

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

March 5, 2008 at 2:00 p.m. in County Council Executive Chamber
Final draft March 18, 2008

Board Members

Present	Absent
Donald Smith	
John Youmans	
Ronald McKenney	
Allyn Schneider	
Brad Samuel	

Ex-Officio Members

Present	Absent
Scott Liggett	
Jeff McNesby	
Bob Gross	

Beaufort County Staff

Daniel B. Ahern
Eddie Bellamy
Robert Klink
Lori Sexton
Carolyn Wallace
Saleem Khattak

Visitors

Michael Monday, DHEC
Laura Lee Rose, Clemson Extension Service
Amanda Flake, BC Planning
Dave Payne, DHEC
Lolita Huckaby, Beaufort Today
Christine Villerreal, GEL
Denise Parsick, Beaufort S&W Conservation Dist
Jan Paul Sherwood, ATM

County Council

1. Meeting called to order by Mr. Donald Smith.
2. The February 6, 2008 SWMU Board final draft meeting minutes were approved.
3. **Initial Opportunity for Public Comment** – None
4. **Utility Administration – Regional Cooperation** – Board was given an update on three items. First was the coordination with the town of Bluffton. This was driven by a senior level meeting chaired by Council Chairman Newton on February 12. This gave county staff a directive to remove inconsistencies in requirements in the May River and do it before the water is warm. The county staff met and determined that utilizing the BMP manual revisions would be the only way to meet the required time frame. We plan to include the five requirements that Bob Klink explained at last month's meeting into the full BMP manual requirements. There are other requirements in the ToB ordinance that will be applied to the May River watershed only. These are requirements like monitoring and BMP certification. These will be incorporated into the BMP manual by making the ToB ordinance Appendix C of the BMP manual and saying Appendix C requirements are applicable to all projects in the May River. The Engineer and ToB will be coordinating to make reviews consistent.
The second item is a proposed County/Municipality Workshop to discuss amendments to Interlocal Agreements to address implementation of the Master Plan. The current agreements were negotiated

before the Master Plan had been completed and we need to amend them to help implement the recommendations from this plan. A possible agenda for the meeting and a sample amended Interlocal Agreement was provided for discussion. Also given was a listing of capital projects from the Master Plan divided by south and north of the Broad River. It was proposed to have this workshop in early April of this year. The board was supportive of this effort and felt a group workshop would be OK. Suggested contacts for the meeting included; those identified in the interlocal agreements or request to Town Managers to designate staff to attend this workshop. There was some question if we would be inviting City of Hardeville and Town of Yemassee to meeting. This was not planned at this time. The third item in this category was the proposed Stormwater Webcast. This is now scheduled for April 9, 2008 in council chambers (we are assuming a 12-2pm showing) and we plan to invite interested personnel to attend. This live web cast will be "The Art and Science of Stormwater Retrofitting" which fits well with our efforts in water quality controls in existing developed areas. This will focus on the August 2007 manual on this subject that the board was given in one of the earlier meetings. Since this is live and subject to "Murphy's law", we also are planning a Plan B backup and will have the recent "BMP Performance" web cast available for viewing. We will possibly invite folks from Jasper County to this webcast.

5. Utility Administration – Military Base Collection Effort Nothing new was available. The county is considering its options in light of the letter from the military.

6. Utility Administration - 2009 Budget Update – Carolyn Wallace walked the board through changes made since the budget presentation at the last board meeting. They were as follows:

- Utility decided to not peruse bonding this year but consider for FY10, based on amended interlocal agreements.
- Incorporated impacts of credits in fiscal planning
- Corrected estimates for municipal project billings
- Explained changes in purchased services (rising garage costs) and supplies (new higher estimates for fuel)
- Explained reasons for deficit in proposed budget to include lapse rate on personnel, problems with county completely funding; education, monitoring, SW inspector, and preliminary design of PSMS projects recommended in Master Plan.
- Explained current budget is not sustainable and while we can complete FY09 deficit from reserves, we will need to make corrections in FY10 depending on new interlocal agreements.

