

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

December 4, 2013 at 2:00 p.m. in Beaufort Industrial Village Building #2 Conference Room

Board Members

Present	Absent
Don Smith	James Fargher
William Bruggeman	
Patrick Mitchell	
Allyn Schneider	

Ex-Officio Members

Present	Absent
Andy Kinghorn	Van Willis
Scott Liggett	
Kimberly Jones	

Beaufort County Staff

Robert McFee
Eric Larson
Eddie Bellamy
Carolyn Wallace
Danny Polk

Visitors

Paul Moore, Ward Edwards
Dr. Alan Warren, USCB
Lamar Taylor, City of Beaufort

- 1. Meeting called to order** – Don Smith
 - A. Agenda – approved.
 - B. November 6, 2013 Minutes – approved.
- 2. Introductions** – Completed.
- 3. Public Comment(s)** – None.
- 4. Reports** –
 - A. University Of South Carolina, Beaufort Water Quality Laboratory** – Dr. Alan Warren – Dr. Warren provided a presentation on the status of each piece of equipment purchased for the WQ lab. He mentioned that the equipment is not just for WQ analysis but also to be integrated in to the curriculum of the university.
He spoke with SCDHEC about certification. Not all testing methods require certification but for the ones that do, they will be pursuing to obtain and maintain certification. This may take a few months and may require split sample testing. He anticipates GEL Engineering being able to transition all non-certifiable sample testing to the USCB lab by January or February. They will work with GEL and the county to come up with a plan to transition the certifiable sample testing.
 - B. Monitoring Update** – Danny Polk – There was not many recent rain events. The September report from Gel Engineering shows total phosphorus slightly higher at BECY 15 (near the air station), BOD slightly higher at BECY 17 (near the county complex), and high fecal near Cross Creek Shopping Center in Battery Creek.
The annual report from GEL Engineering will be submitted to the county the first of the year and they would like to present the findings from the report at the Board’s February meeting.

He is in the process of doing the final collection of data from the field instruments for the Water Budget Study. Dr. Badr has a lot of data and working on compiling it. He should be providing the final report the first of the year.

Other than what has been reported in the media, Mr. Polk does not know of any other issues that may have caused the oyster die off in the county.

C. Upcoming Professional Contracts Report – Mr. Robert McFee – No new professional contracts to report.

D. Utility Updates – Mr. Eric Larson – Mr. Larson introduced himself as the new Stormwater Manager. He has an engineering degree from University of Kentucky. He was a road designer and Construction Manager for the Transportation Cabinet in Kentucky. Then he became the Planning/Zoning Engineer for the City of Bowling Green, Kentucky, and while there, the Kentucky Division of water designated Warren County, Kentucky as a Phase II community. He wrote the permit and started the county’s SW program. Next he became the city engineer for Georgetown, Kentucky. There MS4 program had already started but they rebuilt the program and it became a “flagship” program in the state. This lead to him being hired by the University of Kentucky to implement their SW program.

MS4 General Permit - To not be a MS4, Beaufort County already has the ground work laid for a very good SW program. The transition into a MS4 next year will not be a huge “ramp up” curve. Mr. McFee said the county maintains an extensive list of engineering firms that can address the stormwater needs.

Webinar – The county is hosting a webinar titled “Green Stormwater Utilities Updating & Upgrading Your Utility for Green Infrastructure” on tomorrow at 2pm in County Council Chambers.

Okatie East Project – Mr. Bellamy reported that the project is completed and Mr. Paul Moore said they monitored the gate during the most recent rain event and they are adjusting the gate. Mr. Danny Polk said they could not get a flow meter installed before hand for monitoring because it is an irregular channel but he is getting with Denise (Sanger) with SCDNR study (salinity study) to see since they have the equipment if they can help with the monitoring. Mr. Moore said they are considering putting a stream gauge upstream in the channel to measure how high the channel stage so they can estimate a discharge rate to compare to their model.

E. Financial Report – Copies of the October financials were provided.

F. Utility 2014 Goals – Mr. Larson presented 3 internal goals and the top 10 external goals ranked by staff. From the staff input there were a total of 26 external goals. Mr. Larson asked the board members to review the list, and if they have other goals they would like to suggest, to please e-mail to him. He will add any suggestions to the list and then forward the list to be ranked by the board members.

He authored one of the goals to revise the Stormwater Implementation Committee (SWIC) as he envisions expanding their role.

Mr. Don Smith and Mrs. Carolyn Wallace said the status of the 2013 goals is schedule to be provided at the January board meeting.

G. Maintenance Projects Report – Mr. Eddie Bellamy reported on (1) major project: Spann Circle, Phase II. He also presented (5) minor and/or routine maintenance projects in a shortened format.

Mr. Bellamy said he will revise his presentation to the board in the future to add the district to the location of each project.

5. Unfinished Business – Robert McFee

A. Regional Coordination

Highway 278 Retrofit Ponds – Will be advertised for bid.

County Administration Complex Retrofit Project – The project is being re-advertised next week with the modifications to the bid as outlined at the November board meeting.

Battery Creek – Mr. Moore said SCDHEC will be having their kick-off meeting with the county and the City of Beaufort on December 18th to discuss the grant requirements. Final design will begin after this meeting because the funding for the design is coming from the 319 grant.

Stoney Creek – Ms. Kim Jones have continued discussion with the property owners. They were on-site last week and the property owner gave them a tour. The next step is to issue a bid for surveying. She said the new LIDAR was very useful in locating some existing low areas in exploring the possible design of this retrofit.

319 Grant for the Okatie – The grant was obtained by the Lowcountry Council of Government (LCOG). Mr. McFee said Mr. Larson is in discussion with them to see how we can best maximize the next phase (Phase II) of the program. The work that has been done on the Okatie East project and will be done on the Hwy 278 pond project is the actual local match for the grant.

6. New Business

Board Chairman and Vice-Chairman Election – Mr. Don Smith and Mr. Allyn Schneider have been elected to continue their chair.

Organizational Charts – Mr. McFee said he will e-mail the Engineering Department and SWU's organizational chart to the board members.

7. Public Comment – Mr. Don Smith welcomed Mr. Larson as the new SW Manager.

8. Next Meeting Agenda – Approved.

9. Meeting Adjourned.