

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

January 4, 2012 at 2:00 p.m. in Beaufort County Council Chambers
Final Feb. 1, 2012

Board Members

Present	Absent
Don Smith	Allyn Schneider
James Fargher	<i>Lady's Island Vacant</i>
Donald Cammerata	
John Youmans	
William Bruggeman	

Ex-Officio Members

Present	Absent
Scott Liggett	
Ron Bullman	
Andy Kinghorn	
Tony Maglione	

Beaufort County Staff

Dan Ahern
Robert Klink
Lori Sexton
Eddie Bellamy
Rob McFee
Carolyn Wallace
Danny Polk

Visitors

Kathryn Madden, PR Sound Foundation
Lamar Taylor, City of Beaufort
Paul Moore, Ward Edwards
Laura Lee Rose, Clemson Extension
Reed Armstrong, Coastal Conservation League
Denise Parsick, BC S&W Conservation Distr.

County Council

1. Meeting called to order – Don Smith

- A. Agenda approved.
- B. December 7, 2011 Minutes were approved as posted.

2. Introductions – Don Smith acknowledged service of Brad Samuel for his years of service on Board.

3. Public Comment

4. Reports –

- A. **Stormwater (SW)/Form based code – Subcommittee Report** – Don Smith: no report
- B. **Monitoring Annual Report** – Bob Klink: Will be approving draft and requesting final Annual Report that will be posted on website. Next monitoring meeting is January 31, 2012 at 1:30 at PW conference room.
- C. **Upcoming Professional Contracts Report** – Dan Ahern: Report attached to agenda. No new contracts awarded and the next contract will most likely be to our On-lot web based consultant to upgrade the program to give additional options for the Bioretention besides rain gardens.
- D. **Utility Updates** – Dan Ahern:

Financial Reports – Attached to agenda was the financial report developed by our Finance section. Alan Eisenman will be here next month to present the quarterly figures. Board had questions on cash status and what is included in purchased services which Carolyn Wallace answered.

Beaufort County Presents at Southeast Tidal Creeks Summit: This Summit was held in Charleston December 5th and 6th this year. We were invited to present a case study on “Applying new stormwater management approaches to tidal creeks in Beaufort County”.

Center for Watershed Protection Webcast: Beaufort County hosted a Webcast on **Stream Restoration** on December 7. We had about ten people show up. Plan to continue for other webcasts in 2012. The next three webcasts (Next one Feb 29, 2012 titled “Retrofit This”) are dealing with restoration and retrofit items and should be very timely.

Watershed Restoration Plan –The restoration plan approved by the Board last month was taken to the Natural Resources Committee at their January 3, 2012 at 2PM. They passed a resolution concurring with the plan and wanted to see the final plans when they are developed (probably next year). In the process of bringing to the Committee we were asked to put some budget numbers to the plan and we attached preliminary cost estimates for the 5 year plan. These represent our best current estimate for actions in Battery Creek and for a retrofit in Okatie River. These were attached to the agenda. We are activity working the Okatie East retrofit that is a wetland enhancement because what we learn from this project could be a great use in the May River. Jim Fargher asked about the SW Fee increase in the plan. This is only a potential and we won’t know for sure until the plan is finalized. Another member asked if there additional sources of funding. A decision will need to be made if we will apply for additional 319 funding from State.

10 Year Utility Report – This is still a major effort by a number of Utility Staff. The time line to have the unincorporated projects complete is mid January. The county selected an auditor who will be reviewing this work on an annual basis and they will be complete sometime in the spring. Final public report is target for end of year. This is being managed by our financial office.

Step 2 Exemption Requests – Have approved two Exemptions to date for Coosaw Point and Dataw Island. Working two additional requests for Habersham on Port Royal and Somerset Point in northern Lady’s Island.

Paper Presentations – An abstract developed by the Utility, USCB, ToB and BJWSA was accepted for presentation at the SC Environmental Conference this March. It will be on the results of the FC monitoring of the BJWSA Aquifer Storage and Recovery Test last year. We have also submitted abstracts to Stormcon and 2012 SW Symposium on using equivalent impervious surface to integrate water quality and quantity requirements. We will know if these are selected in February.

BMP Update – We have received some of the remaining tasks including one on the credits for peak flow control from our volume control requirements. In response to our question concerning what would happen if we adopted a 100 year peak event criteria, it appears we could be meeting this requirement with current 25 year controls and new volume controls. This is some interesting information but staff has some questions to get answered and we will be investigating it further. We may be bringing this alternative of going to the 100 year peak event to the Board for your

consideration. If we don't go to the 100 year peak event it appears that there will be some reduced costs for peak control due to volume controls.

Backache Acres Pond – work on this first water quality pond is complete and project should be complete shortly. Mr. Bellamy plans to make a special presentation on this in the future.

