



Roanoke County Stormwater Advisory Committee

Meeting #3 Level of Service Analysis: Meeting Notes

Date: October 24, 2013, 6:00 p.m. to 8:10 p.m.

Location: Green Ridge Recreation Center

Attendance:

See sign in sheets at end of these minutes.

Welcome and Introduction (Presentation Slide 2)

Mr. Tarek Moneir welcomed Roanoke County Stormwater Advisory Committee (RCSAC) members to the meeting. He reminded the general public present at the meeting that they may submit comments in writing to himself or David Henderson.

Meeting #2 Recap (Presentation Slide 3)

Mr. Moneir introduced Mr. David Bulova of AMEC Environment and Infrastructure. Mr. Bulova provided an overview of the agenda, the plan for future meetings, and a brief recap of Meeting #2.

Level of Service (Presentation Slide 8)

Mr. Bulova discussed the background on the level of service matrix that was distributed to the committee prior to the meeting and the three levels of service to be discussed: basic, medium and high. The plan for this meeting is to go through each of the stormwater program gaps identified at the last meeting and discuss potential levels of service, get committee feedback on other options and information needed to support the decision-making process. He discussed what committee members should consider while thinking about levels of service. At the next meeting, more detail on requested topics will be presented and committee members will be able to “vote” on where they would spend their stormwater dollars to help establish priorities.

The following comments and questions were discussed for each of the program gaps and levels of service options. Refer to the Meeting #3 presentation for the actual level of service options. Items in bold text will be addressed at the next meeting.

Staff Training (Presentation Slide 11):

Question – 420 staff to be trained seems high. **Answer** – The Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) permit Section II.B.6.d(1) (<http://lis.virginia.gov/cgi-bin/legp604.exe?000+reg+9VAC25-890-40>) requires that biennial training be provided to applicable field personnel in the recognition and reporting of illicit discharges. This would include staff that spend time out in the community such as police and fire and rescue staff.

Comment – This program should be regionalized if possible.

Comment – The training plan should be comprehensive and provide different levels of training for different staff.

Comment – The County should start with a basic plan.



Nutrient Management Planning (Presentation Slide 12):

Question – What is the certification process for a certified nutrient management planner?

Answer – A combination of education and experience is needed to apply for state certification. Applicants must pass a test to become a certified nutrient management planner.

Details on the requirements can be found at:

www.dcr.virginia.gov/water_quality/nmtrain.shtml.

Comment – The County/Town do not need to hire a certified planner – they can hire a consultant to prepare the plans using the standard procurement process.

Public Education and Outreach (Presentation Slide 13):

Question – **More background on the EPA cost estimates for what constitutes a basic, medium, and high level of service would be helpful – were they based on communities similar to Roanoke?** **Answer** – Additional information will be provided. The numbers presented are orders of magnitude for comparison purposes – these are not recommended funding levels.

Comment – Is there a way to measure the success of the public education? Could the DEQ monitoring be used to measure success? **Answer** – The success of public education programs is usually measured by conducting surveys to determine what people learned about stormwater topics or how they changed their behavior. The DEQ monitoring program is sporadic and meant to show long term changes.

Comment – The County is required to have a public education program because of its MS4 permit (9VAC890-40 Section II.B.1.).

Comment – This permit requirement is interconnected with several other gaps such as illicit discharges and staff training.

Question – How can we put a dollar value on the benefit of an education program? How does this relate to the entire program cost? **Answer** – It is very difficult to place a dollar value on the benefit of an education program. However, educating citizens is necessary for an effective stormwater program. Knowledgeable citizens are much more likely to support changed behavior and the need to spend public money.

Question – Are there barriers to a regional approach? **Answer** – The current program relies on a regional approach through the Clean Valley Council. The new MS4 permit requires education that localities identify targeted audiences. Clean Valley Council will still be a resource for general, regional education but the County may want different target audiences than the City of Roanoke or Town of Vinton.

Comment – A good education program may philosophically be the best way to improve stormwater quality. Committee members were asked if they had learned anything from the current regional education program funded by the County and Town through Clean Valley Council and through the parks brochures. Many committee members were not aware of the stormwater education program and had not been impacted.

Illicit Discharge Program (Presentation Slide 14):

Comment – A stormwater police force is not needed.

Comment – This is difficult to decide on a linear basis because of the interrelationships with education and staff training.



Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plans (SWPPPs) (Presentation Slide 16):

Question – What is an example of a high priority facility? **Answer** – Fleet Services or Kessler Mill are two examples.

Question – Can't OSHA requirements cover this? **Answer** – Small pieces of the OSHA requirements such as materials handling can be part of a SWPPP but the SWPPP is focused at pollution prevention practices for the entire site.

