



North Central Texas Council of Governments

**REGIONAL STORMWATER MANAGEMENT  
COORDINATING COUNCIL**

**August 31, 2011**

**MEETING SUMMARY**

The NCTCOG Regional Stormwater Management Coordinating Council met on August 31, 2011 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 June 8, 2011 Meeting:** The summary from the June 8, 2011 meeting was unanimously approved as presented.

**Special Presentation:** Aiza Jose, Brown and Gay Engineers, Inc., and Brian Martello, West Coast Storm, gave an overview of the City of Fort Worth Stormwater Trash Collection Pilot Study to test the efficiency and feasibility of various best management practices to control floatables, trash, and silt.

**Council Membership Elections:** After giving a brief overview of the Council election procedures, staff mentioned the four council members whose terms are expiring. Nominations and ballots for the elections would be handled via email in the following week. Staff also mentioned that the nomination for Vice Chair would be handled by the RSWMCC Executive Committee but an email ballot would be sent via email to the entire RSWMCC membership.

**Cost Shares:** Staff reported that the fiscal year ended with 60 participants and an attainment of 96% of the budget. This is slightly up from last year, but is the same as the past five-year average. Staff announced that cost share email notices would go out next week and requested that participants please return them as soon as possible.

**Regulatory Update:** Staff updated the Council on several regulatory items related to the EPA Region 6 MS4 Operators Conference, Phase II MS4 permit renewal, Industrial Multi-Sector General Permit, EPA proposed stormwater rule, effluent limitation guidelines for construction, and the 2010 Texas Water Quality Standards.

**EPA Region 6 MS4 Operators Conference** – Staff had the opportunity to attend this conference at the beginning of July. Low impact development (LID) was a popular topic and so staff provided a list of some LID manuals/resources discussed at the conference. There was a presentation on Houston's bacteria TMDL Implementation Plan (I-Plan), which will be helpful as the North Central Texas region develops an I-Plan for three bacteria TMDLs. The Phase II MS4 permit renewal and effluent limitation guidelines for construction were other topics of interest that will be discussed below.

**Phase II MS4 Permit Renewal** – Staff updated the Council on the most recent draft of the Phase II MS4 permit, which was released by TCEQ on August 26. Stakeholders may submit comments or questions to TCEQ until September 8. Staff discussed some of the changes—when compared to the draft released to stakeholders in June—that were made. Staff also mentioned that the TCEQ really

wants to work with and understand the concerns of the stakeholders. Stakeholders are encouraged to continue making specific, reasonable comments on elements in the permit.

Industrial MSGP – Staff gave a brief update on the renewal of the Industrial MSGP, which was adopted July 20, 2011 and went into effect August 14, 2011. Several changes were made, including changes to benchmark testing, technical clarifications, and expanding automatic authorizations. Information can be found at [www.tceq.texas.gov/permitting/stormwater/sw\\_industrial.html](http://www.tceq.texas.gov/permitting/stormwater/sw_industrial.html).

EPA Proposed Stormwater Rule – Staff reminded the Council that the EPA initiated a national rulemaking to strengthen its stormwater program. This proposed rulemaking considers seven actions. The EPA intends to propose a rule in September 2011 and take final action by November 2012, although this process will likely be delayed due to litigation issues.

Effluent Limitation Guidelines for Construction – Staff informed the Council that as of August 2011, EPA has withdrawn the proposed numeric effluent limit for turbidity that had been submitted to the Office of Management and Budget in order to conduct further study. This further postpones EPA implementation of the effluent limit; no timeline has been provided.

2010 Texas Water Quality Standards – Staff provided a brief update on the EPA's first round of approvals and disapprovals of the 2010 Texas Water Quality Standards, which is described in a June 29, 2011 letter. Several items are still under review, for instance the nutrient numeric criteria for reservoirs. Information can be found at [www.tceq.texas.gov/waterquality/standards/2010standards.html](http://www.tceq.texas.gov/waterquality/standards/2010standards.html).

**FY2011 Work Program Status Report:** Staff gave an update on the status of activities for each program area.

Public Education Task Force (PETF) – Tracy Michel, PETF coordinator, updated the Council on activities related to pet waste, fats, oils, and grease, Texas SmartScape, and stormwater issues. The bookmarks have new pictures and a new design. A picture example was shown to the Council. The planning has begun for the fats, oils, and grease campaign. Several members did a cooperative purchase for door hangers that explain FOG and give tips on how to handle it in the kitchen. Also, the North Texas Grease Abatement Council has produced a video that targets restaurants. It is split into three chapters and covers the problem, grease trap maintenance, and kitchen BMPs. It is available for members to purchase. Texas SmartScape planning has also started. The theme for this year is going to be "Beat the Drought, Go the Texas SmartScape Route." Members discussed that they would like to see some type of booklet that features the best and most popular plants along with SmartScape tips. In the Stormwater Issues campaign, a new idea of educating home owners is in the works. Tentatively called "Own Your Curb" the project will try to encourage residents to be responsible for the area in front of their residence. This involves making sure it is clean and free of trash and debris. It will incorporate pet waste and yard waste issues and will include tips on how to deal with these issues.

