

Metropolitan North Georgia Water Planning District Stormwater Technical Coordinating Committee Meeting Summary February 15, 2012

The Metropolitan North Georgia Water Planning District's Stormwater Technical Coordinating Committee met on Wednesday, February 15, 2012 at 1:30 p.m. in the Amphitheatre, on "C" level of the R. Charles Loudermilk Center for the Regional Community in Atlanta, Georgia.

Attendance

Jill Bazinet, City of Alpharetta Vanessa Birrell, Fayette County Mark Caspar, City of Peachtree City David Chastant, DeKalb County Pamela Conner, City of Powder Springs Charles Corbin, Austell, Buford, Palmetto, Union City, Hapeville, Chattahoochee Hills Ernest Earn, Cobb County Virgil Fancher, Georgia DHR Catherine Fox, Dallas/Paulding County Kris Garcia, City of Atlanta Mary Gazaway, Georgia EPD Jameson Green, City of Villa Rica Nick Griffiths, City of McDonough Connie Havnes, Georgia EPD Jonathan Heard, City of Cumming Marjorie Hicks, Cherokee County William Higgins, Cobb County Rob Hill, City of Newnan Chris Hindman, City of Fayetteville Renee Hoge, Forsyth County Brian Keel, DDCWSA Russell Kelly, Paulding County Lamont Kiser, Bartow County William Klahr, City of Newnan

Charles Lambert, DeKalb County Michelle Lawrence, Fulton County Kathy Macias, DDCWSA Brice Martin, Coweta County Merrick McClure, City of Canton James Moore, City of Griffin Terry Moy, Clayton County Water Authority Anderson Mycroft, Fulton County Shayla Nealy, Clayton County Water Authority Kevin Osbey, Clayton County Water Authority Tony Parrott, Fayette County Timothy Pugh, Paulding County Barbara Seal, Gwinnett County Brian Shoun, DeKalb County James Steele, Bartow County Margaret Tanner, City of Atlanta Carl Thomas, Henry County Julie Todd, City of Atlanta Kelli Uyesugi-Turner, Rockdale County Michelle Vincent, Georgia EPD Keith Watkins, Clayton County Water Authority Brian Wiley, City of Gainesville Jon Whitmer, City of Kennesaw James Wilgus, City of Marietta

Steve Haubner of the Metro Water District staff opened the meeting, initiated introductions and reviewed the meeting agenda with the group.

Public Comment Period

There were no public comments.

Georgia NPDES Stormwater Industrial General Permit (IGP) Update

Michele Robbins of Georgia EPD provided an overview of the 2012 update of the state's NPDES stormwater permit for industrial facilities. The industrial stormwater permit is a "general permit" in that it is a permit applicable to a class or category of dischargers, in this case facilities with stormwater discharges associated with industrial activity. The 2012 renewal of the permit has been rewritten as a

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"multi-sector" permit which provides specific requirements based on the type or "sector" of industrial activity.

Ms. Robbins discussed the types of facilities that would be required to have coverage under the IGP, and how a facility would go about applying for coverage under the permit. She also detailed a permittee's specific requirements, including site assessment, control measures, monitoring and documentation. Finally, Ms. Robbins and the Subcommittee discussed the link between the NPDES industrial permits and local the MS4 stormwater programs, particularly in the areas of identifying potentially facilities requiring coverage and commercial/industrial inspections.

Chastain Meadows RegionalStormwater Management Facility

Mr. Bill Higgins, Stormwater Manager for Cobb County, gave a presentation on the county's recently completed Chastain Meadows regional stormwater management facility. This project is located on Noonday Creek near Town Center Mall in Kennesaw. The project is a major component of the Noonday Basin Action Plan and is intended to reduce peak stream flows and prevent flooding and streambank erosion downstream on Noonday Creek, as well as water quality in Allatoona Lake.

The project was initiated in 1999, however due difficulties in obtaining the necessary regulatory permits, final design was not completed until 2009. Construction began in 2010 and was completed by July 2011. The Chastain Meadows facility in an in-line detention basin with dry storage controlling a 13-square mile watershed. The project features a 24 foot high, 1100 foot long dam protected by flexible concrete armor sheet as well as a stilling basin which utilizing concrete A-Jacks for scour protection and energy dissipation. The total cost of the facility was \$8.8 million. Thus far, Mr. Higgins feels that the project has been successful in meeting its objectives in reducing peak flows and the county will continue to evaluate its performance after larger storm events.

Green Infrastructure Approaches for Stormwater Management

Mike Mitchell from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 4 provided an overview of the "green infrastructure" paradigm that EPA has been promoting in recent years. Green infrastructure uses vegetation, soils, and natural processes to manage water and create healthier urban environments. At the scale of a city or county, green infrastructure refers to the patchwork of natural areas that provides habitat, flood protection, cleaner air, and cleaner water. Mr. Mitchell covered how EPA is incorporating green infrastructure approaches in their permitting programs, particularly the MS4 municipal stormwater programs, and discussed some of the ideas for upcoming directions for the MS4 program. Mr. Mitchell said EPA will put out a proposed rule in the spring of this year.

Other Items and Announcements

- Corey Babb presented an overview of Georgia EPD's proposed changes between the 2010 and 2012 305(b)/303(d) list. The group was asked to consider any input the District could provide EPD concerning the listing process and data qualifications for listing streams.
- Steve Haubner provided an overview of the result of the 2011 Plan Implementation Review which included the results of the local implementation surveys.
- Mr. Haubner also provided the group with a questionnaire of potential topics for future TCC meetings and workshops.

With no further items, the meeting was adjourned.