

Seacoast Stormwater Coalition Meeting Minutes

Zoom meeting

Wednesday, December 16, 2020, 1:00 – 3:00 p.m.

Present:

Gretchen Young, Dover- Chair

Max Kenney, Dover

April Talon, Durham

Jen Mates, Exeter

Matt Scruton, Greenland

Heidi Marshall, Hoyle-Tanner

Megan Dalton, Geoinsight/Kingston

Dawn Tuomala- Merrimack, LMV Co-chair

Diane Hardy, Newmarket

Dale Pike, Newmarket

Steve Landry, NHDES

Deb Loiselle, NHDES

Sally Soule, NHDES

Tom Swenson, NHDES

Katie Zink, NHDES

Brian Goetz, Portsmouth

Jamie McCarty, Portsmouth

Phoebe Rafferty, Portsmouth

Paul Cazeault, Rollinsford

Lyndsay Butler, Salem

Mike Bobinsky, Somersworth

Amber Ferland, Somersworth

Jackson Rand SRPC

Alaina Rogers, SRPC

Nate Mears, Stratham

Matt Perry, TEC/Seabrook

Stefen Nguyen, TEC/Seabrook

Jamie Houle, UNH SC

David Bowley, UNH

Julia Peterson, UNH Extension

Bill Arcieri, VHB

Britt Eckstrom, Wright-Pierce

Christine Rinehart, Wright-Pierce

1. Introductions: All in attendance are listed above.

2. Meeting minutes: Meeting minutes will be approved when we meet in person, they will remain on the blog in draft form until then.

3. EPA NH MS4 Audit Overview:

- Dawn Tuomala (Merrimack) and Lyndsay Butler (Salem) Presented.
- Dawn and Lyndsay compared notes and created an excel sheet that is on the blog.
- Kevin Stockton (PG Environmental) and Rachel Olugbemi (EPA) were on both audit panels, but the others changed.
- The audits were performed on Zoom and questions and documents were exchanged ahead of time.
- A lot of the comments received were similar between the two towns.
- This was not a full audit. The full audit involves the team coming to you and field inspections. It is four days, eight hours a day.
- Dawn reached out to invite Deb to the meetings. She was helpful and spoke up. She was at the Salem audit as well.
- If there is something the town needs to work on it is in bold text. The numbers in the excel line up to the letters, not the permit.
- Outreach and Education (MCM 1)- Merrimack does commercial spots on their town TV station. They can track how many views there have been. They also hand out fliers.
- The auditors wanted to hear more about tracking how effective the outreach was, they need to work on tracking that.
- The public involvement and participation (MCM2) went well. Merrimack does more than what is in their list some items were forgotten about that the time, so use these lists to compare to what you do.

- Salem was redoing their website, so nothing was working at that time. They were asked about that, but they updated the links before they got their response letter.
- Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination (MCM 3) was item 4
- Merrimack knew there would be issues here as they have had trouble getting things passed by the town.
- Both towns got dinged for legal authority.
- Merrimack's GIS was being upgraded at the time of the audit. It wasn't available at the end of June when it was supposed to be in place.
- Training for Merrimack employees was not specific enough for IDDE.
- Salem was told they don't have legal authority, but they think they do. They put together a response letter and addressed this showing their town ordinances and codes.
- Some training which is usually done in the spring was put off because of Covid, the auditors seemed ok with that.
- They discussed future actions for example a SRF loan for catchment investigations and they seemed ok with that.
- Q- What is the end game when the responses come in?
 - A- Salem received a response thanking them for their response, they haven't heard more.
- Q- Where were they looking for specific authority?
 - They are looking in ordinances and codes. Salem doesn't have a stormwater ordinance but they do have a sewer ordinance that they feel covers it. Both towns feel they have it covered, just not in the words that the audit team wants.
- Construction Site Stormwater Runoff Control (MCM 4)
- Dawn manages this by stopping in and doing personal visits, there aren't forms, usually if there is an issue they correct it on the spot.
- They also have a third party do inspections on 20,000 acre sites that are due weekly.
- Salem was cited saying they don't have written procedures, but they do. They were asked for paperwork in enforcement actions but they don't have that because it is done verbally and the issues are addressed. They also have a third party doing inspections so there was some back and forth about that. Salem doesn't have the staff to go out for SW site visits.
- Good Housekeeping and Pollution Prevention (MCM 6).
- Merrimack will refute the issues here, some of the SWPPPs are older but they are the same buildings and operations.
- They have one new building that will need a SWPPP.
- Q- It seems like you disagree with a lot of these items and you wrote your letter, do you leave it there?
 - A- Salem is addressing issues where they are not in compliance and waiting to hear back if there is a response to their letter.
- During the audit the auditor asked questions that weren't due until year 4 or 5. They wanted to know where the towns was at. Be sure to know what is due when.
- The auditor went through the permit even going over items that will be due in the future.
- Feel free to give them a call if you need advice if you are getting audited.
- Q- Did you ask for examples on where something had been done successfully if you were lacking?
 - A- That didn't come up in the audits.

