site BMP's for different categories of homes in volume sensitive and non-volume sensitive waters. The BMP's will be requirements that will be attached to all zoning permits as appropriate.

Planning has identified the sections of regulations that need changing and we will be working with them to develop necessary wording change. Reported that we are making steady progress.

Eddie Bellamy then gave a report on the drainage problems we have been facing since this has been the strongest El Nino winter in a long time. The additional rainfall during a low evapotranspiration period has lead to the water not going away. This has caused a number of problems including:

- Dirt Roads
- Low spots in county – and new homes built since the last El Nino in these areas

He gave a number of case studies from more than 600 complaints that the city has received. These included Halifax drive and two other issues (Pleasant Point Drive and South Royal Pines) with homeowners on Lady's Island Drive. Eddie Bellamy showed some elevation maps for these examples to show what drainage challenges are being faced in these areas, these included obvious solutions and easements. The silver lining in all these problems is we'll be able to better identify future major drainage projects. We have also reviewed process on getting easements and feel we will have a better way in the future. We also may be able to get easements for the next couple of years. It has also highlighted the need to develop a procedure manual to post on the web site so the public will know what the county can or cannot do.

Don Smith noted he is seeing people building into areas that he remembers being wet area when he was growing up. Donald Cammerata asked about the elevation change to allow runoff. Eddie Bellamy said that this area is a series of dune and old tidal flats and some of the homes in low areas are having problem. Bob Gross asked how we prevent homes from being built in these wet area. Eddie Bellamy suggested that if the first floor elevation was above the road would prevent home damage. Bob Gross asked have we identified preventative measures to prevent this in future. William Bruggeman asked about the water quality during all this rain. DHEC shellfish program indicates that data declines in wet years. May River concentration has gone down during this period. Eddie Bellamy related that the current priority is addressing flooding especially to reduce impacts on septic tanks. He said we can ask DHEC what they are seeing in their recent data. Chris Ahern explained the issue of re-growth versus current sources. William Bruggeman asked about the new development. Rob McFee said that Sembler will be presenting to County Council on February 8, 2010 and they have expressed their desire to meet new stormwater requirements.

7. Buckwalter Update – Rob McFee

Rob shared that he has spoken the Marc Orlando and Gary Kubic has sent a proposal on potential funding sources to Town Manager. The Town is having their attorney reviewing the town's options. Rob echoed Eddie Bellamy's points on drainage and he felt that the County SW Utility is most likely due the last high rainfall year in 1994 that had water 3 ft over Route 170. Don Smith asked if there were differing solutions by the developer, town and county. Rob said yes and the town is somewhere in the middle. Tom Zinn feels they have had a solution for 3 years and wants to move forward. He wants roads to be designed to the same standards as the private developments. Matt Green also spoke to the group about wanting to get a solution.

Board took a five minute break

8. Utility Administration – Updates

The utility is proceeding at a slow pace on the first three water quality projects. Here is the update:

- Gascoigne Bluff – Preliminary report is due in next week and we will then meet again with POA committee to get required easement to construct this control facility in the May River
- Southside Pond – still trying to get park committee approval for the shape of the pond so final design can proceed.

- Huspah Creek – Have to address some concerns by the landowner about the size and shape of the pond before we obtain an easement. Plan meeting Feb. 5th to resolve

There were two May River meetings last month. The May River TAC met January 13, 2010 and the May River Implementation meeting will be January 20, 2010.

Okatie TMDL – State held a public hearing on this document on January 26, 2010. The document will not be on state web site for another week. There are some concerns on addressing this study that is requiring percentage reductions without flow data. We plan to comment during the 30 day comment period on our concern that a TMDL without flow data does not allow for volume reduction. We have been working with the LOW COG to submit an application for 319 grant to address reduction of FC in the Okatie. We hope by working through Low COG that we will get participation of Jasper County and City of Hardeeville and well as ToB. Application is due March 1, 2010.

A final item to report is that the Natural Resources Committee approved The SC DNR water budget study on the February 1, 2010 meeting. This will need Council approval probably at the Feb. 8th meeting and we will then finalize an agreement with them. Don Smith asked a question about the May River DNR report and what was in the paper. The study did find that the salinity may be increased but the author was mis-quoted on the statement that development is not increasing stormwater volume – it does. William Bruggeman asked timeline on water budget study. This is a long term study (at least a year) and will be getting new data that is needed to help policy decisions on addressing existing development. Bob Gross expressed his misgivings on TMDL because there is not enough data to make necessary decisions. Bob Gross asked for an update on Military Fee issue. Will start updates at next meeting.

9. Utility Administration – Regional Cooperation

The implementation committee met January 21, 2010 and finalized a draft of the FY 2011 Budget Recommendation. This draft was in the board packet and they will be signed at our February Meeting. Committee also had an initial discussion on the ATM report on “Review of MS4 Requirements” decided to use this report as a vehicle to discuss how we will operate under new IGA’s that are needed before September 2011. We will be discussing the first two of the 6 minimum control measures at our February Meeting. We plan to have a different concurrence procedure on these recommendations since they include financial implications. Bob Gross asked if the budget numbers had been reviewed with the municipalities.

10. Utility Administration – FY 2011 Budget – Carolyn Wallace

Carolyn Wallace, Business Manager for the Utility, gave a briefing on the proposed FY 2011 Budget.

She used a similar sheet as last year to explain where we are with the budget. This handout had current FY2010 and proposed expenditures in FY2011. A power point presentation was made that show figures on the one page handout. The presentation showed the planned expenditures and new revenue figures. William Bruggeman asked about the Del Webb revenue fund and increases in this fund are close to being finished at complete build out. As initially started in FY2010 we are working towards implementing the elements outlined in the Stormwater Management Plan of 2006.

Carolyn Wallace reported that we have only received requests for efforts from ToHHI and it will be important that they respond by the February 12, 2010 date so efforts can be included in the budget. Bob Gross asked if the budget figures been shared with the town. The cost share recommendations of the implementation committee will be sent to jurisdictions for their authorizations. Allyn Schneider asked about collection rate reduction and Carolyn Wallace said most of the delinquent fees were in the tax fee parcels. There is a mechanism to collect but due to the military issue we have been waiting to see how things work out with military before taking on smaller issues like churches, disabled veterans, etc.

11. Final Opportunity for Public Comment – None

12. Next meeting agenda – Approved proposed agenda with minor changes including dropping Buckwalter update and including military fee update.

13. Meeting adjourned