

Horry County Stormwater Advisory Board
Wednesday, September 14, 2022 @ 3:00 p.m.
Multi-Purpose Room B
Conway, SC

Members Present: Austin Graham, Dan Sennema, Brian Pugsley, Harry Parnell, Denise Lynch, Kyle Nobles, and Kelly Platt.

Members Absent:

Staff members present: Thom Roth, Brandon Wagner, Michelle Crocker, and Chelsea Cogliano

Others present: Jeremy Gile- Horry County PIO.

In accordance with the FOIA, a public notice of the meeting was advertised on the Government Access Channel stating the date, time and location of the meeting. Additionally, the meeting was posted on the HCG Website Calendar.

Call to Order: Austin Graham called the meeting to order.

Harry Parnell led the invocation.
Brian Pugsley led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Public Input: NONE

Approval of May 18, 2022 Minutes –

Brain Pugsley made a motion to approve March 16, 2022 minutes. Dan Sennema seconded the motion, all approved.

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Discussion Items –

Old Business

♦ *None*

New Business

♦ **Brandon Wagner went over the NRCS grant that we have gotten started with. He went over that we were awarded the studies for all the watersheds we put in for. Mr. Wagner stated we are going through a feasibility portion and if it makes it past there will be an H and H study. Beyond that they will find projects and move forward with essentially cost share if we go to construction. He then let Carl with Terra Solutions takeover with the program.**

♦ **Carl from Terra Solutions introduced Tim Sweeny who is the Watershed Planner and Mark Stewart who is the NRCS state conservation engineer in SC. He went over the 8 distinct reports they are developing for NRCS which include:**

- **Buck Creek, Simpson Creek, Crabtree, Brunson, Socastee, Cartwheel, Gap way and Racoon Run**

The purpose is to prepare and report for NRCS. They are currently not collecting and doing any new studies. He stated they are recollecting any available information that they can. They are currently in the process of drafting the first 3 reports. The first 3 are Buck Creek, Simpson Creek and Crabtree. That final report is due to be back by October 15th. The second group is Brunson, Cartwheel and Gap way. That final report is due to be back by November 14th. The third group is Socastee and Racoon Run. That final is due to be back by December 16th. The main eligible purposes they are looking at are flood prevention and flood reduction as well as watershed production which helps to improve water quality. We are trying to focus on these two main ones. Carl went over that they are looking at possible alternatives for the first three. After the feasibility report NRCS will decide to move the project into compliant phase then they can request design funds and then construction funds. Carl gave Tim and Mike the opportunity to add on to his summary of the program.

♦ **Chelsea Cogliano gave an update on the public outreach component for our MS4 permit. She explained Horry County Stormwater and surrounding municipalities partnered with Clemson Extension Education Consortium, Carolina Clear. Chelsea took part in an interview and they selected a candidate who will be starting next month. This person will be leading education programs in the area. She encouraged everyone to visit their website.**

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Chelsea went over the mini Pond Conference Horry County Stormwater is holding next week at the Carolina Forest Rec Center. Horry County citizens are encouraged to come out and learn about their Stormwater system in their neighborhoods. This will be a great opportunity for the community to gain information and learn how the Stormwater systems in a neighborhood work. Members of staff will be there to go over and answer any questions. We have reached out to HOA's and posted on social media.

◆ Michelle Crocker gave a status update on the Stormwater refunds. On July 5th refund checks were mailed out totaling a little over 1.3 million dollars. As of August 31st records indicate \$199,696 has not cleared the bank. Michelle discussed issues they had such as returned checks due to wrong addresses. To date we had 750 checks returned and sent around 500 back out with corrected information leaving 230 checks in our possession. About 6,000 post cards were mailed out to land owners who did not receive a refund check but may be entitled to one. The post cards instructed the land owner to go to our website and upload proof they are/were the owner of record at the time. Unfortunately we have not had a good success rate. To date a little over 500 have went to the website to upload the information. We have ran into several issues such as deceased landowners whose heirs have not went through the probate process and returned postcards with incorrect addresses. Staff is working on a plan to reach back out to the landowner who have not responded to the postcards. Overall, the majority of the refunds have been issued back to the landowners.

◆ Brandon Wagner and Thom Roth went over the Stormwater report update. They then went on to answer questions.

End of discussion items.

Dan Sennema made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Kelly Platt seconded it, all members approved.