

Meeting Summary
Wednesday, July 1, 2015
6:30 PM – 8:30 PM
Public Service Center, 6th Floor Training Room
1300 Franklin Street, Vancouver

Members Present: Jim Carlson, Marie La Manna, David McDevitt, Susan Rasmussen, Dick Rylander, Gary Schaeffer, Kate Schoof

Members Absent: David Meyer, Mark Schneider

Staff Present: Earl Rowell, Bobbi Trusty, Rod Swanson

Partner Agency Staff Present: Art Stubbs, NACC

Public Present: None

I ROLL CALL

Mr. McDevitt was introduced as the new commission member filling the vacancy of former Commissioner McKinney. Mr. Rowell reviewed the meeting packet contents.

The May 6, 2015 meeting summary was approved as submitted.

II. PUBLIC COMMENT (5:02)

None

III. PRESENTATION/DISCUSSION

Clark County NPDES Municipal Stormwater Code and Design Manual Update (5:49)

Mr. Swanson provided an overview of the NPDES permit and the eleven components that must be followed per the Washington State Department of Ecology (Ecology). In addition, he reviewed presentation materials that provide an overview of the stormwater code and manual update.

Some of the goals for the code and manual update are to simplify the manual, ensure it is equivalent to the Ecology manual, include the mandate to use low impact development (LID) where feasible, and remove barriers in the development code (Title 40) for LID usage.

Commissioners asked questions about:

- Why only use LID where appropriate, why is it not just a mandated method?
 - LID might be infeasible where the treatment method will not work with the soil, slope or wear surface.
- What is the definition of MS4
 - Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) – which means the county permit covers water that drains into ditches and pipes the county owns and operates.
- Why does the county have a minimal partnership with City of Vancouver, when the city completes an annex and receives responsibility for the infrastructure that the county put in place?



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- Standards for stormwater structures are similar; however their requirements as a Phase II Permittee are different.
- There is a strong partnership with Community Development but not Community Planning. Why is that, as Community Planning has the ability to put the wrong zoning or land use designation for the soil?
 - Community Development manages the Permit center and processes all permits for building and land use. Public Works completes the review of the engineering plans and inspection of the development stormwater plans. Through those processes, Community Planning zoning and land use designations are reviewed.
- The only other Phase I Permittee that the county intersects with is WSDOT. When was the last time a project was partnered on?
 - The county has partnered with WSDOT on fairly arcane state level issues like the management of TMDLs and the county's watershed scale storm water plan in Whipple Creek that includes planning within some of WSDOT's management area.
- What is the definition of TMDL
 - Total Maximum Daily Load
- Who has the higher standard Phase I or Phase II Permittee?
 - Phase I was started for large municipalities in 1990 and Phase II started in 2007. A few of the main difference in requirements are Phase I Permittees are required to complete Capital Retrofit Programs and Source Control Inspections where a Phase II Permittee does not. More information about our permit can be found at: <http://www.clark.wa.gov/environment/stormwater/management/>
- Why is there very little collaboration for outreach and education with municipalities?
 - The county has coordinated on projects with other jurisdictions like Stormwater Partners, Regional Coalition for Clean Rivers and Streams and the Watershed Congress.
- What would prevent the county from getting the code and manual updated on time and what happens if you are out of compliance?
 - The resources are in place to complete the process. The expectation is that the code and manual will be completed and adopted on time and the county will not be out of compliance. However, if the county does not stay in compliance, the county would be opened up for further lawsuits.

Special Project Working Group Updates

Clean Water Fee Update (48:55)

Mr. Rowell stated that a resolution was put forward to the Board of County Councilors today. The councilors asked to see the completed fee study. A copy of the fee study will be forwarded to the councilors and will be discussed by Don Benton and Chris Clifford.

SWAMP Update (52.15)

Mr. Carlson did not have a formal update but he described the meaning of the SWAMP (Storm Water Alliance Multiuse Project) where there will be multiple partners and purposes for a facility. Mr. Carlson's action item is to contact WSDOT and schedule a conference call to identify what the barriers are to completing projects between municipalities and other partners. Any commission member is welcome to attend the call.



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Education/Outreach Task Force (1:02:06)

Mr. Rylander stated that he is working with Mr. Rowell and staff to update the presentation for the Clean Water commission to utilize when conducting outreach. Each audience will hear the same core message with possible customization for the audience knowledge group. The target is to keep the presentation to no longer than 15 minutes then engage the audience.

IV COMMISSION DISCUSSION TIME (1:05:50)

Mr. Rylander stated that he thought the commission field trip was a success and thanked Earl for putting it together. Discussion occurred regarding two rain gardens that were not functioning properly in the Mt. Vista neighborhood. Mr. Rowell provided an update that the county is resolving the issues.

Mr. Rylander handed out a copy of the suggestions he has received regarding the clean water webpage and thanked those who had provided feedback. If there are any other suggestions, please email him as soon as possible.

Mr. Rylander brought up that in the previous meeting the commission discussed Gmail addresses and using a shared document folder. There is nothing to preclude the commission from putting this together. Mr. Rylander will be setting up his account as rylander.cwc@gmail.com and will set up a shared folder. He will then send out an email to each member. Training will be provided at the next meeting on how to use it and cover any concerns.

Ms. Rasmussen was contacted by neighbors in the East Fork watershed. It was reported that a person drives onto a parcel through a locked gate with a dump truck full of miscellaneous materials and always leaves empty. The neighbors say they hear him digging, burying and see black billowing smoke going into the air from burning. Neighbors are concerned for their safety and the air and water. The neighbors suspect that he is operating an unpermitted landfill. Ms. Rasmussen has been in contact with many county departments (Environmental Services, Code Enforcement, Public Health, Fire Marshal, and Sheriff) and EPAs Air Quality Division. The commission discussed that Ms. Rasmussen has contacted all the appropriate agencies.

V PUBLIC COMMENT (1:29:20)

None

VI ADJOURN – 08:00 PM

Summary provided by: Bobbi Trusty / 360-397-2121 x 5268

For more detailed information, an audio recording for this meeting is available through the county website at:
<http://www.clark.wa.gov/environment/stormwater/management/commission.html>