



**Stormwater Committee Meeting
April 23, 2018
Human Resources Training Room**

1. Call to Order: *The meeting was called to order at 6:03 PM*

2. Roll Call: *Roll was called by Barbara Brumbaugh*

Committee Members in Attendance:

*Russell Barbour
Richard Bunton
Bruce Weckworth
Tommy Jones
Wayne Jones
Carol Warren
Eric Martin (PW Director)
Barbara Brumbaugh (PW Staff)
Kelly Mills (PW Staff)
Watson Lawrence (Ag Dept Director)
Rob Matkins (PW Staff)
Wendy Young (PW Staff)*

Absent Committee Members

*Alden Cleanthes
Tracy West-Pinkoski
Matthew Fulford (Alternate)
Andy Harmond (Alternate)*

Citizens in Attendance:

**Byron Stonecypher
Marc McPherson
Ray McPherson
George R. Stonecypher
Keith Williams
Ervin Cullipher**

3. Approval of Minutes:

Minutes of the February 26, 2018 meeting were approved.

4. Citizen Comments:

- *Byron Stonecypher, President of the Chesapeake Farm Bureau and local Farmer, discussed concerns with drainage in the Northwest (NW) River. He and a group of local Farmers attended the Stormwater Committee meeting over a year ago and presented similar issues. The blockages in the NW River are causing properties to flood and stay flooded, killing trees and making pastures unusable. The Cullipher pasture property is now flooded year-round. There are many trees blown across the creek and canoes cannot get through some areas.*
- *Ervin Cullipher submitted photos of his flooded pasture. The Newland Stream runs into the Williams Farm and Cavalier Management Area. The Stonecypher Farm borders the Newland Stream. There are numerous beaver dams in the area holding water and the water never recedes.*
- *Eric responded that the City has a beaver removal contract, and will be working on a Snag & Drag contract to remove trees. There has been a holdup with the Navy. The Snag & Drag process is to cut the logs, pull them out, and place them in bottom land. Funding will begin in July.*
- *Keith Williams stated that water never recedes from upstream of Lake Drummond Causeway. There are at least 3 beaver dams upstream of Newland Stream and each one is holding at least 6 inches or more of water. Mr. Williams flew over the area and noted a series of at least 10 dams and blockages upstream of the Triple R Ranch. He also canoed the area. He inquired about oversight of the beaver contractor. He also noted that trees are still down from Hurricane Isabel. Keith showed areas on the aerial map shown on the big screen.*
- *Wayne asked whether sterilization of the beavers is an option. There was additional discussion on the background of the beaver issue.*
- *Ray and Marc McPherson offered access to the water from their property.*
- *Tommy asked about the normal width of the river in this area. Keith stated that he believes that it is typically about 40 feet wide. Tommy wants the City to excavate the river and that it needs to be opened up for drainage.*
- *Eric noted that this is challenging with the Corps of Engineers. Keith Williams stated that everyone has lost timber and pasture due to this issue. Carol asked if the revenue and land loss has been quantified.*
- *Ervin Cullipher stated that at least 6 acres of his pasture has been lost and approximately 200 acres of timber since Hurricane Isabel.*
- *Rob asked about the water depth upstream of Bunch Walnuts Rd. Keith Williams said it is about 4-5 feet, but varies. There is also flooded pasture land just east of the Lake Drummond Causeway at Burdett St.*
- *Eric made a commitment to re-focus the beaver contractor to this area. The new fiscal year begins on July 1st and funding will be available. He noted that some of these major drainage systems have been neglected and that it is basically a logging operation now. The new CIP budget has more funding re-programmed to outfall improvement projects which will be a mix of in-house and contract work. Funding is not really a restriction, but a contract is needed for Snag & Drag. The City may hire multiple contractors.*

- Mr. McPherson asked if the City could get "swamp loggers". Access may be an issue. Eric wants to budget for bush hogging once the logging has been completed.
- Carol asked about the time frame. After July, the work can be bid.
- Tommy noted that the City's brine line hasn't been bush hogged and saplings are starting to re-grow. Tommy asked if we also need a beaver contract and Eric says we can have multiple contracts to handle the issues in these areas.
- Rob noted that it will likely be a \$400 – 500K project, and will be mostly smaller contractors who will bid on it. The City does not need Class A contractors for Snag & Drag. If excavators are used, then a Class A contractor would be required.
- Wayne mentioned that he remembers these same citizens attending the Stormwater Committee meeting in the past.
- Russell requested that the citizens return to speak with the Committee if no action from the City happens.
- At this point the final budget is in the hands of the City Council.

5. Directors Items – Eric Martin

- None at this time.

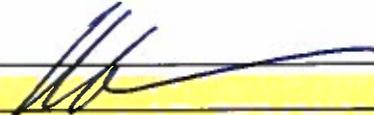
6. Operations Update – Rob Matkins

- There were 90 Cave-ins in the past 30 days.

7. Old Business and New Business

- Carol discussed the development of Plymouth Park and what can be done about the trash and floatables at the Border Road outfall. Barbara submitted a work order to have this area cleaned up. The drainage area is large, and there is also a lot of trash at the Apartment Complex at the end of Border Rd. Carol said she might try to organize a neighborhood cleanup.
- Barbara briefed the Committee on the North Landing River Symposium held in Virginia Beach. She agreed to e-mail her presentation to the Committee.
- Wayne requested an update on the citizen from Forest Lakes to ensure he got a response from the City.
- Watson briefed the Committee on another well water clinic that was put on with assistance from HRSD. HRSD is interested in the well water data.
- Bruce gave an update on the SWIFT Program.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 PM.

Minutes approved by the Committee	
Date	23 Jul 18