

Stormwater Consortium of Rockland County

Meeting Minutes

December 20, 2011 – 10:00 am

Final Draft

Present: Alan Englander, Village of Upper Nyack; Keith Armstrong, RC Drainage; Pat Brady, Town of Haverstraw; Manny Carmona, Villages of Spring Valley and New Square; P.J. Corless, Villages of West Haverstraw and Pomona; Jim Dean, Town of Orangetown; Mike Sadowski, Town of Ramapo; Haris Aljovic, Villages of Montebello and Chestnut Ridge; K. Luke Kalarickal, Town of Clarkstown; Eve Mancuso, Villages of Piermont, Haverstraw, Nyack, Wesley Hills, Airmont, New Hempstead, Kaser and South Nyack; Kevin Maher, Town of Stony Point; Charles Sawicki, Village of Suffern; Ann Marie Palefsky Chuck Stead and Paul Trader, CCE

Call to order: 10:10 AM

Review and Approval of Minutes –Charles Sadowski should be changed to Charles Sawicki in the November 15, 2011 minutes under Reports of Committees, Financial Committee. Luke Kalarickal moved to approve the amended November minutes, seconded by Manny Carmona, carried.

Report of Officers:

Chairman: Mike Sadowski advised that he had written a letter of support to reinstate the county funding for Cornell Cooperative Extension which was originally cut by 69% and eventually cut by 25%. Ann Marie thanked him on behalf of the organization as support such as this is responsible for some of the reversal in county funding cuts. Mike mentioned he had read an article, which was distributed, stating rechargeable batteries must also be recycled and not put in general trash pickups. Mary Hegarty had given him information that a New York State law restricting the use of phosphorous lawn fertilizers will go in effect January 1, 2012. On December 12 a visit was made to United Water to view facilities and gather information on their reverse osmosis plant. Mike mentioned that he had signed up for a webinar on an EPA Urban Waters Small Grant which will be held on January 5 from 2 – 4 pm. Eve Mancuso, Charles Sawicki and Ann Marie Palefsky will join Mike in viewing the webinar and determining if a request can be made from the Stormwater Consortium for funding.

First Vice Chairman: Charles Sawicki mentioned that he had received an email with the six classes that were being offered in Orange County in the Stormwater Management Series. Kevin Maher said he was attending all sessions.

Second Vice Chairman: No report.

Reimbursement of MS4s for their fees to belong to Stormwater Consortium

Paul Trader advised Consortium members that he had conferred with Donalee Berard, of Berard and Donahue, auditors for Cornell Cooperative Extension (CCE), regarding the reimbursement of Stony Point for fee which was waived because of agreement between Stony Point and CCE. Donalee felt that the

members should not be reimbursed without written acknowledgement that the DEC approved of this procedure and did not want CCE to be part of the process in either receiving or issuing checks from Stony Point. Kevin Maher said he would talk to the town about the possibility of having them issue a check to CCE for the \$6,800 fee which CCE could return to the town per their agreement for occupying the building. If this was done it would allow a paper trail for the issuance of a refund check to the town of Stony Point

Reports of Committees:

Website Committee – Mike noted that there had been additions to the website such as the 2011 contacts and the MS 4 report card. He asked that in Members Only section there be a one or two sentence description of the power points which are listed. Complete copies of the power points will be available on discs if requested. Mike requested the 11/29/11 seminar and the consortium map be placed on the website when available. Chuck distributed a crossword puzzle on stormwater that he is going to use in his classes to help determine the participants' level of knowledge and he would also like to put it on the website.

Illicit Discharge Committee – Alan reported that he had received approximately 50% return from the surveys which were given to each town and village. Mike said he would like to see a 100% return on the surveys and he thanked Alan for the time he had devoted to this project. Surveys were still missing from the towns of Orangetown and Haverstraw and the villages of Pomona, Suffern and West Haverstraw.

Technical Committee – 3 year Self-Assessment Audits – 303d – Kevin has worked on a uniform document for all members to use. Corrections were made to include MS-4 in Self-Assessment Audit title and spell out PPP as Pollution Prevention Plan in item number 3. Eve suggested that there be a one page cover explaining what the document's purpose is for the user's information. There was discussion about having a separate document that highlights response to emergencies. Mike asked anyone who had further corrections to submit them to Kevin within a week. The next step would be to get out and do the self-assessments before March 10. The county will get back to the consortium by the spring with a map to determine the areas included in the 303d assessment. Things such as aquatic toxicity need to be more clearly defined so that proper remediation can be done. Pat Brady suggested that a letter be sent to DEC asking them to come to meeting and explain 303d listing and expectations from this list. Mike offered to write the letter.

Finance Committee – No change since last meeting as there is still approximately \$75,000 in unencumbered funds. Mike will send a letter to the towns and villages explaining the refund procedure.

Old Business

Report on the 11/29/11 Education Seminar – Manny felt this seminar was very informative. The power point will be added to the archive of power points which are available to the Consortium members.

Discussion on RCSWMA as affiliate member – It was decided to draft a contract (such as Rockland County has) which would allow RCSWMA to become an affiliate non-voting member of the Consortium.

Recent PSA changes – Chuck distributed four possible PSAs that could be used in local media and placed on website. With the last PSA on Fertilizer Regulation Act it was suggested a line be added stating that January 1, 2012 there is also a state law regulating the use of phosphorous law fertilizers. Chuck said if a future PSA was created on leaf removal (next fall) he would consult with local towns and villages to determine individual policies.

Election of Vice Chairs –

First Vice Chair – Charles Sawicki

Second Vice Chair – Jim Dean

A unanimous vote was taken to reelect current first and second vice chairs.

New Business –

The following meetings were set for the new year:

January 17th at 10 AM

February 14th at 10 AM

March 13th at 10 AM

Meeting adjourned at 11:40 am with motion from Kevin, seconded by Alan.

Respectfully submitted,

Ann Marie Palefsky