Question – Are the 125 employees that need to be trained on the SWPPP and standard operating procedures included in the 420 for staff training? **Answer** – Not necessarily – there is some overlap. The 420 staff for illicit discharge detection and reporting training are staff that are out in the field in some capacity. The 125 employees for staff training are those staff that work at the high priority facilities, or that perform work that could result in water pollution, and need to be aware of the pollution prevention practices for that site.

Question -- How complex is the plan – should they be done slowly? **Answer** – They are not complex, but they are detailed and need to be prepared by someone who understands the requirements. – They can be completed fairly quickly.

BMP Inspection, Maintenance and Enforcement (Presentation Slide 18):

Question – Is there a cost associated with the attorney time? **Answer** – Yes. Costs include salary and fringe benefits.

Question – Where does Henrico County's fee go – to a designated fund? **Answer** – These fees are collected in a special revenue fund.

Question – Is anyone collecting a fee from HOAs to do the maintenance? **Answer** – Not to our knowledge. Some jurisdictions in Florida have special taxing districts to apply specific taxes on properties served by BMPs that are maintained by the locality.

Question – Does the high level of service include bringing existing unmaintained facilities up to standard? Does this include maintenance on residential lots? **Answer** – We would expect that stormwater management facilities would need to be brought up to standard, prior to the County accepting them. The details on what the County would accept for maintenance would need to be determined after the basic position was determined.

Question – Are landscape architects and professional engineers the only professionals permitted to certify BMP inspections? What about licensed architects? **Answer** – Per the Virginia Stormwater Management Program (VSMP) Regulations 9VAC25-870-114.C. (<http://www.deq.virginia.gov/Programs/Water/LawsRegulationsGuidance.aspx>) the VSMP authority may utilize the inspections conducted by a person who is licensed as a professional engineer, architect, landscape architect or land surveyor.

Comment – Older facilities have more problems than newer facilities with maintenance agreements – this problem should abate as older facilities are fixed.

Comment – The committee can consider an option to enforce against owners of unmaintained facilities. This would free the current inspector to focus on inspections instead of providing assistance to private owners; however, it is difficult to enforce against HOAs.

Comment -- Will there be a reduction in revenue needs over time? **Answer** – Conceivable there could be less need for revenue over time. However, at this time we are only looking out for the funding needs over a 5 year planning period. There will be no reduction in revenue needs over this period.



Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) Action Plans(Presentation Slide 21):

Question – Does the County have an inventory of sediment and bacteria problem areas?

Answer – The County knows of some erosion problems in streams but has no inventory.

Comment – A study to evaluate problems and determine the most effective strategies to address bacteria and sediment may be a good idea.

VSMP Construction Permit Administration (Presentation Slide 22):

Question -- What will be the difference in review for the County? **Answer** – Administration and paperwork for the new permit will be increased as will the complexity of the technical review since there will need to be more facilities dispersed throughout a site.

Question – Information on neighboring locality review time would be helpful. **Answer** – The County's review time is comparable or shorter than neighboring localities. None of the localities know what the time impacts of the new requirements are going to be.

Question – **What would it cost to outsource the plan review?** **Answer** – This may be difficult because local engineering firms are involved in local site development and could have a conflict of interest. The reviewers would also need to be state certified.

New Stormwater Regulatory Requirements (Presentation Slide 23):

Comment – The concerns for the impacts of the new Virginia Stormwater Management Regulations, primarily more administration and more complicated technical review, are similar to those associated with the VSMP Construction Permit.

Mapping Support (Presentation Slide 24):

No comments.

Equipment Replacement (Presentation Slide 25)

Comment – There is no state law that requires replacement of equipment – equipment is replaced to ensure efficiency and staff safety.

Question – What equipment does the County have? **Answer** – A list will be provided.

Question – **How much has the County spent on equipment replacement in the past 10 years?**

Question – **How much is spent on equipment maintenance or rental of equipment?**

Project Backlog (Presentation Slide 26):

Comment – The County currently has approximately \$3.5 million in project backlog and the backlog increases by approximately 10-15% annually.

Comment – The committee can choose different levels of service for project backlog depending on how fast the backlog will be addressed. This is a citizen service issue and not directly a permit compliance issue.

Storm Sewer System Maintenance (Presentation Slide 28):

Comment – There is some overlap with project backlog but this program is to do proactive inspections of the system to identify maintenance needs before a problem becomes major.

Question – Does this include the VDOT system? **Answer** – No.



Question – How would the money collected for stormwater needs be treated in the budget?

Answer – It would be set aside in an enterprise fund and could only be used for the stormwater program.

Maintenance of Streams (Presentation Slide 31):

Comment – A management plan should consider the different needs and problems in the rural and urban areas of the County.

Question – How would the plan address problems or issues from upstream sources or localities? **Answer** – The plan would likely focus on tributaries that are within the County but the plan would consider any upstream issues.

Other general comments included that the committee would like to see more information on the stormwater programs of other neighboring localities and the impact of costs to residents and businesses. These items will be addressed in more detail at Meeting #5.

