

**MONROE COUNTY  
STORM WATER MANAGEMENT BOARD (SWMB)  
MEETING MINUTES  
NAT HILL MEETING ROOM  
3:00 P.M., June 9, 2011**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Kevin Enright, Patrick Stoffers, Mark Stoops

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Iris Kiesling

**STAFF:** Todd Stevenson (Highway), Kevin Dogan (Legal), Donna Barbrick (Surveyor), Heidi Russell-Wagner (Planning), Bill Williams (Highway), Geoff McKim (Storm Water Advisory Committee), Martha Miller (Soil & Water Conservancy District), Elizabeth Cooke (Highway).

**OTHERS PRESENT:** James Faber (Drainage Board), Dawn Hewitt (*Herald-Times*) CATS TV crew, Jim Shelton, James Reinhardt

**CALL TO ORDER:** The meeting was called to order at 3:00 p.m. by Kevin Enright.

**APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES**

- a. **April 28, 2011 Hearing**
- b. **May 9, 2011 Hearing**
- c. **May 12, 2011**

Kevin Enright had a couple of corrections to make on the draft minutes regarding the spelling of the names Williams (page 3) and Peden (page 9). The minutes were approved with corrections.

**REPORT FROM ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

Stevenson said that Image Matters (IM) had not yet completed its final written report. There was an annual conference for storm water operations put on by IDEM in Indianapolis. There was someone from EPA at the conference and they are working on new standards for storm water. These will be out in the fall. There may be more stringent standards. Stevenson said that part of the IDEM audit happened last week. There was an article in the *Herald Times* about that. Overall, the county did OK but there are still many things to do to come into compliance. Reggie Korthals made it pretty clear what she expected. There are some informal notes from the audit included in the packet for the meeting.

Stoops asked about the IDEM requirement of mapping storm pipes and outfalls. He asked if there were outfalls not in a road right-of-way. Stevenson said yes, there were. Stoops commented that this was a huge task. Stevenson commented that next year the audit will cover illicit discharge and that the county needs to have a strategy and a plan for that next year. One of the good things is that people from several departments were at the audit.

Stevenson talked about some of the recent public outreach concerning storm water. The day before, Kevin Enright and Stevenson did a chat with the *Herald-Times*. Stevenson also mentioned a recent grant from the Master Gardner program.

### **STORM WATER USER FEE**

Enright said that last month SWMB had narrowed it down to Option #1 regarding the rate to be proposed. Dogan said last month's decision was to go to Option #1 to charge only on the basis of impervious surface and also last month the SWMB decided not to do any billing for storm water until the 2012 tax statements in the spring of next year. This decision is reflected in the draft ordinance. If this SWMB approves a fee, then that draft ordinance would be presented to the Board of Commissioners for action.

Stoops commented as far as the budget that the consultants originally proposed a budget that came to over \$1.5 million. In the end, the budget was knocked down to \$1.3 million. There is still a lot of progress that can be made with that budget. If you leverage the amount for projects, hopefully it can take on some of the larger flooding issues in Smithville and Jackson Creek.

Enright commented that going into the time line of our audit from IDEM, it is clear that we are on a good track but we need to make continual progress in order to be in compliance with the Clean Water Act. He thought that the SWAC had done a very diligent plan of tailoring a storm water plan that will serve the needs of the county.

**Enright said he would entertain a motion. Stoops said he moved to establish a storm water fee that would be \$35.16 on an annual basis per ERU. Stoffers seconded.**

Enright opened up the motion to public discussion.

James Reinhardt spoke. He asked about the annual fee and how it would be determined for churches, businesses, etc. Enright said that was part of the contract with IM, to digitize the impervious surface and make that determination on those properties. Stoops said that the Equivalent Residential Unit (ERU) is based on an average of 5,200 square feet. With businesses, for every 5,200 square foot of impervious surface, then they are charged a residential unit. If you have ten ERUs value, then you pay \$350 year.

Jim Shelton, Chamber of Commerce, spoke. The chamber would like to recommend a system of credits for businesses. Dogan said that the subject of credits had been discussed; the current thinking was that a system of credits should be established. He said in making the decision on the credits, we ought to be getting input from the affected groups including businesses, schools, etc.; therefore, the actual credits will not be implemented until an advisory group has been established.

Geoff McKim wanted to clarify the timeline on the credits. He asked if the credit system would be in place by the time that rate payers would actually be making payments. He said he would highly recommend that. Stoops replied that he would think so. He added that any credits or incentives would reduce the budget of the department but that is something that the advisory group would have to take into consideration.

**There being no further public comment on the motion, it was brought back to the Board by Enright. Stoffers called the question. A vote was called. Enright: Aye. Stoffers: Aye. Stoops: Aye. Opposed: (None). Motion carried.**

Enright said this vote would move it forward to the County Commissioners for the ordinance phase.

Stoops commented on the draft ordinance. Dogan said that the second draft was circulated to SWMB members for internal review and he suggested that it be put into the commissioners' packet for review.

### **PUBLIC INPUT**

There was none.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

**There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 3:30 p.m.**

**Minutes approved:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Signed:**

**Secretary:**

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**Kevin Enright, Chair**

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