



**Lancaster County
Stormwater Advisory Council**

Minutes of the Meeting of June 30, 2021

Council Members Present: Scott Edgar, Rox Burhans, Jeff Catoe, Jon Hardy, Theodore Hoover and Benjamin Levine

Council Members Absent: Shannon Catoe

Staff Members Present: Scott Edgar, Terrance Barr, Judy Barrineau, Stephen Blackwelder, Elizabeth Evans, Andy Rowe and Christina Stalnaker

Members of the Public: Clare McConaughay

1. Call to Order: Scott Edgar called the meeting to order at 2:30
2. Introductions
3. The Council approved the agenda
4. Scott Edgar opened the meeting with a PowerPoint presentation
 - Infrastructure Project Updates
 - Grant Updates
 - MCM Updates by Staff Members
 - Frequent BMP Violations
 - Water Testing Update

After the presentation Scott Edgar asked for the SWAC's support in the proposal regarding the Henry Harris Road culvert project.

The Stormwater members were asked to sign a document whether they were **for** or **against** entering into a partnership with Lennar regarding the Henry Harris Road culvert upsizing project.

All three public members recommended that Stormwater reserve balance funds be used to pay for the Henry Harris Road culvert upsizing project.

Benjamin Levine asked if the County had a ranking system for infrastructure projects and a policy for choosing public private partnerships. Scott Edgar answered that in this case, the area is growing at such a rate that it could be considered a public safety issue. Rox Burhans added that the County has limited resources for capital projects. When the County does take on a project, it is usually because of a major failure and that priorities are determined by the County Council. A robust discussion of the proposed project continued. Benjamin Levine added that his concern was the issue of fairness in determining project priorities. Jeff Catoe added that it is not often when the County has a developer willing to partner on such an improvement. Scott Edgar advised that the issue would be going to the County Council Committee of the Whole on July 21, 2021.

Theodore Hoover asked about the quality of the County's drinking water. Scott Edgar answered that our drinking water comes from the Catawba River which contains nitrogen and phosphates. But it is treated and safe to drink.

Theodore Hoover asked about the expertise of local developers since there are so many deficiencies and violations issued on their projects. Scott Edgar added that since the market is so tight, there are some builders who are not as expert in their field as others.

Theodore Hoover asked if our department has enforcement powers. Terrance Barr answered by explaining the process used to compel the developer to remedy their violations. He added that Inspection Holds and Stop Work Orders are the tools the department currently uses.

John Hardy mentioned 5 things that he suggests would improve productivity:

- Analyze and review plans better
- Increase site inspections
- Hold developers accountable
- Increase Stormwater staff
- Fine more and halt construction more often to instill your regulatory controls

Benjamin Levine asked if there was an onboarding process for new developers. Scott Edgar answered that developers have third-party inspectors but they do not read their own reports. Christina Stalnaker added that the Pre-Construction meeting covers the regulations.

Benjamin Levine asked about our social media presence. Elizabeth Evans advised that the E&ES department uses Facebook and Instagram.

Scott Edgar asked the members for their approval of his recommendation that \$500,000 be encumbered for the Henry Harris Culvert upsizing project.

Clare McConaughay asked how much money was in the department's utility line.

Clare McConaughay asked about the County giving \$3,000 bonuses to other departments.

Clare McConaughay feels the stormwater fee should be County wide.

Clare McConaughay has a location in mind for Planning, Building, Zoning and Stormwater departments.

5. Schedule for next meeting: Scott Edgar asked if Wednesday afternoons worked for everyone and all three members agreed.

6. Adjournment- 4:30 pm