

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

April 10, 2019 at 2:00 p.m. in Executive Conference Room, Administration Building, Beaufort County Government Robert Smalls Complex, 100 Ribaut Road, Beaufort, South Carolina

Board Members

Present

William Bruggeman
Marc Feinberg
James Fargher
James Clark
Patrick Mitchell

Absent

Allyn Schneider

Ex-Officio Members

Present

Neil Desai
Kim Jones
Scott Liggett
Van Willis

Absent

Beaufort County Staff

Eric Larson
David Wilhelm
Melissa Allen
Patricia Wilson
Carolyn Wallace
Katie Herrera

Visitors

Steve Andrews, Andrew's Engineering
Alice Howard, County Council District 4
Denise Parsick, Beaufort Conservation District
Lolita Huckaby, LowCountry Inside Track

1. Meeting called to order – William Bruggeman

- A. Agenda – Approved
- B. March 13, 2019 Minutes – Approved.

2. Introductions – Completed.

3. Public Comment(s) – None.

4. Reports – Mr. Eric Larson and Mr. David Wilhelm provided a written report which is included in the posted agenda and can be accessed at:

<https://www.bcgov.net/departments/Administrative/beaufort-county-council/boards-and-commissions/council-appointed/board-list/stormwater-management-utility-board/agendas/2019/031319.pdf>

A. Utility Update – Eric Larson

In reference to item #4c, the letter for the management fee from Town of Bluffton was received. Item #5b has been delayed to the May meeting. Item #8, delinquent accounts, the County Attorney's office will provide a summary of actions being taken during the next meeting. In reference to #10, an Assistant Stormwater Manager has been hired; Mr. Rybak is scheduled to start Monday and will focus on Capital Projects.

B. Monitoring Update – Eric Larson

Please reference the report, no additional updates.

C. Stormwater Implementation Committee (SWIC) Report – Eric Larson

The SWIC meets regularly, but related to regional stormwater standard project.

D. Stormwater Related Projects – Eric Larson

Please reference the report, no additional updates.

E. Professional Contracts Report – Eric Larson

Please reference the report, no additional updates.

F. Regional Coordination – Eric Larson

Please reference the report, no additional updates.

G. Municipal Reports – Eric Larson

Please reference the report, no additional updates.

H. Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4 Update) – Eric Larson

Please reference the report, no additional updates.

I. Maintenance Projects Report – Eric Larson

Maintenance reports are routine projects. Mr. Larson noted some projects shared [are older projects] that have taken a while to do an internal audit on.

5. Unfinished Business

Mr. Liggett asked how the presentation at the County Council workshop went. Mr. Larson commented there was very little feedback and no action was taken. He included the recommendation to endorse the five year plan and budget as presented. He also shared the recommendation and discussion about the four additional projects. Mr. Larson indicated that there was healthy discussion about other forms of funding for those projects. He received one negative comment about the addition of staff and shared that the position would be to help with the work load and data management. He noted finance workshops are scheduled over the next month.

Mr. Feinberg asked about the rate increase as recommended by the Board. Mr. Larson explained that the increase is part of the larger budget and gets three readings before it is adopted by Council. It may require a resolution acknowledging the rate increase; that is how it was done last time there was a rate increase.

A question was asked about the timing of the three readings for the budget. Ms. Alice Howard informed the Board the first reading is scheduled for May 6th.

Ms. Kim Jones thanked the Utility staff for meeting with her to help understand the utility rate calculations for the Town of Bluffton if they moved from Option to E to Option A. She is preparing to provide a presentation and recommendation for the May River Watershed Action Plan Advisory Committee to Council for their consideration at a workshop next week.

6. New Business –

A. The special presentation from SCDNR on Living Shorelines has been rescheduled for the May meeting.

7. Public Comment(s) – None.

8. Next Meeting Agenda – Approved with amendments.

Amendments: New Business: Living Shorelines Presentation

Unfinished Business: Delinquent Accounts Brief

9. Meeting Adjourned