On the 13th day of September, 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, Charles Smith, Pat McKelvey, Frank Reilly, Russell Cole and Ron Outen. Representing the County’s SWM Consultant team were John Michael (NEI), Craig Thompson (NEI), Dave Sullivan (NEI) and Paul Lippke (LCR). Representing the County Engineering staff were David Vyoral and David Reid. Also present were Adelaide Marlatt (City of Rockport), Tom Blazek (City of Rockport), Earl Mathew, Tom Calhan and Nan Jackson.

1. Meeting was opened and a quorum was declared by De McLallen.

2. The minutes from the August, 2010 meeting were approved.

3. Craig Thompson reported that there are a few Work Authorization #2 items that should be wrapped up in the next few weeks. The H & H of the next twelve (12) watersheds should be complete by the end of September and the rest of the county should be finished by the end of October. Mr. Reilly asked if drainage corridors throughout the County will be identified with in this time frame. Mr. Thompson stated that they would.

4. Commissioner Smith reported that he attended a meeting with Mayor Wax, Mr. Blazek, Billy Dick and Mr. Reid. The City indicated that they would place the Tule Sediment Pond Project on the next City Council agenda (Sept 14, 2010) for approval, conditional to reviewing final plans. Commissioner Smith moved that NEI be authorized to proceed with final plans and revise the TCEQ grant accordingly. Mr. McKelvey seconded the motion and the motion was approved.

5. Commissioner Smith informed the committee that the County had a contract for the Shoreline Stabilization portion of the ’07 CIAP grant. Mr. Reid stated that he has organized a committee consisting of himself, Ron Outen (Navigation District), Tom Blazek (City of Rockport) and Russell Cole (Town of Fulton) to oversee the project. The committee has issued a press release and advertised a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) for engineering services.

Mr. Sullivan informed the committee that September 30th was the deadline for the next cycle of the TCEQ grant. He suggested that the alignment change at the Tule Bend would be a good fit for this grant. Mr. Blazek stated that the City was philosophically in agreement with this project, but could not give final approval without City Council approval. Mr. Michael suggested that we begin the grant application and NEI will prepare concept drawings for the City Council meeting on September 28. If the City agreed we could submit the application. Commissioner Smith voiced his concern that we seem to chase grants without having our Drainage Plan complete, but agreed this grant was worthwhile. Mr. Reilly moved that the committee recommend to the Commissioners Court that we apply for the TCEQ grant subject to City approval. Commissioner Smith seconded the motion and the motion was approved.

Mr. Reid informed the committee that there was the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program is offering a 75/25 match grant for the protection of at risk property. The deadline for submittal is January 21, 2011.

6. Mr. Reid submitted two service proposals on behalf of The Grant Connection. The first is for $3600 to write the FY ‘09/’10 allocated CIAP County Plan. The projects have already been approved by the Commissioners’ Court. Commissioner Smith moved that we recommend approval. Mr. Outen seconded and the motion was approved. The second proposal was for administration of the Shoreline Stabilization CIAP grant ($46,000). Commissioner Smith raised concerns as to the cost and recommended that the committee table this item until Mr. Harlan was available to answer question. This Item was tabled.
7. Dr. Rowney’s WQ software development proposal was brought up. Mr. McLallen summarized from the last meeting, that Mr. Lippke didn’t see that the City would use it. Mr. Reid stated that the County would use it for review of development plans. Mr. Outen said he thought it would be valuable for small developments that couldn’t justify a lot on engineering on the project. Mr. Reilly said the product might be premature. The County should wait six months to a year to better assess the need for software. Commissioner Smith suggested that we don’t take action, but revisit the proposal at a later meeting.

8. Mr. Reid discussed a proposed revision to the subdivision regulations which would require PUD subdivisions to dedicate a percentage of their property as green space. The concept of a “fee in lieu” of green space created much discussion. Mr. McKelvey is philosophically opposed to buying out of regulations. Commissioner Smith was also uneasy with a “fee in lieu” component, though he sees a value to a variance procedure. Mr. McLallen asked for example procedures in other entities. The document was tabled.

Meeting was adjourned at 3:10 PM

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