There were questions if a fee increase was needed in FY09. Staff said better addressed with FY10 budget. Scott Ligget said that level of service needs to be established before considering necessary fee increase. Bob Gross suggested that a number of small increases might be better than one large one.

7. Stormwater Control Regulation – BMP Manual Update Bob Klink reported that Rich Wagner is scheduled to present the revised draft to the board on April 2, 2008. The board wanted the draft a week before the April 2, 2008 meeting. If they could not get a week to review they wanted to have the presentation delayed. Board also asked that the changes be highlighted in new drafts and the report be submitted electronically.

8. Water Quality Monitoring Mike Monday of the DHEC regional office gave an overview of their 2007 Thermal Imagery Project. Their flyover on January 29-31, 2007 focused on three priority areas (Battery Creek, Jenkins Creek and Broad Creek). The flyovers identified 72 sites of interest and after in-house review, the State field visited 32 of them. No problems were identified in the field but a few

sites were selected for further sampling. Mr. Bellamy said the county was interested in the Jenkins Creek area and asked for a copy of the full report. Jeff McNesby pointed out that on recent septic tank training, that failed septic tanks were discovered that had not shown up on their thermal imagery work.

9. Water Quality Monitoring – Christine Villarreal of GEL Engineering presented an update on monitoring results using SCECAP criteria to evaluate results to date. She reviewed the 6 primary SCECAP parameters (DO, BOD, PH, FC, Nitrogen, Phosphorus) for the 18 sites being monitored. We are now getting enough data that some sites appear to have poorer existing WQ than others. The ones with the worst water quality would be the highest priority to consider Water Quality Controls. Site number 12 appears to have consistently poorer results. This presents an interesting opportunity since it is in the headwaters of Albergottie Creek and this creek will soon have Military base wastewater discharges removed and could potentially be open for shellfish harvesting, if in stream standards can be met.

Christine also reviewed the changes that have been made since the start of the program:

- Cease Bacteria Source Tracking
- Relocation of ambient sampling locations
- Purchasing additional automatic samplers
- Set up of BMP monitoring samplers

There was a discussion on the decision to cease source tracking and the reasons were because of random results, high cost, and no logical stormwater control issue identified. (ie negative results for dogs, cattle, and horses)

10. Annual Maintenance - Project Status Reports – Staff reported on 4 projects that had project summaries completed. There were concerns raised on establishing a routine return time for projects. Another concern was raised by a municipality about the time for projects to move along the system.

11. Public Information – New Stormwater Website Described the new upgrade to the Stormwater Website and plans to use this as a public information tool. A staff person, Renee Brown, is coordinating this development with our county web master and utility staff are developing information for the site. Current information available and future plans were described.

12 . Public Information – Low Country Institute – We have continued our dialogue with Dr. Chris Marsh and have planned workshops for county employees on actions to protect our County's waters. We have announced three dates to county staff (March 20, April 8 and 16) and are collecting reservations for the 20 person classes. The Town of Bluffton was also invited and we may invite staff from other municipalities. Don Smith asked for dates and may drop in on a session. Board members were invited. Let utility know which date so we can reserve a slot.

Dr. Marsh wants to attend our board meetings but could not be here this month. He has submitted some thoughts on BMPs and we have forwarded them to the consultant to consider. He volunteered to be a reviewer of the next draft of the BMP manual.

Friends of the Rivers asked us to mention that the 8th Annual Clean up is set for March 22 (8-12)

13. Final Opportunity for Public Comment – None

14. Next meeting agenda – The Chairman of the Board requested the following agenda for April with the BMP Manual (CDM presentation) being the key item

- Stormwater Control Regulation
 - o BMP Manual CDM presentation
- PSMS Enhancements
 - not scheduled
- Water Quality Controls for Existing Development
 - not scheduled
- Water Quality Monitoring
 - not scheduled
- Annual Maintenance
 - o Project Status Reports
- Additional/Ongoing Study and Analysis
 - not scheduled
- Public Information
 - o Low Country Institute Initiative
 - o Webcast update
- Utility Administration
 - o Military Base Collection Update
 - o Regional Workshop

15. Meeting adjourned.