E. Utility Inspector Report – Danny Polk: Presented a power point addressing two things: One was present activities and future activities to be performed by the Utility Inspector and then to update the board on the recent maintenance performed by the SCDOT on their mechanical SW Structures.

Current activities include:

- Weekly Fecal Coliform testing
- Special Study Effects
- Choke Point Inspection
- Developing Inspection Forms
- Tracking SC Requirements
- Field Inspections for WQ Restoration

Future Activities after MS4 permits will include inspection for:

- Illicit Discharges
- Construction
- Post Construction

There were discussions during this presentation, about source of fecal coliform in problem areas and testing that has been performed. Board members reported high levels of raccoons and possibility that they are being force to live closer to the water due to development.

Briefed the board on the 2011 SC DOT maintenance on their 24 Structural Controls on highways. This is done by contract and these controls are inspected quarterly and maintained annually. The amount of debris removed from these controls varies from 400 lbs to over 6,000 lbs. This debris would go to our rivers if not captured in these devices.

Don Smith asked how it is determined where these go. Rob McFee said they are decided in the permit process. SCDOT contractor said Stormceptor was one of the easiest to maintain.

John Youmans recommended that we this is something that should be better advertized to make the citizens aware.

5. Unfinished Business –

A. Regional Coordination – Dan Ahern: The SWIC met December 12, 2011 and continued the 5 year review of the SW Management plan. At this meeting finalized recommendations on two of the program elements and developed preliminary recommendations on three others. Also brought in GIS representatives from the County, TOB and ToHHI and formed a subcommittee to develop a way to share drainage data and make sure that attributes selected will be compatible in all jurisdictions. Next meeting will be January 19, 2012 and besides tackling the remaining program elements, we will be meeting with Carolina Clear to discuss transition to them for education efforts in FY2013. SWIC members are also planning on attending the Charleston County MS4 meeting on January 26, 2012.

B. Budget Comparison and Goals – Carolyn Wallace: Reports were attached to last month’s meeting agenda as well as this month’s. Since we did not discuss due to time considerations last month I will go over this month. Also attached to agenda were the final top 10 goal list based on board and SWIC input.

We have received the audited FY2011 financials and have developed two reports.

The first one is the Revenues and Expenses report that Alan and Dan updated using the county’s FY2011 annual report. It indicates we utilized \$387,000 of our unrestricted net assets balance but we still have a strong reserve of almost \$1.4 million. We hope to utilize some of this in the future to address water quality retrofits and restoration projects.

The second is the modified the standard annual comparison report to compare the FY2011 budget to the actuals for this fiscal year. This is the second year we have presented the actual compared to budget. New on this form is the change in the FY2012 budget from what was proposed to the final approval. We added both because the final approved budget was significantly different from the proposed budget that we presented to the board last year.

Reviewed where there were differences from budget estimates and actual year-end figures on the report. Overall estimates were very close and the overall differences were primarily from reduction in amount available from Del Webb account.

Last month Dan presented the draft list of priorities based on staff’s polling and the SWIC input and he solicited this Board’s input. We appreciate the input we received from the board and incorporated these suggestions into the final document. These are the finalized our goals for FY2013 year budget development.

We also were asked by a board member about our status on our previous year’s goal list and this was also attached to the agenda. This shows that most of the top ten priorities were or are being addressed since their placement on the list.

Scott Liggett said we need to revisit these in light of the board’s responsibilities. Feels the board needs to be determining if they are in compliance with two documents they were given to board members. One was the overall guidelines and the other a specific stormwater board document. It was mentioned that the original stormwater charter has been replaced with an ordinance. Rob McFee suggested the SW board might consider appointing a sub-committee to review mission. Scott Liggett went on to say that he feels that we are only focusing on water quality and this has trumped all other activities. He is wondering what has happened to the other things. He asked if County Council will be setting priority at their planning session in February. Don Smith asked staff to let council know that the Board is interested in their guidance and then would set up a sub-committee after we get this feedback.

6. New Business –

A. SW Board Technical Subcommittee – Rob McFee: Referred to one of the top ten Utility goals presented earlier which is “Explore Technical Subcommittee to SW Board.” This committee could be used to answer some of the technical questions being raised by the Board. Asked if the board wants staff to pursue utilizing the ToB’s excellent Technical Advisory Committee as a technical resource to the Board. The committee’s makeup was attached to the agenda. Don Smith is concerned that we have hung our hat on the 10% impervious surface but have seen impairments when the percentage appears below that. Number of questions was discussed on how this committee would be utilized. The board said they were interested in pursuing this possible option.

7. Public Comment – None

8. Next meeting agenda – Board approved proposed February agenda with addition of Pond Application Presentation and possible discussion of peak design peak flow standard. Scott Liggett suggested that the municipal reports be given by the municipal representatives of the SWIC. Asked for written report from Clemson rather than a presentation.

9. Meeting adjourned.