



2A Stormwater Advisory Committee (SAC)

8-15 Meeting Minutes

Call to Order

Committee Chair Terry Schooler called meeting to order at 2:02 pm.

Approval of previous meeting minutes

Meeting minutes from previous 5-16-19 meeting approved unanimously.

Financial recap/summary

The group received a financial recap and summary from Quarter 2. The MS4 program is on target. Forty-four percent of the funds remain for the year, and those dollars are largely contracted. The group discussed the meaning of the term "remaining;" the funds are largely encumbered and a plan is in place to spend the full amount by the close of the year. The MS4 team is comprised of office staff to include engineers/scientists/inspectors/administrative staff. Examples and discussion were given about how Stormwater handles funding for emergency projects that arise (including sinkhole at the Chapel Hills Mall).

Update on billing efficiencies improvements for single-family residential units and non-residential parcels

Billing efficiencies continue to improve. There has only been one instance of a citizen refusing to pay their residential stormwater bill. In addition to the residential billing, the City of Colorado Springs is working with Colorado Springs Utilities to add the stormwater fees for multi-unit and non-residential properties to the utility bills. Councilman Don Knight said this proposed change should be brought before the Colorado Springs Utilities Board.

Discussion was held about a citizen that went in front of City Council with the understanding that they are being "double-billed." Stormwater Manager Richard Mulledy explained why the citizen's HOA is billed in that manner. The Board and present City Council Members said Mulledy should have the

authority to determine how these will be billed on an individual basis. The board cautioned against billing similar residences differently.

An explanation was provided of the outstanding/unpaid bills. Brenda Roy, Stormwater Administrator, spoke about how the City would go about placing liens against properties for delinquent stormwater fees. The liens would go into effect where stormwater fees are 90 days or more past due and non-payment amounts exceed \$200. Roy asked the Board if they would recommend this course of action. Gary Nesbit brought forth a motion for recommending the liens to City Council and the County Treasurer. Motion was seconded by Terry Schooler, and met with additional unanimous approval from the Board.

Media update

Senior Communications Specialist Kim Melchor gave a media update to the group. Presentation included recent Facebook posts displaying Stormwater-specific content. She also spoke about upcoming outreach efforts.

Projects update

Senior Engineer Tim Biolchini gave updates on how some projects were faring despite the late summer rainstorms. The Sand Creek facility held up well during the summer storms, in addition to the Scarborough infrastructure.

Best Practices and LID for Stormwater

Extensive discussion occurred on this topic, as led by Board Member David Havlick. He said that for the past four or five meetings there has not been much of a future-focus. The decisions/financial updates/information are all about current policies and projects. Havlick expressed concern that over time, that mindset can create some near sightedness. He asked: what can we do to fulfill the terms of the IGA in a broader sense? He said it would be a shame if the expertise of the board and all of the meetings were just about current projects. Havlick said the board needs to engage in broader conversation about how they would like our watershed to be. More of a broad vision. How else can we move that forward?

- Biolchini responded: The Pueblo IGA focused on Pueblo and its effects on Pueblo. The litigation is more about compliance and water quality and state waters, beyond Pueblo. The settlement with the EPA has great potential because it is pushing that side of the agenda like David hopes it will.
- Havlick asked how can other groups within the City like Parks and Rec benefit, etcetera. The City's stormwater infrastructure has potential to create a recreational, aesthetic amenity. Our vision should not just be about limiting liability, he said. The way we view LID and our role for the watershed changes the conversation, and possibly changes the design. We are not really controlling volume yet. He asked; how do you balance that against new development? The City should not allow development that creates runoff. This is bigger conversation about the LID. Developers do not have to create runoff if it is designed correctly.
- There is an educational component to the development community along with some necessary lead-time. Havlick said the City can take some initiative to tell developers "here is the new standard" and here is how you can make it happen. Is there money available for a design and outreach program? Educating rather than mandating at the start would need to be the plan.

- Mulledy expressed that one of the problems is that the DCM does not require LID. One of the problems would be implementing with measurable standard. He said:
 - It makes more sense to work with LID community and emphasize how important it is, how it can be done, and then implement a standard
 - The City will be looking for funding for an LID manual to be developed for the City of Colorado Springs
 - Other municipalities have them; it would be about \$250,000 to create a manual
 - He has previously reached out to CSU because LID and Utilities are tied together
 - They were interested and said they would be willing to help fund the effort.
 - Havlick said that seems like an important start. The City needs to revisit the DCM and create some more details and specifics. Mulledy said 2020 will hopefully see the start of this effort.
- Schooler suggested that local land development engineers be part of the product, preparation.
- Mulledy described what he believes will be the steps for a successful public process on this major undertaking:
 - Go to development community
 - Utilize educational community
 - Have conversations with engineers and the development community about why this important and how it could be implemented
 - Richard will develop this plan and anticipates it will take most of 2020.
 - Would make it easier for the development community to adopt if Regional Building and the Planning Department are involved, so Richard will reach out to them.
 - Long term goal- reducing volume, SDS permit, not increase volume of flows for any project related to SDS

Adjournment: 3:54 p.m.

Next meeting: November 21, 2019