

STORMWATER COMPREHENSIVE WORKGROUP MEETING MINUTES

JANUARY 15, 2006
IAMU – Auditorium, 9:30 – 12:00

In Attendance: Pat Sauer, Doug Adamson, Jolee Belzung, Patty Copeland, Bill Ehm, Mark Land, Mark Masteller, Wayne Petersen, Jennifer Welch, Larry Stevens, Deb Schiel-Larson, Scott Ralston.

Pat opens with Upcoming Meetings & Training:

- SUDAS regional training for erosion & sediment control (provided from Jan-Mar)
- 2006 Stormwater Conference (Feb. 7th – Hotel Fort Des Moines)
- Emersion-type workshop is in the planning for all erosion & sediment control practices.

Other training events are mentioned:

- IOWATER Conference (Feb. 16, 17)
- MECA (Mar. 9, 10 in MN)
- Dickenson County training (Wayne?)
- Stormwater Quality Post Construction Workshop (Mar. 31 in Waterloo)

Pat & Deb mention that the HBA is having their own meeting and the need for cooperation with them is discussed.

Steve Jones gives SUDAS update and provides Chapter 2 handout. Final draft should be available in mid-March (on the website). The Quality section is already done, as well as E&S control.

Steve presents a PowerPoint presentation called “Management Practices for Stormwater Quality.” He goes into detail on #5 of the Minimum Control Measures, “Post Construction Run-Off.” Pat mentions to hang onto the EPA handout provided. The model ordinance is also in process. Steve stresses the importance of a unified stormwater sizing criteria and how to get everyone to agree. Discussion ensues on the acreage requirements. Steve consults Larry on the understanding that the SUDAS design guidelines are a “how to” and not a “must do.” But some states like Georgia include the criteria as part of the state code and the cities have no choice but to follow. How do we get Iowa cities to understand this is an optimal procedure to follow?

Scott mentions bioretention in Des Moines, then also Footing Drains in regard to plumbing requirements. A discussion ensues and it is determined that water from the footing drains is okay to go into the storm sewer.

Scott mentions watershed assessment and Pat responds that there is a committee putting together a guidelines document for this.

IDNR Updates: Bill comments that they finally got the \$248 thousand from congress, for demo sites. They will now do focus groups throughout the state to conduct surveys and then do RFPs for additional funding.

Steve comments about Sawyer's Landing in Des Moines. Bill mentions the State Revolving Fund has \$100 million available for loans at 3%. Discussion ensues.

Wayne suggests having Patty Cale-Finnegan contact the HBA with info on the SRF and Bill responds that he will make the initial contact (there's an HBA meeting on Feb. 6th). Pat comments that Patty can speak at the Stormwater Conference also. More discussion and then Bill comments that word is getting out to improve water quality and mentions Storm Lake, Clear Lake, Dry Run Creek and others and on to talk about the Watershed Improvement Review Board.

Deb begins a discussion on watershed assessment and why planning needs to be separate. Bill mentions LiDAR and Pat brings up the Interactive Mapping section of the IDNR website.

Dane County soil spreadsheet is brought up and a discussion ensues regarding RUSLE and the need for providing training.

Scott & Bill discuss the fact that Kansas City is putting in 1000 rain gardens and how to fund such projects in Iowa.

In wrapping up, Pat asks if there should be a certification program for contractors and comments are made that the designers must be included. Wayne comments that MEP should be changed to read as "Minimum Extent Practicable" and not "Maximum..."

Last comments from Pat about missing our contractor & development representation here and how unfortunate that is. Jolee mentions the need to be very clear on what meeting you're inviting people to when you send out emails.