4. Year 3 Requirements:

- Jamie presented.
- Jamie went over the matrix for year three.
- Long term operation and maintenance will be discussed later.

- Ridge presented last month.
- This will look different in every community, many are doing this already but we are working on standardizing forms, etc. We can develop that together.
- SWPPPs are do for all required facilities that are specific to stormwater and stormwater runoff. A lot of these are developed and are on the blog.
- More training will be needed.
- IDDE training videos are on the blog. There will be more videos coming soon. UNH is working on one with Dover.
- Appendix F and H will have a big lift in year three for the chloride reduction plan. There is a template that is being worked on.
- Dover, on behalf of the Seacoast Coalition, has a loan through SRF to work on dry weather sampling. They plan to produce a lot of product, a lot of it is done and on the blog. They are hoping to purchase a lot of the equipment. They are willing to work with other communities to do some testing or loan equipment out. Reach out to Gretchen or Jamie for assistance. It takes time but it's not rocket science.
- There are Septic Smart brochures available from Jen Mates or Gretchen that you can hand out at town hall's or other venues.

5. Modified NH MS4 Permit:

- Gretchen presented.
- Mostly this was legal language that got adjusted.
- Suzanne Warner presented to the group- the PowerPoint is on the blog.
- Post Construction had a requirement for Nitrogen reduction. Most communities have already adopted what SWA had put in, but double check that you are in compliance.
- There has been a lot of movement on the Nitrogen permit. There is a meeting scheduled to get the communities take on permit language. Reach out to Gretchen if you have questions on that.

6. Voting- Authorize Project Pooled Funds to Address MCM #5 Requirement:

- Gretchen Presented.
- This is to decide what communities want to do.
- *".....The new development/redevelopment program shall have procedures to ensure adequate long-term operation and maintenance of stormwater management practices that remain in place after the completion of a construction project....The procedures to require submission of as-built drawings and ensure long-term operation and maintenance shall be a part of the SWMP. The permittee shall report in the annual report on the measures that the permittee has utilized to meet this requirement."*
 - Following is a list of the participating communities and non-traditionals. Each entity will have a single vote:

Danville- not present

Durham-Yes

Exeter-Yes

Greenland- not present

Hampton-not present

Kingston-not present

Milton- not present

New Castle- not present

Newmarket- Yes

North Hampton- not present

Portsmouth- Yes

Raymond- not present

Rochester- not present

Rollinsford- abstain
Rye- not present
Sandown- not present Dover- Yes
Seabrook- Yes
Somersworth- Yes
Stratham- Yes
UNH – Energy Office- not present

- Q- Is this for existing funds or new?
 - A- this would be for existing funds. There are currently \$32,000.
- Gretchen wants to have a subcommittee work on this.
 - Nate, Jamie, Gretchen, Phoebe
 - Reach out to Gretchen if you'd like to join
- Bill suggested using all of the funds to the maximum extent.

