

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

June 4, 2008 at 2:00 p.m. in County Council Executive Chamber
Final draft June 27, 2008

Board Members

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

Ex-Officio Members

Present	Absent
Scott Liggett	
Jeff McNesby	
Jan Paul Sherwood	
Bob Gross	

Beaufort County Staff

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

Visitors

Damon Williams, Sun City
Suzanne Larson, BC PIO
Amanda Flake, BC Planning
Billie Lindsay, BC Planning
Charles Truax, DHEC
Denise Parsick, Beaufort S&W Conservation Dist.
Joe Croley, HAAOR

County Council

1. Meeting called to order by Mr. Donald Smith.
2. The May 7, 2008 SWMU Board final draft meeting minutes were approved with one amendment requested by Ron McKenney.
3. **Initial Opportunity for Public Comment** – No comments
4. **Stormwater Control Regulations – BMP Manual Update** – Bob Klink announced approval of the Phase 1 by County Council on May 19, 2008. County has developed an action plan to implement these changes. The proposed Phase 2 changes are now posted on website. We are developing a press release and will plan workshop/s with Engineers and Developers. Looking to see if May River Watershed Advisory will provide guidance or determination if Beaufort County waters are nitrogen limited. The board asked about schedule of implementation. Mr. Klink said it will depend on input during review time and if a determination is made on waters being nitrogen limited. Mr. Bellamy said he hopes to see this going to the county council by the 1st of the year.
5. **Water Quality Monitoring** - Bob Klink reported that, following our May monitoring meeting last week, the contract for the second year of monitoring will be brought to the Public Services Committee on June 10, 2008 and the full council on June 23, 2008. The second year will continue efforts with

some modifications for a contract price of \$150,750. These modifications include moving some sampling stations upstream of current locations and sampling wet weather events. Monitoring efforts will also include coordination with Town of Bluffton on May River stations and with DHEC to expand open water sampling. The next meeting on June 24, 2008 will be to receive GEL's first year report. It was also mentioned that the Town of Hilton Head Island shared their report on the 9 year monitoring efforts at the May monitoring meeting. This report concluded that their stormwater system was not causing problems in the surrounding waters.

6. Maintenance – Project Summaries - Reported on 5 projects over \$1,500 in cost. Also reported 6 other projects under \$1,500 were completed

7. Public Information – Together for Beaufort – Denise Parsick, of the Beaufort County Conservation District, reported on the efforts of the committee addressing one of the objectives in this 4-goal initiative. The objective that the committee is addressing is “We will be good stewards of our natural resources by protecting and monitoring water quality”. She reported on the various organizations that make up the committee and the three activities that the group has focused on. One was educational activity and the second was coordination of monitoring activities between local and state organizations. The third activity was a 10 status on the Clean Water Task Force’s “Blueprint for Clean Water”. The committee found that all ten priority steps had been addressed and found the following status on the 53 additional recommendations in the original report:

- 40 of the recommendations had ongoing implementation or were completed
- 8 of the recommendations had been initiated
- 5 were not addressed

Denise also mentioned that the committee is in the process of recommending the next ten priorities that should be addressed to protect and restore our county’s waters.

8. Utility Administration – Regional Cooperation-Workshop Follow-up – Reported that all municipalities had designated representatives to a follow-on team that will have its first meeting on June 17, 2008. The proposed goals of the team are to:

- Coordinate stormwater issues throughout the county
- Develop recommendations for implementing the Beaufort County Stormwater Management Plan.

Also reported that monthly meeting have been initiated between Town of HHI and the county to coordinate drainage work being done in the Town.

In response to who are the municipal representatives, it was reported that:

City of Beaufort – Lamar Taylor

Town of Port Royal – Van Willis

Town of Bluffton – Jeff McNesby

Town of Hilton Head Island – Jeff Buckalew

9. Utility Administration – Military Base Collection Effort – It was reported that Jacksonville and the Naval Air Station are still in negotiation on amount of credits that will be allowed the Base. The credit being talked about is around 50% but it may go higher because new stormwater investments by the Air Station.

The County Administrator has requested the Utility to take additional action on this issue and wants a demand letter sent to the Marine Corps Air Station (MCAS) in preparation for further action. If Jacksonville is successful in getting their Air Station to pay Stormwater Fees then the utility will recommend potential joint legal action by county and the City of Beaufort to challenge the assertion by the MCAS that the Stormwater Fee is a Tax.

10. Utility Administration – 2009 Budget Update – Carolyn Wallace reported on three issues:

- HB 4337 – as of Monday June 2, 2008 this bill was placed on the contested calendar. If it remains there this week it will not be acted on this year. The copy of the county resolution opposing this bill was given to the Board. Mr. Bellamy shared that exempting classes of property from Stormwater Fees, make fees more like as tax and opens the Utility to legal challenge. He felt we needed to make the county council aware of the fee versus tax issue. In discussion on this issue it was brought forward that the contested bill had been modified to include exemptions for “buildings of worship”. Not sure how this would have been interpreted. It was also determined that this was the second year of the state legislature and the proposed bill would have to reintroduce. Also reported that Representative Hodges (represents a small section of Beaufort County) was a sponsor of this bill.
- Actual Project Costs – reported that we are working with county controller’s office to correctly charge actual costs to projects completed by the Infrastructure section. We plan to implement this on projects initiated after the start of the new year.
- SFU Rate Increase – This proposed increase is on the agenda for the June 10, 2008 Public Services Committee meeting. If it is approved it will go to the full council later in the month.

11. Date for July Board Meeting – Decided to keep meeting at scheduled July 2, 2008 date.

12. Final Opportunity for Public Comment – No comments

13. Next meeting agenda – The Chairman of the Board requested the following agenda for July meeting. Decided to schedule Friends of the Rivers for the August meeting.

- Stormwater Control Regulation
 - o BMP Manual
 - o County Buffer Requirements
- PSMS Enhancements
 - Not scheduled
- Water Quality Controls for Existing Development
 - Not scheduled
- Water Quality Monitoring
 - o First Year Presentation - GEL

- Annual Maintenance
 - o Project Status Reports
- Additional/Ongoing Study and Analysis
 - Not scheduled
- Public Information
 - o Clemson Extension

- Utility Administration
 - o Military Base Collection Update
 - o Regional Workshop Follow-up

13. Meeting adjourned.