

Iowa Stormwater comprehensive Workgroup Meeting Minutes January 11, 2005

Attendees: Doug Adamson, Wayne Petersen, Deb Ryun, Mike Bell, Kevin Nordmeyer, Carl Elshire, Mark Land, Sue Behrns, Joe Griffin, Bill Ehm, Mark Masteller, Rick Shafer, Mike McMillin, Chuck Becker, Chuck Thomas, Jennifer Welch, Pat Sauer, Steve Jones.

A. Update on SUDAS Standards and Specifications for Erosion and Sediment Control and Stormwater Quality - Mark Land/Jennifer Welch/Steve Jones

Mark Land: Currently working on the design portion – 28 practices, highlighted ones are underway (*see Handout*), the completed ones have been approved by the committee. They'll work down the list of 28 items, then move onto specifications portion. It should be finalized by the end of this year. Discussion followed on city adoption of SUDAS standards and specifications.

Model ordinance update given by Pat Sauer. Construction Site Erosion and Sediment Control Ordinance is near completion, a workshop will be held near the end of February-early March.

Steve Jones: Discussion on near stormwater management paradigm for water quality considerations. Questions on 5000 square feet mentioned in handout, it is common in other states and comes from around 2000 sq. ft. of impervious area for home. This encourages homeowners to use BMPs on their own properties. LID definition provided and how that applies as post construction practices. Update on porous pavement project also given.

B. Update on Recent EPA Construction Site Erosion and Sediment Control Fines in Central Iowa - Chuck Thomas

Chuck discussed the recent EPA fines and how most developers were aware of requirements as they saw them. But were very surprised when the EPA came in and enforced areas they weren't aware were their responsibility. EPA will crank up again this spring - it has issued enough notices that it became very serious. In most cases fines were bartered to a point where the actual amount was reduced to a more reasonable figure. Two or three entities were fined over \$100,000 and one over \$200,000 for non-compliance – no complete SWPPP on site. We expect to see a great difference in 2005. The main thrust is education for developers. Developers are awake now, struggling just like with OSHA - when they hit the residential construction industry, the federal gov't never really enforced OSHA, but in the early 90's they decided to, and this is very similar to

that – struggling to get into compliance. Discussion followed on city enforcement and local ordinances and how there is some confusion on who is enforcing. The developers have a meeting with the EPA (Jim Gulliford, 7th district) and a group of developers to go over these issues. The main issue is using the Red Tag System – if a site is in non-compliance, they're given 24 hours to correct it. Then they get fined if not corrected. EPA is open to this but afraid if they offer it, the developer will shut down and do nothing until they get a notice.

Chuck Becker is involved in the Homebuilder's Association, putting on a seminar also. Joe is one of the speakers at the Loriman seminar - Chuck recommends it. Loriman seminar is January 26th - 3 more coming, 1 in Des Moines and 2 in Cedar Rapids. He also mentions that EPA inspections were done in the Davenport area in the fall. Information is not yet available.

C. Update on Stormwater Funding Earmark and Watershed Assessments - Bill Ehm

\$250,000 earmarked for funding has not yet arrived in Iowa. IDNR is trying to get their arms around what watershed assessments should include and what would be practical. Polk county has percentage of impervious cover, may be for the Salisbury Oaks project.

D. Events / Announcements - Pat Sauer

Stormwater conference on April 5-6
Workshop on Feb 22 in Des Moines, cover decentralized stormwater management, stormwater quality BMP, design process for those and how they've been used. Technical info to bring people along further, ideas of how sites handled using these concepts, broad audience, detailed info for landscape architects and engineers, same groups pulled into stormwater expo and other conferences.

Loriman workshops Jan 26, June 17 in Des Moines, DNR rep and Chuck Becker, EPA – June 9 in Cedar Rapids. These workshops are mostly for legal issues and how to stay in compliance, what to do when inspector comes. 12-2-05 in Cedar Rapids.

E. Iowa Stormwater Education Strategic Plan

F. Iowa Stormwater Education Program - Jennifer Welch gives update on ISEP (*see PowerPoint presentation*). This program helps communities (16 so far) pull together stormwater resources so they don't have to do all the work themselves. A uniform message is sent throughout the state of Iowa. The program will continue to expand its membership. The ISEP program includes a website, newsletter, distribution toolbox (updates on regulations and other useful

info), quarterly meetings with materials for each city to use and distribute to their community. Funding from DNR to help get this program started

Meeting Focus: Stormwater Education – Who needs to be included?

All groups impacted by SW regulations or involved in water quality issues.

Developers:

Homebuilders Association (residential)
Master builders of Iowa (commercial)
AGC (highway construction and development) – through the DOT
ABC (Associated Building Contractors – both residential and commercial, statewide org.)

The HBAI = Homebuilders Assoc. of Iowa. – 9 jurisdictions under them – HBA of Greater Des Moines being one of them speaks for all developers and builders statewide (quarterly & annual meetings, 1900 member email list). Group gets info on SW from members, when member has question, likely from violation, brings to attention to lobbying division of HBAI, and they hold legislative sessions at which most of these questions are raised and determinations made, to help members be in compliance – reactionary.

Recommendations:

1. The Master Builders of Iowa and the HBAI, as well as AGC, should form a coalition to present a conference/workshop for the benefit of their membership.
2. Provide CEUs for training programs.
3. Organize the stormwater conference so that there are specific tracks that would be organized and sponsored by specific groups. The following groups were identified:

Planning –

AIA Iowa
ASLA
Consulting Engineers Council
ASCE
ASHRE
APA (city planners)
Iowa Engineering

Policy –

League of Cities
NRPA
APA – listed both places
APWA
IA State Assoc. of Counties (ISAC)
IACCB
City Administrators Group?
CDI
AWWA
IAMU
Economic Development Association?
IA Environmental Council
Councils of Gov't Associations? A lot of these groups fall under their umbrella.

Agencies-

IDNR
NRCS
Army Corps of Engineers
DED
Dept. of Econ. Dev.
IDOT
IDALS – DSC
USGBC (United States Green Builders Council)
IWRC (IA Waste Reduction Center)

Universities-

School Administrators
School Boards

Pat – need to wind up – are we missing another category? Wayne – no, past efforts reached out to many orgs, often with non-response or lukewarm. Outreach to these groups is more timely than it was 3 or 4 years ago.

Invite orgs to participate in putting on these workshops or sponsoring them – to get them involved. Must come up with a plan to accommodate these groups.

Kevin - executive committee meeting for IEC - see what they're doing, policy paper for SW issues.