

Horry County Stormwater Advisory Board  
Wednesday, May 19, 2021 @ 3:00 p.m.  
Multi-Purpose Room B  
Conway, SC

**Members Present:** Austin Graham, Lynn Baer, Dan Sennema, Tripp Nealy, Harry Parnell, and Brian Pugsley.

**Members Absent:** Mary Helen Rebolini, Johnny Staples, and Brad Hardwick

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

**Others present:** Dr. Susan Libes, Victoria Green, Monica Gray and Ahmed Baker from CCU, Ashley Cowen from Planning and Zoning,

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.

Austin Graham led the invocation.  
Brain Pugsley led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Public Input:** NONE

**Approval of March 10, 2021 Minutes –**

Dan Sennema made a motion to approve March 10, 2020 minutes. Brain Pugsley seconded the motion. All approved.

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*Discussion Items –*

**Old Business**

♦None

**New Business**

♦ *Chelsea Cogliano- Chelsea spoke about the Water Shed Projects: The NE portion of Little River has a Shell Fish harvesting area that has a low water quality and is no longer open to the public. Chelsea is working on a program to increase the water quality in this area; the goal is to have the area open to the public in 15 years. The main source of the contamination is non- human fecal matter. The budget for the water shed projects is \$275,000.00 which includes working on public awareness and education on the needs for the increase of water quality levels. One of the issues mentioned by Chelsea is one area with a large number of malfunctioning septic tanks. Chelsea mentioned the 319 program through NRCS helps homeowners with the expenses to repair the failing septic system or hook into a sewer lines if they are available. Another part of the project Chelsea went over was the Stormwater Pond Enhancement, this using living walls in the retention ponds to help with erosion. These will be maintained by Stormwater but she is looking to get the HOAs to become more actively involved with this. Another project mentioned was the Porous Pavement Project in North Myrtle Beach, which allows water to flow through the pavement rather pooling on top of it. Part of the project includes bagging oysters in mesh bags and putting them in the water to help filter the water and allow for new generations of oysters.*

♦ *Thom Roth- Thom reviewed the budget in regards to the Stormwater Fee increase. Without an increase, operations will continue as normal. The majority of the cleaning is being done with Track hoes and Bush hogs. Thom stated that Stormwater is 3-4 years behind on maintaining current ditches and trying to keep up with all the new ditches added every week due to new developments. With a Stormwater Fee increase, we would be able to add about 30 new employees, which includes: heavy equipment operators, project managers, permit techs and new beaver trappers. We would also have crews designated to cleaning wetlands year round. Thom also discussed easement condemnations, this will allow us to gain access and clean critical ditches we have not be able to in the pass due to land owners refusing to sign easements.*

♦ *Thom Roth- Thom went over the current Capital Improvement Projects:*

- *The River Oaks drainage improvement to add the ditches that were not built at the time the development was built.*
- *HWY 9 culvert improvement to enlarge the pipe, we are still waiting on SCDOT.*

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- *Plantation Point has pipes that are 90% crushed and will need to be replaced.*
- *Micah Ave outfall water needs to be rerouted from the large pond.*
- *Other projects include Socastee Swamp, Simpson Creek and Pleasant Valley areas.*

♦ *Brandon Wagner- Brandon discussed the current and new Minor Subdivision Ordinance and permitting requirements. Currently Horry County does not require a permit for subdivision with ten or less one acre lots. The new ordinance would require any new developments over five, one acre lots to go through the review and permitting process. Developers would be required to submit a grading and drainage plan as well as a sediment and erosion control plan. Currently they only have to submit a plat /sketch plan showing the proposed minor subdivision if they are not building a new road. We receive 5-6 complaints a week regarding drainage issues tied to minor subdivisions.*

♦ *Thom Roth- Thom also discussed other projects currently going on throughout the county. These project includes numerous sinkhole repairs, adding a concrete box to Folly Road, and rerouting water from Grier Crossing. Last year we planned for SWAB members to ride with the project managers in their area to help learn the area and help us identify any problem areas. Thom asked the members if they were still interested in doing this, everyone present wanted to participate. Michelle will reach out to everyone and schedule a date and time in July.*

Next meeting is scheduled for at July 14<sup>th</sup> @ 3pm in Room B in the Government & Justice Center.

End of discussion items.

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