Another concern was voiced that the scheduled meetings did not provide enough time for the committee members to properly consider and discuss the issues. There was a suggestion to **develop an interactive forum** for committee members to share ideas on topics discussed during the meetings. In the interests of time, this topic will be opened for discussion at the next meeting.

Pending Questions List:

Question: Roanoke County is unique in that it has a combination of rural land and urban areas. These areas have different stormwater issues. How will fairness be addressed in dealing with these unique areas? **Answer:** Discussion on this topic is pending.

Question: Provide more information on the stormwater programs costs for neighboring localities. **Answer:** This topic will be discussed in more detail in Meeting #5.

Question: More background on the EPA cost estimates for what constitutes a basic, medium, and high level of service would be helpful – were they based on communities similar to Roanoke? **Answer:** Additional information will be provided at Meeting #4. The numbers presented are orders of magnitude for comparison purposes – these are not recommended funding levels.

Question: How can we put a dollar value on the benefit of an education program? How does this relate to the entire program cost? **Answer:** Additional information will be provided at Meeting #4.

Question: Is there a cost associated with the attorney time? **Answer:** Additional information will be provided at Meeting #4.

Question: Is anyone collecting a fee from HOAs to do the maintenance? **Answer:** Additional information will be provided at Meeting #4.

Question: Does the high cost in Loudoun County's maintenance program include bringing existing unmaintained facilities up to standard? Does this include maintenance on residential lots? **Answer:** Additional information will be provided at Meeting #4.

Question: Information on neighboring locality review time would be helpful. **Answer:** Additional information will be provided at Meeting #4.

Question: What would it cost to outsource the plan review? **Answer:** Additional information will be provided at Meeting #4. However, this may be difficult because the



small number of local engineering firms are involved in local site development and could have a conflict of interest. The reviewers would also need to be state certified.

Question: What equipment does the County have? **Answer:** A list will be provided prior to Meeting #4.

Question: How much has the County spent on equipment replacement in the past 10 years? **Answer:** Additional information will be provided prior to Meeting #4.

Question: How much is spent on equipment maintenance or rental of equipment?
Answer: Additional information will be provided prior to Meeting #4.

Question: Should the committee have access to a means to discuss the issues outside of the meetings, such as an online forum, that would be visible to the public but could only be posted to by committee members? **Answer:** To be discussed next meeting.

ROANOKE COUNTY STORMWATER ADVISORY COMMITTEE- SIGN IN SHEET
MEETING 3 - OCTOBER 24, 2013

Member	District	Organization	Alternate (if Member cannot Attend)	Present
Mr. Michael "Mike" Keen	Catawa	Selected By Board		
Mr. Leonard F. Firebaugh	Cave Spring	Selected By Board		
Mr. Steve Rossi	Hollins	Selected By Board		X
Mr. James R. Nelson	Vinton	Selected By Board		X
Mr. Eldon L. Karr	Windsor Hills	Selected By Board		X
Mr. Stephen Peak	Windsor Hills	TMEIC		
Mr. Todd Creasy	Vinton	Vinton Chamber of Commerce		X
Mr. Kit Hale	Cave Spring (valley-wide)	MKB Realtors		X
Ms. Wendy Akers	Cave Spring	Tanglewood		X
Mr. Peter Fields	Valley-wide	Roa Regional Homebuilders Association		X
Mr. Ross Smith	(valley-wide)	Smith/Packett		X
Mr. Terry St. Clair	Valley-wide	Terry St. Clair		X
Mr. Bill Tanger	Valley-wide	Upper Roanoke River Round Table		
Mr. Steve Edwards	Hollins	Greenridge Baptist Church	Greg Moser	
Mr. Tom Dale	Cave Spring	Lumsden and Associates		X
Mr. Steve Musselwhite	Valley-wide	Roanoke County Economic Development Authority	Greg Apostolou	
Mr. Martin Misicko	Valley-wide	Roanoke County Public Schools		
Ms. Kerry J. Edmunds	Hollins	Hollins College		X
Ms. Mava Wingate	Valley-wide	Salem - Roanoke County Chamber of Commerce		X
Mr. Tori Williams	Valley-wide	Roanoke Regional Chamber of Commerce		X
Mr. Todd Ross	Valley-wide	Valley Bank		

**ROANOKE COUNTY STORMWATER ADVISORY COMMITTEE- SIGN IN SHEET
MEETING 3 - OCTOBER 24, 2013**

Roanoke County	Position
Richard Caywood	Assistant County Administrator
Tarek Moneir	Deputy Director, Development Services
David Henderson	County Engineer
Town of Vinton	Position
Joey Hiner	Assistant Public Works Director
Anita McMillan	Planning and Zoning Director
Consultant Staff	Position
David Bulova	Senior Water Resources Planner, AMEC
Lynne Mowery	Project Manager, AMEC