

Stormwater Steering Committee
November 16, 2006
MPCA Office

Attendees: Andrea Hendrickson, Remi Stone, Cindi Kahrman, Art Persons, Randy Ellingboe, Mike Findorff, Erik Silvda, Keith Hanson, Jim Hafner, Nick Tiedeken, Cliff Aichinger, Nate Duoss, Steve Klein, Brian Nerbonne, John Jaschke, Daniel McLean Steven Colvin, Judy Sventek, Gary Oberts, Brian Livingston, Randy Neprash, Anne Gelbmann, Julie Johnson, Susanne Spitzer, Joel Schilling, Dale Finnesgaard, Toni Howell, Bruce Wilson, Jay Riggs, Brad Wozney, Lou Flynn, Les Lemm, Dale Thompson

Work Group Reports:

Education - Brian Livingston spoke on behalf of Ron Struss. Ron has a new position with the MN Department of Agriculture. In time he hopes that a new coordinator for this group can be found. Not much has happened with this group since August. The next task is to take a few priorities and create an action plan. A meeting will be scheduled. Due to the formation of the Minnesota Cities Stormwater Coalition, efforts will be made to coordinate with this group on the educational needs and activities of MS4s in the state. The group is interested in being involved with the MPCA's 2007 Environmental Assistance Grant Round that includes stormwater projects. Ron is also working with stormwater educators active in the metro area to see how a grant proposal could be submitted that recognizes and builds on our existing efforts.

Industrial - Cindi Kahrman said they now have a workgroup and charter in place and have had two meetings to date. Their priority is to look at permit development in all aspects and feels they are making progress and are off to a good start.

Low Impact Development - John Jaschke updated the SSC on the groups first two meetings. They are working with MPCA staff on this topic deciding on what projects to develop and brainstorming a list of barriers to developing those projects, as well as possible solutions. He stated that cities need a stimulus to think about the program and work towards creation and implementation of the LID concept. Cities who try the new ideas and concepts of LID will want and need insurance/performance bonds to venture into these new areas. The LID group wants to explore certification programs for this emerging field and there will be an opening for a NEMO coordinator position in January 2007. They are looking for ways to follow-up with the numerous new attendees at the Green workshops.

Stormwater Manual - Judy Sventek stated that work has progressed slower than was anticipated due to contracting issues. They have identified 5 areas needing updating for version 2.0 of the manual. A handout was provided, detailing each of the five areas. Both Judy and Brian Livingston stressed the need for members to solicit the groups they represent to provide feedback by completing the survey. The differences between LID and "better site design" was discussed and whether each should be explained, differentiated and made clear within the manual. It was decided that the Manual and LID workgroups will address the issue, not the SSC as a whole.

Monitoring and Research Bruce Wilson summarized the goals in five different areas: BMP effectiveness, Trout Stream Thermal Assessment, leveraging dollars through partnerships, Paired watershed study (phosphorus), and industrial monitoring, with four methods of evaluation: Visual assessments, capacity testing, infiltration, and particle size sampling.

NPDES Construction Site Erosion Control Compliance Brian Livingston spoke on behalf of Jay Riggs. Workgroup has formed to look into non-compliance issues. They have reached a consensus on a problem statement, the group's charter, and the general steps they will take; determine the problems, determine solutions, make recommendations back to the SSC. The group hopes to accomplish its goals within a year time period.

Watershed Approach Gary Obertz introduced Louis Smith of Smith Partners. The firm and the firm of Emmons and Oliver Resources have been contracted to research and develop a detailed watershed-based management planning and implementation guide to streamline federal, state and local surface water management mandates. The partnership between cities, counties, watershed organizations and state agencies will be critical to the success of this goal. A detailed framework of implementation options will be developed and presented to two pilot project areas selected to implement the project. Mr. Smith suggested that the best approach should be a "marriage" of watershed-based approach to stormwater management in the NPDES permitting process. It would result in a time and financial saving benefit. Contact Doug Thomas if you are interested in participating on an advisory committee.

Funding for Technical Paper-40 Update – Andrea Hendrickson from MnDOT spoke of the need to update rainfall maps which are important to basic hydrologic estimates for drainage structures and BMPs. MnDOT would like the update to be through the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) as they are seen to be the experts and have state of the art technology to do the study. They are seeking sources of funding for the project estimated to cost \$540,000, to do Minnesota and the surrounding states. She asked the SSC to support the project and solicit funding from the groups they represent. MnDOT and the MPCA are willing to seek funding to contribute to the project. A lengthy discussion followed as to the pros and cons of the current use of TP-40 versus NOAA's newer Atlas 14. Randy Neprash suggested the formation of an ad-hoc group to look into the proposal and to formulate a marketing plan to secure funds for the project. He suggested that MnDOT be the lead. It was pointed out that the Stormwater Manual already had a statement of support for such research. Joel Skilling made a motion to re-affirm the position that is already in the manual and Cliff Aichinger seconded. Motion was passed.

Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbons (PAHs) and Coal Tar-Based Sealants – Randy Neprash and Brian Livingston presented the topic as an emerging issue. The city of Austin, as a result of research, has banned driveway and parking lot coal tar-based sealants due to high PAHs. Randy proposed that the SSC send a letter to the MPCA to study the issue. Two lakes in Minnesota have been found to have high levels of PAHs and were ranked 7th and 8th highest out of the 10 lakes sampled nationally. After discussion, Randy made a motion to send a letter, with the revisions discussed in the meeting, to Tim Scherkenbach and Mike Sandusky at the MPCA. The motion was seconded by Cliff Aichinger. The motion carried.

Monitoring Priorities – Bruce Wilson identified many monitoring needs including simulated run-off, infiltration, particle size, effects of phosphorus, trout stream thermo work, and industrial monitoring. Regional areas have particular concerns therefore no one set of solutions. It was re-stated that data will be needed on. He wants SSC input and suggestions in setting priorities. Judy Sventek suggested that a limited workgroup be re-formed from the original workgroup to look at and formulate a priority list. Randy Neprash suggested that Bruce Wilson and Steve Klein co-chair the group to form a charter and workplan. They accepted.

Next meeting is January 18, 2007

The meeting adjourned at 4:30 pm.