

## Seacoast Stormwater Coalition Meeting Notes/Minutes (Draft)

Wednesday, July 12, 2017, 1:00 – 3:00 p.m.

Dover Community Services Building, 271 Mast Road, Dover, New Hampshire

### Attending:

Gretchen Young, Dover (Chair)  
James Houle, UNH Stormwater Center  
Tim Puls, UNH SC  
Barbara McMillan, NHDES  
Jenn Rowden, RPC  
Chris Jacobs, Hampton  
Brian Goetz, Portsmouth  
Glen Tuttle, UNH  
Steve Brewer, Raymond  
Dan Camara, Rochester  
Suzanne Huard, Rollinsford  
Tavis Austin, Stratham

Bill Arcieri, VHB  
Heidi Marshall, CLD Consulting  
Richard Mack, SRPC  
Nancy O'Connor, SRPC  
John Starkey, Seabrook  
Daniel Lewis, Exeter  
Paul Paradis, Rye  
Dennis McCarthy, Rye  
James McCarthy, Portsmouth  
Jim Hafey, Hampton  
RH Snow, SWA  
Diane Hardy, Newmarket

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1. **NHDOT Drainage System Mapping Effort:** Mark Hemmerlein, Water Quality Planner, NHDOT Bureau of the Environment – NHDOT is partnering with UNH Technology Transfer (T2) and the Regional Planning Commissions to develop a cloud based drainage collection system for towns, cities and the state.

**Background:** NHDOT is working with Chris Dowd, UNH Technology Transfer (T2), on this GIS Esri-based product with the cloud. Chris created a layer in the cloud that is active with all of the NHDOT data. NHDOT is working with the Regional Planning Commissions (RPCs) like they did with SAIDs. Mark is looking at how this might fit in with the MS4 work. The culverts and drainage systems might be able to be worked into the RPC's work scopes. This is focused on using the data and not so much the data management.

Data layers – Four elements or four separate layers: 1. catch basins, 2. inlets of the systems, 3. outlets, and 4. pipes. Fields on each element include: condition, type (aluminum pipes etc., end of treatment, depth of pipes, (for criticality), inspector comments, photos, material type, maintenance needs, shape and size of pipes, etc. There is a separate layer for structural BMPs (gravel wetlands, etc.).

Jenn Rowden, Rockingham RPC, said she runs the RPC SAIDs with stream crossings. They have the start of some of the stream crossings and Strafford Regional Planning Commission (SRPC) has also done some work.

**Resources:** There are many partners working on this including Trout Unlimited, T2, NHDES, towns, RPCs, etc. Mark said that you can get training through T2 using interns. NHDOT can give the towns an Ipad and the towns just have to collect the data. T-2 does the management of the data that NHDOT had collected in the past. The asset management is statewide.

There was discussion about whether NHDOT maintenance divisions know about this project and Mark suggested that the towns should talk to NHDOT Asset Management at NHDOT in Concord rather than maintenance divisions.

**Logistics Discussion:** This is an introduction to think about in the future. Extending the ability for towns to use as an organizational platform and incorporate their data into asset management.

They do not have the interconnections with municipalities yet. If a town has already done a lot of data collection, T-2 could maybe take the data. There is also an opportunity to expand the data collection to catch basins etc. This could be the town's base and they can expand or attach anything to that. Mark envisions that this is the core data and everyone will want to work with it differently. If a town just wants to use the base-map, T-2 could share a license and NHDOT is willing to fund the management of the base-map state-wide. Towns could potentially get funding for data collection through the RPCs. Towns have to do the data collection and figure out what the common elements are that they want to collect. Mark will send access to the website.

**Next Steps:** We are hoping to identify the sub-drainage areas around impairments and identify outfalls around that. The NHDOT mapping focusses on the structures or where it comes into an MS4 system. The base map development can be funded through NHDOT as long as the existing data exists.

1. Get our method done for creating our data.
2. Come back to T2, NHDOT and RPCs to see where it fits.

Towns need a basis of where to send their data.

