

Seacoast Stormwater Coalition Meeting Minutes

Zoom meeting

Wednesday, August 19, 2020, 1:00 – 3:00 p.m.

Present:

Gretchen Young, Dover- Chair

Bill Boulanger, Dover

Jen Mates, Exeter

Jim Hafey, Hampton

Heidi Marshall, Hoyle-Tanner

Michael Trinqué, Hoyle-Tanner/ SWA

Megan Dalton, Geoinsight/Kingston

Dawn Tumala, Merrimack

Diane Hardy, Newmarket

Deb Loiselle, NHDES

Ben Sweeney, NHDES

Tom Swenson, NHDES

Katie Zink, NHDES

Mark Hemmerlein, NHDOT

Jamie McCarty, Portsmouth

Phoebe Rafferty, Portsmouth

Paul Cazeault, Rollinsford

Caroline Kendall, Rollinsford

Lindsay Butler, Salem

Jackson Rand, SRPC

Mike Bobinsky, Somersworth

Gary Lemay, Somersworth

Tavis Austin, Stratham

Stefen Nguyen, TEC/Seabrook

Chris Raymond, TEC/Seabrook

Jamie Houle, UNH SC

David Bowley, UNH

Matt O'Keefe, UNH

Britt Eckstrom, Wright-Pierce

Christine Rinehart, Wright-Pierce

Town of Greenland

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- 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 MS4 Blog in draft form until then.
 - 3. Year 2 Annual Report:**
 - Gretchen Presented.
 - The NH MS4 Year 2 Annual Report was discussed.
 - Gretchen walked through the NH Stormwater Coalition Year 2 Annual Report template.
 - The red ink on the template is to give insight into what they are asking for, the yellow highlighted areas are what you (each permittee) will need to update. Red areas can be removed when you are done with them.
 - This follows the format from last year.
 - Q- there is a typo on page two
 - A - we will need to fix that and re-upload to the MS4 Blog.
 - Make sure you include how Covid impacted your ability to complete the permit requirements.
 - Make sure to put in information on how your goals were achieved or modified.
 - For Dover, they planned to hand out flyers for pet waste when residents came in to register their dogs, but that was disrupted by Covid, so you will want to note these types of items.
 - Make sure you put in a measureable goal.
 - Q- Bonus items in Appendix H and F, do we include those here?
 - A- Yes they should be in the report. The NH Stormwater Coalition template has these requirements noted in a different location than the EPA template, but they are there.
 - Don't attach things to the report, send them as separate attachments.
 - The EPA requested data for requirements that are not yet due, but include info if you have done them.

- The employee training section needed to be improved upon based on feedback Deb received from Suzanne Warner on the Year 1 Annual Report. Model language is in the NH template.
- Post construction language should get changed to due in year 3.
- Make sure to confirm that your street cleanings were stored and disposed of properly, you can expand on how that was done.
- Q- Rollinsford does not have a Phosphorus TMDL, is that correct?
 - A- Yes.
- Q- What template are people using?
 - A-Portsmouth started using the EPA permit, but will probably use a lot of the language from the NH Stormwater Coalition template.
- Does a system map require topographical features?
 - No.
- The Year 2 Annual Report is due September 28th.

4. NHMS4 EPA Audits:

- Dawn (Merrimack) and Lyndsay (Salem) presented.
- Salem was audited in July.
- It was done over several days and remotely and went smoothly. Lyndsay's cat had a lot to say about it, however, no translation was available.
- They were contacted by an EPA consultant. Roy, the point of contact on the Salem NOI was the person who received the email so Lyndsay was initially unaware.
- They were given a four-day time frame to prepare materials requested by EPA, there was an issue with scheduling due to the July 4th holiday but they requested alternated dates and were able to reschedule.
- Typically, this would be done in person, but was done through Microsoft Teams due to Covid.
- The calls were 90 minutes each and EPA representatives were present as well.
- Along with the notification there was a records request.
- The records request was shown on the screen and will be posted on the MS4 Blog in the future. Merrimack was given the same one.
- The four meetings were separated by MCM, though they were done out of order.
- Salem keeps a lot of records in paper copy which caused a challenge for submitting data. They were allowed to send representative paperwork as a compromise.
- Make sure you invite the right people to the meetings to provide the necessary information. Salem invited pertinent personnel depending on the MCM that was being discussed. This was very beneficial.
- They wrapped up on July 17 and were given a verbal report out of areas for improvements, a final written report will be forthcoming. The preliminary comments are subject to change in the final report. The consultant has 50 days to provide the report to EPA, EPA will get that to the town 10 days after they receive it. The town should receive the report in 60 days.
- Q- Did the consultant understand that a portion of the permit is pending?
 - A- Salem brought that up.
- Q-Did they give you any indication as to why you were selected?
 - A- No indication.
- Merrimack's experience was the same as Salem.
- Dawn's email was from Kevin Stoughton (PG Environmental). She almost threw it out the email and is glad she looked more closely.
- They were given about a week and a half to answer 30 questions and provide documentation (i.e. records request).
- Dawn is concerned about the written report; she would like to know if there will be deadlines.

