

MINUTES OF THE ARANSAS COUNTY
STORMWATER MANAGEMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE
December 6, 2010

On the 6th day of December, 2010, the Stormwater Advisory Committee met at 1:30 PM at the Aransas County Service Center, 1931 FM 2165, Rockport, Texas with the following members present: De McLallen, Ron Outen, Charles Smith and Frank Reilly. Representing the County's SWM Consultant team were Craig Thompson (NEI), Dave Sullivan (NEI) and Linda Pechacek (LDP). Representing the County Engineering staff were David Vyoral and David Reid. Also present were Adelaide Marlatt (City of Rockport), Paul Lippke (LCR), Tom Blazek (City of Rockport), Tom Callan and Earl Mathew.

1. Meeting was opened and a quorum was declared by De McLallen.
2. The minutes from the November 8, 2010 meeting were approved.
3. David Reid reported that the project was moving forward and would be substantially complete by the end of January. Mr. Thompson reported that the first 12 watersheds were 95% complete and will have a draft Capital Improvement Plan ready for review next week. Mr. Thompson distributed a schedule of deliverables. A draft of the Stormwater Master Plan will be delivered for review by January 31, 2011. Mr. Thompson will have a hydrology presentation at the Rockport City Council Workshop on December 14, 2010. Commissioner Smith suggested that Fulton Town Council and the Aransas Pass City Council be invited.
4. Mr. Thompson suggested that it was time to start planning the final open house. Mid February would be appropriate. Mr. Reid will contact Karen Mella for advertisement and reserve a location. Mr. Sullivan informed the committee that Bays and Estuaries has offered \$10,000 to expand the open house into a workshop, seminar or other educational program. NEI will offer suggestions.
5. Mr. Reid asked for feedback regarding the water quality tool of which Dr. Rowney spoke at the November meeting. Mr. McLallen supports the concept of developing the design tool. Commissioner Smith wanted staff recommendations. He did not want to invest in a tool that wasn't used. Mr. Reilly suggested it was too soon to know what staff would need or use and thought we should wait a year. Mr. Outen thought water quality was too important to not take advantage of a site specific tool, as described by Dr. Rowney. Mr. Reid was asked for his opinion and stated that the concept of the tool sounded great, but unless the use of this tool was mandated by the local plan reviewing entities, it didn't make sense to make the investment.
6. A draft of prioritization criteria was presented for discussion. Mr. McLallen observed that point values were linear and suggested items related to flooding might have exponential rating values. He also stated that Public Opinion would be hard to quantify. Mr. Outen thought the units of measurement for Water Quality and Habitat didn't make sense and suggested dropping the units. Ms. Pechacek questioned creation and protection of habitat having equal value. Mr. Sullivan informed the Committee that the standard preference, in decreasing order, relating to habitat is preserve, restore and create. Mr. Reilly suggested a criterion that placed a value on strategically located properties be included. Commissioner Smith suggested Public Support be omitted.

7. Mr. Reid suggested that the committee should consider policies to guide the County in disposing of excess excavation material and how the County acquires drainage easements. He distributed a draft excavated material policy for review. Commissioner Smith made a motion that the policy should be recommended to the Court for approval. Mr. Reilly seconded the motion and the motion passed. Mr. Reid did not have a draft policy for easement acquisitions. He stated that paying for easements might set a precedent that would reduce the willingness of property owners to donate easements. Mr. Blazek noted that the City does not pay for easements. Mr. Vyoral suggested we wait until required easements have been identified before making any decisions.
8. Mr. Reid referenced a matrix prepared by Urban Engineering which outlined his recommendations for updating the City of Rockport's drainage manual. Mr. Reid pointed out that they followed the intent of the Counties philosophies. Mr. Blazek stated that Mr. Urban was proceeding with writing new policy. Also, Mr. Reid pointed out the City had a good construction phase erosion control ordinance in place and suggested the County consider adopting it.

Meeting was adjourned at 3:20 PM



David J. Reid, P.E.
Stormwater Management Engineer