7. Winter Maintenance Requirements continued:

- Tom and Deb presented.
- A new page has been created for Winter Maintenance on the blog.
- All of the resources created thus far and on this page.
- We are looking to do some social media posts.
- 500-foot buffer zone maps have been uploaded.
- The yellow line is the impaired (for chloride) waterbody and the blue area is the 500-foot buffer. The thick black lines denote the streets in this area.
- The GIS file is available on request.
- For TMDLs the waterbody and buffer are in red.
- Each map focuses on one waterbody.
- The Appendix H Template is close to final. Please let Deb or Tom know if you have changes.
- A table of contents was added.
- The introduction has additional information. You don't have to keep the background information; a lot has been added to aid you in filling it out.
- In the BMP section, delete what you don't use, update anything that isn't provided.
- The 500-foot zone on the maps is not statutory it is a recommendation.
- Q- Has anyone used the new salt database on T2?
 - A- No one has- reach out to Tom or Deb with your experience when you do.
- 2021 legislation is on track. It is moving slowly, but at least it is moving forward. We may reach out to you to write a letter of support.
- NH sees chloride of one of the big 5 contaminants of concern. This is being talked about a lot, even beyond the MS4 permit.
- NEIWPC held a workgroup on Chloride for New England and New York. Over 60 people attended this meeting.
- Q- Has Portsmouth used less salt in the last 10 years?
 - A- we are gathering that information, but it's not a noticeable reduction at this point.
- Increased lane miles are offsetting reductions in usage.
- There is a high expectation for black pavement within hours of a storm. It's an education and a legal issue.
- Another issue that came up was with water softeners.
- Q- Did putting some onus on drivers come up?
 - This has come up with NHDES upper management. In other parts of the country roads are closed or chains are required. In NH tourism is a big portion of the economy so we

want drivers in NH. There has to be a balance. In NH salt is also used for dust control in the spring/ summer months.

- Dover has language requiring developers to use Green Snow Pro. It will be posted on the blog. That meets the 10 + spot parking lot reporting requirement.
- The hot spot maps with show where those lots are.

8. Updates and Other Business:

- 2020 Asset Management Workshop for Water Infrastructure
Tuesday, January 19, 2021
10:00 AM - 12:00 PM EST New Date and Time
[REGISTER TODAY](#)
- **New NHDES Website – Launched December 8th**
The New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (NHDES) is pleased to announce the launch of a completely redesigned and reimagined website on December 8th. The new site provides users with information organized by environmental topic, with the goal of creating multiple pathways to find the right content. Some of the exciting new features include:
 - Looking for certain documents? The site includes a searchable document library for all NHDES publications, filterable by document type, category and keyword.
 - Looking for someone to contact? There will be a searchable employee directory, filtered by topic or keyword.
 - Looking for funding opportunities? A full list of loan and grant opportunities through NHDES programs in one place.
 - One-click action: A selection of popular user requests a click away in our “How Can We Help You Today?” section on the homepage.
- Thank you to Gretchen and Jamie on all of their work this year.
- Portsmouth updated their ordinance- developers now need to use PTAP. Brian is working with Jamie on that. They are willing to host a webinar on this for outreach.

9. Upcoming Meeting Dates and Agenda Focus for 2021 – *Mark your calendars!*

Meetings will occur on the 3rd Wednesday of each month.

January 20th:

February 17th:

March 17th:

April 21st:

May 19th:

June 16th:

July 21st:

August 18th:

September 15th:

October 20th:

November 17th:

December 15th:

Please email potential agenda items and/or presentations to Gretchen Young at G.Young@dover.nh.gov or Deb Loiselle at deborah.loiselle@des.nh.gov. These will be considered for upcoming meetings and very helpful in the development of the monthly agendas.