- The 30 questions were in place to ask for the documents. The questions were based on what you submitted to EPA in previous years.
- Dawn has just recently pulled together a stormwater team to help with meeting the MS4 requirements, previously it was consuming most of her job.
- After the last meeting the consultant requested 9 additional documents.
- Q- Are you the town engineer?
 - A- Deputy DPW and Town Engineer.
- Q- How many people do you have helping out and what is your staffing capacity?
 - She has had five interns for the summer and is hiring a full time staff person. Other than that she has support of the highway department, but they don't work on MS4 specifically.
- Q- When you get your final report if there is anything that you thought was correct but the contractor didn't agree, please bring that back to the group so we can discuss.
- Deb was at the meetings and questioned the contractor on including year 4 and 5 requirements. The contractor didn't distinguish on what was due when.
- Salem had a similar experience.
- Comment from Gretchen: I wish EPA would spend money on developing tools that will help us instead of audits.
- Deb gave Kudos to Dawn and Lyndsay and their respective communities.
- Deb will likely be included on audit requests, but reach out to her if you would like her to attend. She will not attend the meeting unless asked. She is not a regulator and wants to respect the wishes of the town. She is happy to attend if you would like her to.
- Comment: Given the limited feedback on the Year 1 Annual Reports it seems audacious that they would start audits this early in the permit.
- Q- Do you think there will be a grace period for the newbies to the permit.
 - A- We don't have any rhyme or reason to their approach as to who they choose to audit.
 - A-DOT was audited during the 2003 permit.
- DOT's audit included file review and visiting facilities and construction sites.
- NH did not get dinged at all from the audit, but Rhode Island ended up with a consent decree that they are still dealing with, but they are not regulated by EPA.

5. Winter Maintenance Requirements, Continued:

- Tom presented.
- Check out the MS4 Blog for templates and resources.
- MCM #6 is required by everyone.
- The Appendix H requirement is stricter than MCM #6 which is more general.
- Instructions for this follow the other templates. If there is yellow highlight, then you need to update that because it is specific to each permittee. If there are items that are not applicable you can remove them.
- The reporting section is optional, but it might make filling out your Year 3 Annual Report easier.
- There are no Chloride TMDLs in the Seacoast.
- Please provide comments to Tom by September 1st.
- The "new and improved" UNHT2 database is not up yet. No word on when it is coming yet, other than "soon".
- Q- Rollinsford does not have a Chloride impairment, why is Rollinsford listed as requiring a winter road maintenance program?
 - A- It is a requirement in MCM #6 for all permittees

6. IDDE Dry Weather Interconnection Screening & Sampling Training Videos:

- Tom Presented.

- These videos are working through getting approved to be added to the MS4 Blog.
- We are trying to create more videos in the future.

7. Year 3 Requirements:

- Deb and Tom presented.
- There is a summary document for Year 3 Requirements.
- This follows the Year 2 format.
- There is not a lot of new stuff, Year 2 was a huge lift.
- Last year was figuring out how to do things, Year 3 is implementing those items.
- The document highlights what should be done.
- We will go through this more in depth next month to make sure everyone is in line for next year.
- MCM #1 will be reported on quarterly, or as needed, rather than at each monthly meeting.

8. Updates and Other Business:

- 2020 New Hampshire Salt Symposium
September 15, 2020
Pats Peak Ski Area
Henniker, NH
Registration: <https://www.sima.org/training/new-hampshire-salt-symposium>
- 2020 Asset Management Workshop for Water Infrastructure
November 5, 2020
Update: In-person workshop cancelled but will be offering a shortened version remotely.
More information coming soon.
- NHDES Local Source Water Protection Grant
Due November 2, 2020
https://www.des.nh.gov/organization/divisions/water/dwgb/dwspp/lswp_grants.htm

Contact for more information: Bess Morrison, LSWPGP manager at Bess.Morrison@des.nh.gov

The NHDES Local Source Water Protection Grant Program (LSWPGP) has just released its 2021 grant application and provides up to \$20,000 per grant project (annually) to protect drinking water resources. Specifically, grant money is available to develop and implement programs to protect existing (active or planned) sources of public drinking water. The application deadline is November 2, 2020.

Activities that protect source water, conducted under US EPA's Small Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) permit, including identification, monitoring and elimination of illicit discharges, particularly high priority outfalls that discharge to drinking water sources or within source protection areas, conducting public education and the design/installation of structural BMPs may be eligible, provided they meet the eligibility criteria as described in Section 6 of NHDES grant application. Routine operations/maintenance activities are not eligible.

- There was an issue with the PREP Dog Waste Pledge numbers, they have been updated and are posted on the blog.

9. Upcoming Meeting Dates and Agenda Focus for 2020 – *Mark your calendars!*

Meetings will occur on the 3rd Wednesday of each month. We will start work on elements necessary for year 3 requirements of the permit and update the SWMP template as needed. Following are the topics that are planned for the monthly meetings. Please note that topics may change dependent on priorities identified during the year.

September 16th: Year 2 Annual Report

October 21st:

November 18th

December 16th:

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.