



North Central Texas Council of Governments

REGIONAL STORMWATER MANAGEMENT COORDINATING COUNCIL

November 9, 2011

MEETING SUMMARY

The NCTCOG Regional Stormwater Management Coordinating Council met on November 9, 2011 in the Pitstick Executive Board Room at the NCTCOG offices. Members/representatives in attendance are recorded on the sign in sheet, available on request. NCTCOG staff present included Jack Tidwell, Jeff Rice, Erin Blackman, Tracy Michel, and Mary Tatum. Council Chair, Sue Alvarez, called the meeting to order.

AGENDA ITEMS

Welcome New Officers and Members: Jack Tidwell welcomed attendees and recognized Sue Alvarez, City of Dallas, as the new chair for the council. David Hunter was recognized as Past Chair and thanked for his service to the committee. New watershed representatives on the council were introduced: East Fork: Tim Porter, City of Allen; Elm Fork: Dewey Stoffels, City of Grapevine; West Fork: Echo Rexroad, City of Grand Prairie. Returning Mainstem representative, Gina Garcia, City of Duncanville, was also recognized. NCTCOG staff received nominations for Vice Chair from the Executive Committee prior to this meeting and votes will be cast via email at a later date after staff is able to talk with potential nominees.

Special Presentation: Gina Garcia, City of Duncanville, and Trey Shanks, Freese and Nichols, gave a presentation about the City of Duncanville's recent adoption of iSWM.

Regulatory Update: Staff updated the Council on several regulatory items related to:

Phase II MS4 Permit Renewal – The TCEQ released a preliminary draft of the Phase II MS4 General Permit dated September 26, 2011 and sought feedback from stakeholders until October 5, 2011. NCTCOG staff provided a brief overview of some of the revisions when comparing the September 26th draft to an earlier draft (8/23/11). Some of these revisions include: non-traditional MS4s are identified in the level 2 category (whereas before transportation authorities were identified as a level 3), removal of several requirements for discharges to impaired water bodies without an approved TMDL, and the removal of several MCM-related requirements and the limiting of several to level 4 MS4s. NCTCOG staff recently became aware of a more recent draft dated October 6, 2011, which will likely be close to the version that the TCEQ takes to the U.S. EPA.

Achieving Water Quality through Integrated Municipal Stormwater and Wastewater Plans – The U.S. EPA's Office of Water sent a memo to the Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance to ensure they are on the same page for working with states and communities to get the most effective and cost-effective approaches for meeting the objective of clean water regarding municipalities' CWA waste- and storm-water obligations. The U.S. EPA outlined two approaches: integrated planning for cost-effective solutions and green infrastructure. It is unclear what this memo will mean to local municipalities.

EPA's National Rulemaking – There is no new official information regarding this rulemaking; however the Water Environment Federation indicated in a newsletter that it is likely that the U.S. EPA will not meet the December 2011 deadline for issuing the draft rule.

Council members mentioned the recent release of the Pesticides General Permit. It was suggested that NCTCOG try and coordinate an open meeting with a TCEQ representative to help clear up some of the questions participants may have related to this permit.

FY2012 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 recent PETF activities. The task force added some items to the FY12 Cooperative Purchase including, grease lids, grease funnels, and FOG door hangers. The orders were due on November 1. The task force is also in the planning stages for Texas SmartScape. A potential guidebook may be developed to promote using native plants. Also, planning for the Own Your Curb campaign as well as the Green Business campaign will continue. Planning for the FY13 project has begun and will be ranked at the next meeting.

Pollution Prevention (P2) – Tracy continued with P2 Task Force activities. The draft of the construction video was reviewed by P2 members. Based off of their comments, edits were made and the final version was shown at the most recent meeting. The DVD will be copied and distributed to each stormwater participant. For the FY12 Peer-2-Peer Project, final details were made at the last meeting, and the series of workshops will begin in January. Also, P2 members will begin discussing project ideas for FY13.

Illicit Discharge Detection & Elimination (IDDE) – Erin Blackman, IDDE coordinator, updated the Council on the IDDE Training, activities for FY12, and planning for the FY13 Work Program. The IDDE Training, an FY11 project, was held October 25, 2011 in Denton and was taught by David Hunter, City of Denton. Based on the class evaluations, the training was a success and David did an excellent job leading it. The training consisted of presentation discussions and several hands-on activities to help municipal staff with searching for illicit discharge problems in the field and isolating and fixing these discharges. The IDDE Task Force met November 2, 2011 to discuss the activities for FY12, including the PowerPoint module for training municipal staff on detecting illicit discharges and the Municipal Industrial Inspectors Workshop. NCTCOG staff indicated that a draft module has been developed and was reviewed by the task force. Changes will be made over the next couple months based on their input and feedback. NCTCOG staff also sought feedback from the task force on agenda items for the Municipal Industrial Inspectors Workshop as well as possible locations and will be working on workshop arrangements over the next couple months. Finally, the task force is in the process of ranking IDDE-related projects that were proposed for the FY13 Work Program. The top-ranked projects will then be submitted to the Work Program Committee for their review and approval.

Stormwater Monitoring Program – Erin gave a brief update on the activities that have been conducted by Atkins, NCTCOG's contractor for providing regional monitoring program assistance. Atkins, in cooperation with NCTCOG, developed a monitoring article that is featured in the September 2011 issue of *Texas WET*. Atkins is working with monitoring participants to select sampling sites and exchange equipment by the end of November. Draft stormwater monitoring and biological monitoring plans are expected to be complete by Atkins by early and middle December. Equipment deployment is scheduled for the middle of December and stormwater sampling will begin January 1 while biological monitoring will begin in the spring.

Public Works Coordination – Jeff Rice provided an update of the recent activities regarding iSWM, notably:

- Conducted two iSWM Post-Construction Water Quality Technical Training Classes
- Conducted one iSWM Program Implementation Training Class
- Revised iSWM License Agreements to reflect change in Licensing Policy by PWC

Jeff then provided an overview of the new iSWM Licensing Policy, which includes new flexibility and options for the method of adoption and elements that must be included in the local program. The new policy also revised the financial requirement from a two-year participation equivalent to participation in the current fiscal year's Regional Public Works Program at the time of adoption.

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

- Burleson – Recently held a city-wide trash bash and household hazardous waste collection event
- Cedar Hill – Coordinating grease recycling activities
- Dallas – Looking for feedback on drought planning as it relates to construction and stabilization measures
- Denton – Conducted a stream clean-up, FOG activities, drug take-back event, and audits for industrial facilities
- Fort Worth – U.S. EPA Region 6 MS4 Operators Conference is scheduled for June 23 to 29, 2012 in Fort Worth
- Garland – Preparing for the kick off of the monitoring program and dealing with issues regarding reformatting of the SWMP
- Grand Prairie – Will be conducting some bioassessments; was curious if municipalities are seeing any problems in dry weather screenings
- Grapevine – Looking closely at the Phase II MS4 General Permit draft language for insight on what to expect in the second permit term; mentioned an ArcGIS application for a smartphone to help locate outfalls, etc. while in the field
- Tarrant County – Submitted their Phase II MS4 Annual Report and requested information from other jurisdictions regarding the component of the P2 MCM to develop “procedures for the proper disposal of waste,” which they are working on as a year 5 activity
- Mesquite – Will soon provide water quality samplers to Atkins for installation