The RPCs do have funding to get some of the data. Rockingham RPC has data on stream crossings that needs to get to the public works people. This does not address the outfalls. SRPC is still working on getting staff to get up to speed. The towns can express interest to the RPCs.

- 2. Water Quality Testing in Hampton:** Chris Jacobs P.E. Director of Public Works, Hampton - Hampton has been testing the brackish water leaving the marsh and passing under Route 101 since last February with very variable results.

NHDES Shellfish Program notified Hampton about high fecal coliform counts greater than 1,000 by Rt 101 so Hampton started looking at what might be going on. If you have a fecal count greater than 1,000 you have an active leak. They looked at the data and staff in the marsh noted pools of grey water bubbling that went away when they shut off the wastewater treatment plant. So they had a break and put in a new section of the pipe and put it back on-line. To help reduce monitoring costs, Hampton agreed with the state to take regular samples of the water on their own and use their own lab at WW treatment plant.

Sampling practices to consider for the most accurate results include: Take samples from the same place each time. Temperature matters. Cold water will lower the counts. You need a standard and consistency including tides.

There can be extreme variability. You can have a fecal count at 1.046 and the next day it is 110, then down to five. So what's going on? Hampton has sampled upstream to the Taylor River and hasn't found anything suspect, but went to a mobile home park and got a hit there. They are losing effluent out into the marsh. Chris tries to work with people on the solutions. They do have an ordinance in place to enforce if needed.

This is protecting a valuable New Hampshire asset. The beach generates \$200 million for the state.

- 3. Rockingham Planning Commission Update:** Jenn Rowden, Rockingham Planning Commission, provided an update on the MS4 Permit Stormwater Technical Assistance Grant Program.

Rockingham PC is offering MS4 technical assistance grant program with a 50% funding match requirement from the MS4. The RFP will be released shortly and includes assistance with preparation and capacity building activities and assistance with the first and second year requirements. Understanding what MS4s are already doing, what they have mapped and what they don't have mapped, offering different steps, coming up with a road map on who is doing what, what needs to be contracted what to do, and how does it fit in with Ms4 compliance. The goal is to have some tools that municipalities can use on their own or to have some hand-holding and templates to share and to avoid handing it over to consultants when they might not need to. Rockingham PC will work closely with the Seacoast Stormwater Coalition to avoid duplication of efforts, to create and share templates, and to use existing resources where applicable. Rockingham PC will also participate in the SSC mapping sub-cmt.

#### **4. Subcommittee Updates:**

**Minimum Control #1 - Outreach and Education:** Barbara McMillan updated on discussions with Piscataqua Regional Estuaries Partnership (PREP) and their interest in providing funding for assistance with outreach and education planning and implementation. Gretchen Young highlighted that there had been interest within the SSC in hiring out this effort rather than in-house so this might be an opportunity for them to do some of the work. Barbara is working with the subcmt to identify tasks and a budget for a scope of services for the first three messaging requirements under nitrogen impaired waters. A draft will be distributed to the SSC for comments.

**Mapping:** Shawn is filling in the gaps on the draft methodology. They are focusing on a unit of analysis. Identifying a road map to begin to address the impaired waters. Seabrook (John Starkey) has someone that can represent that town on this committee.

#### **5. General Announcements:**

New start date on the MA permit to July of next year to make it consistent with the NH permit and to allow the litigation to take its course in DC. More information is at:

<https://www4.des.state.nh.us/nh-ms4/?p=243>

Southeast Watershed Alliance (SWA) new draft model regulations are on-line and are waiting for some tweaks to be finalized.

#### **6. Other Business?**

There was some discussion about using the funding that is being housed by the SWA. What can it be used for?

#### **7. Next Meeting Date and Agenda:** Next meeting is August 9, 1:00 to 300 p.m.

Agenda includes:

- Minimum Control Measure (MCM) 4 (IDDE) – talk about what we are currently doing, what we think “ensure” means, and potentially have a subcommittee or something work out SOP.
- MCM 6 (Post Construction SW Management) – talk about good housekeeping and written O&M's, look at SWPPP's for parks.

Jamie will present on UNH SW Center review and outline of UNH requirements in MCM 4 and MCM 6.