



North Central Texas Council of Governments

**REGIONAL STORM WATER MANAGEMENT
COORDINATING COUNCIL**

March 2, 2011

MEETING SUMMARY

The NCTCOG Regional Storm Water Management Coordinating Council met on March 2, 2010 in the NCTCOG offices Regional Forum Room. Members/Representatives in attendance are recorded on the sign in sheet, available on request. NCTCOG staff present included Keith Kennedy, Jeff Rice, Erin Blackman, Tracy Michel, and Mary Tatum. In the Chair's absence, Vice Chair Sue Alvarez, called the meeting to order.

AGENDA ITEMS

Summary of the December 1, 2010 Meeting: The summary from the December 1, 2010 meeting was unanimously approved as presented.

Special Presentation: Jennifer Vuitel, NCTCOG staff, worked on the design and layout of the IDDE Field Investigation Guide and gave an overview to those present. The Guide is nearing completion and will be sent to the printers soon. A request will soon be sent out for those wanting to order additional copies.

Regulatory Update: Staff recently viewed a WEAT-sponsored webinar (February 18, 2011) on *Emerging Stormwater Issues*. One of the three speakers was Cindy Hooper, TCEQ storm water permit specialist, and her talk was on "Upcoming Storm Water Regulations". Staff gave highlights of her presentation. Among her comments were that: the new Phase I permits would include Phase II elements; the Phase II general permit, soon to be renewed, will be impacted by the new 2010 census; the industrial MSGP expires this August and changes are being proposed to several sectors; and finally that the construction general permit, when renewed in 2013, will incorporate EPA's new turbidity limit, once EPA finalizes what that is.

FY2011 Work Program Status Report:

Public Education Task Force (PETF) – Erin Blackman updated the Council on public education activities related to "March is Texas SmartScape Month," yard waste, general storm water issues, and construction. Tracy Michel will be taking over this program area, and will provide the update at the next Council meeting. Several SmartScape Month planning tools are available at www.dfwstormwater.com/education, including a press release template, public service announcements (PSAs) for print, sample proclamations to designate March as Texas SmartScape Month, and a SmartScape training class. The press release and PSAs are centered on the March 2011 theme "everything's bigger in Texas, but your water bill doesn't have to be..." Staff are currently planning for the yard waste and general storm water issues efforts. At next week's PETF meeting, we will continue these discussions and decide on a direction. General storm water articles have been collected to help provide content ideas when MS4 staff are charged with writing a storm water article for a newsletter, utility bill insert, etc. The final draft text including pictures and captions for the construction site field guide is finished and we will be seeking comments from storm water contacts and the iSWM implementation committee.

Pollution Prevention – Tracy Michel, P2 coordinator, provided the Council with a brief update on the group. The stormwater construction video is in the script stage of production. The P2 Task Force approved the change of the video purpose by raising awareness of general employees rather than training inspectors. The new focus will train non-stormwater municipal personnel to be able to recognize and report potential construction stormwater problems on active construction sites that they encounter in the course of traveling the community to conduct municipal business. The video outline has been approved by the P2 Task Force and will be in draft script stages soon.

Illicit Discharge Detection & Elimination (IDDE) – Erin Blackman is the new IDDE coordinator and updated the Council on the IDDE Training, Dry Weather Field Screening (DWFS) Workshop, and the IDDE Field Investigation Guide. The IDDE Training is a new project for FY2011. The original idea was to hire a professional to conduct advanced training (e.g. what makes an effective program, IDDE field and lab assessment protocol, and finding and fixing illicit discharges). The Task Force has since changed the scope to conduct a more basic training for identifying illicit discharges that walk participants through the approaches discussed in the IDDE guide. This training will be discussed in more detail at the next IDDE Task Force meeting. A DWFS Workshop is being planned for this summer, which includes hands-on chemical analysis of water samples in both a classroom setting and outdoors. The workshop also covers how to conduct an outfall inventory, use a Global Positioning System, and set up and manage an outfall database. The IDDE guide is almost ready for printing; staff will seek input from the Task Force on printing options given bids on paper quality and binders at the next meeting.

Storm Water Monitoring Program – Staff reported that the final annual report was completed and submitted to TCEQ for the current permit term. To prepare for the upcoming permit term, a Request for Proposals was issued for consultant assistance with stormwater monitoring. Two proposals were received and they are currently being reviewed and ranked by the committee. Consultant interviews will be held on March 30th.

Public Works Coordination – Jeff Rice updated the Council on recent Public Works program activities, including on-going support to cities seeking to adopt iSWM. Various alternatives for less than full adoption are being considered. He mentioned that one construction inspection class had been held in January and the next one was scheduled for May. The Public Works Roundup is also coming in May, at which the 2012 Public Works work program will be considered.

FY2012 Work Program and Budget – Staff presented recommendations for FY2012 stormwater work program and budget. The three RDI Task Forces presented their top-ranked projects to the Work Program Committee (WPC) for consideration and the WPC has selected three, one from each program area, for inclusion in the FY2012 Work Program, with the budget of \$288,000 remaining the same as FY2011. The proposed projects are:

- Public Education – Target a business or industry group with educational materials.
- Pollution Prevention – Peer 2 Peer Education and Sharing
- IDDE – IDDE Training PowerPoint Modules

These comprise approximately 25% – 30% of the budget while the recurring work program elements, which include administrative support, meeting support, established projects and the regional monitoring program, make up the remaining 70% - 75%. The FY2012 projects and budget were approved as presented.

Storm Water vs. Stormwater Discussion – NCTCOG staff led a discussion regarding changing the spelling of “storm water” to “stormwater” in the regional program. EPA began using the two word

term “storm water” but has subsequently changed to the one word term. TCEQ still uses two words. The municipal programs throughout the region are fairly evenly split, with the one word term used slightly more often. After further discussion, the RSWMCC voted to change from the two-word usage to one word “stormwater” for use in regional program materials.

Roundtable Discussion: Municipalities shared information about the activities going on in their communities:

- Dallas is hosting several workshops in the coming weeks. One scheduled for the end of the school year will target school janitorial staff.
- Mansfield has SmartScape classes planned as part of March is Texas SmartScape month. Mansfield recently began requiring gas drilling operations to pay a stormwater utility fee.
- Cedar Hill is holding a block party featuring a storm water education display.
- Burleson has several spring events planned including a Household Hazardous Waste collection day and SmartScape classes.
- Richardson is having a Trash Bash.
- Plano has a creek clean up planned along with SmartScape classes.
- NTTA recently completed dry weather field screening of all their required outfalls
- Garland recently received a revised draft of their permit renewal