Pollution Prevention – Tracy Michel, P2 coordinator, updated the Council on the Construction Video. The video was recently reviewed by Tracy and Jeff Rice. It is in draft form and has a few shots that still need be filmed. The P2 Task Force will review the video at the September 13 meeting. COG staff will be contacting the cities that previously agreed to filming to possibly obtain the last few shots that are needed to complete the video.

Illicit Discharge Detection & Elimination (IDDE) – Erin Blackman, IDDE coordinator, updated the Council on activities related to the IDDE Field Investigation Guide, Dry Weather Field Screening, and IDDE Training. The IDDE guides were ordered and were made available for pick-up after the meeting. Due to great interest, two Dry Weather Field Screening Workshops were held June 22 and

July 28. Finally, staff has tentatively scheduled the IDDE Training for October 25 or 28 from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. at the City of Denton's Service Center complex. An email will go out to stormwater contacts of the opportunity and where they may register. The training will be free for FY11 participants, and depending on interest, attendance may be limited to this group. Staff mentioned that volunteers are needed to provide IDDE-related pictures for the training presentation and to help provide IDDE case studies and develop the problems for the group problem solving session.

Stormwater Monitoring Program – Keith Kennedy updated the committee on the series of activities that had occurred since the last meeting in March concerning the regional monitoring program. Since that time, an RFP process had been completed and two firms responded. The Monitoring Task Force had evaluated the RFP submittals and had ranked Atkins at the top. The next step was to seek approval to contract with them from the NCTCOG Executive Board in June. Contract negotiations would follow.

Public Works Coordination – Staff informed the Council that an iSWM Water Quality Training class had been held on August 17, with a repeat of the class to be held on September 27. In addition, an iSWM Implementation Training Class is scheduled to be held on September 27. Staff also noted that the iSWM Implementation Committee had approved changes to the iSWM Licensing Policy to allow additional flexibility for cities when adopting iSWM. The Policy still needs to be approved by the Public Works Council. A construction inspection training class was held on August 21; the schedule for FY2012 has not yet been determined.

**FY2012 Work Program Activities:** Staff gave an update on the status of activities for each program area.

Public Education Task Force (PETF) – Tracy Michel informed the Council of the Green Business project for FY12. The goal is to get businesses to agree to practice BMPs that affect stormwater. The group has already begun progress on this project under yard waste. An agreement is being drafted for landscape maintenance companies. In return for their commitment, they will be recognized on a website for good "green" practices. A decal has been drafted for use in their trucks as part of the recognition. As this project is completed, the group will move on to targeting other businesses.

Pollution Prevention – Tracy Michel updated the Council on the FY2012 planning. For the Peer 2 Peer Education and Sharing project, both Phase I and Phase II cities have been established to host site visits. There will also be a presentation by the Small Business and Local Government Assistance. Further planning will be discussed at the next meeting.

Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination (IDDE) – Erin Blackman provided an overview of the activities to take place under the IDDE program in FY12. The new project will be to develop a training PowerPoint module and supplement that with a "train-the-trainer" session to help MS4s educate their staff on IDDE. In addition, a Municipal Industrial Inspectors Workshop will be scheduled. Two additional trainings—IDDE Training and Dry Weather Field Screening Workshop—will be scheduled depending on interest and resources.

Stormwater Monitoring Program – Keith Kennedy informed the Council that the contract with Atkins is expected to begin October 1, 2011. Atkins will then work with each entity included in the contract to identify watershed sites for chemical monitoring and some for biomonitoring. Atkins will evaluate existing equipment owned by cities and provide a shopping list to update each. The monitoring plan will then be revised for chemical monitoring and will be developed for biomonitoring.

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

- Dallas announced that the next TMDL stakeholder meeting will be held September 28. Dallas has scheduled their Trinity Trash Bash cleanup event for this October, which is a little later than usual.
- Fort Worth brought some copies of their reprinted Captain Crud Activity Book.
- Tarrant County informed the Council of the TCEQ's Water Quality/Stormwater Seminar scheduled for September 8 and 9 in Austin.