STORMWATER MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MINUTES

Stormwater Management Committee Meeting
Friday, March 14, 2008
7:30 A.M., Main Conference Room, Leawood City Hall, Leawood, KS

Committee Members

☑ Jim Rawlings, Chair
  Councilmember, Ward 2
☐ Carol Bussing
☐ Pat Dunn
☐ John Kahl
☐ James Azeltine
  Councilmember, Ward 4
☐ Gary Bussing
  Councilmember, Ward 3
☐ Debra Filla
  Councilmember, Ward 1
☐ Carole Lechevin
☑ Randy Becker
☐ William “Bill” Chiles
☐ Mel Henderson
☑ Alec Weinberg

☒ = Committee Member present  ☐ = Committee Member absent

Leawood Staff in Attendance:  Joe Johnson, David Ley, Julie Stasi

Chair Rawlings welcomed everyone to the March meeting.

TOPIC:  PAST MEETING MINUTES-February 8, 2008.
Carole Lechevin wanted to clarify a statement she had made on page 3. Staff advised we can re-word it as she would prefer it read. Committee members felt it read okay as is. Carole Bussing made the motion to approve the minutes of January 11, 2008, Alec Weinberg seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion to approve minutes passed unanimously.

Chair Rawlings advised that today’s meeting will be conducted by Committee member Pat Dunn. Pat will lead the discussion/work session. Pat is a former City Councilman who while on the Council, was very active on the Stormwater Management Committee and a liaison for the Johnson County SMAC Program. Pat has devoted a lot of his personal time and energy to study stormwater issues. Chair Rawlings advised that he liked the maps of the stormwater basins that were included in today’s packet. (Copies attached to these minutes).

Pat Dunn began his introduction and said that we have had several discussions at meetings where ideas have come up and we’ve talked about things we should do, or could do or might do but we have not ever put together a list of issues or goals that this group would like to address and prioritize. Pat advised he does not practice law anymore and that he now is a Federal mediator with the Federal Mediation & Conciliation Service. Pat mediates disputes between labor and management basically and as part of that work, he does a lot of training with groups to help facilitate their discussions with each other. Of course those issues are a lot more difficult and different with our issues but today, he is going to facilitate the meeting for stormwater.

Pat Dunn advised the idea behind collaborative problem solving is to breakdown the process of problem solving in a step. So we do not get ahead of ourselves. This is part of what we get into when we just have a discussion about it. We get to the end before we talk about the details up to that point. What we really try to do in collaborative
problem solving is define what are our issues without worrying about how we’re going to solve them at that time. What are the issues? What is it we’re trying to deal with? What are the problems we’re trying to address? Then we will talk about the “why”. We’ll spend some time talking about why those are important to us to address before we even start talking about “how”. It is real important as part of the collaborative problem solving process that this group honors the process and not worry too much about how we’re going to do something until we’ve figured out what it is we want to do and why it’s important to us to do and prioritize those.

One of the criteria that this group is going to have to utilize in determining whether they have the ability to meet those goals or not, is funds. It’s always going to be one of the criteria we utilize. Pat suggests rather than starting with the funds, let’s start with ideally if we could do what we wanted to do, what would we be trying to address? And why is that important to us to try to address it? We can talk about the options and see whether we have the possibility of doing it or not.

Issues were defined by the group.

1. Residential water run-off in remodel construction projects.
2. Effective communication with the public.
3. Public responsibility VS private responsibility for stormwater for privately owned channels.
4. Inventory of stormwater problem areas.
5. How do we align with future budget and long range planning?
7. Explore funding mechanisms (utility tax) incentives.
8. Role of the Stormwater Management Committee.
9. Roles the County, State and Federal Government have in stormwater management.
10. Clean water quality.

Issues were then prioritized by the group.

A. 1-Residential water run-off in remodel construction projects.
4-Inventory of stormwater problem areas.
6-Stream bank erosion and stream buffers.

B. 8-Role of the Stormwater Management Committee.
9-Roles of the County, State and Federal Government have in stormwater management.

C. 3-Public responsibility VS private responsibility for stormwater for privately owned channels.

D. 10-Clean water quality.

E. 7-Explore funding mechanisms (utility tax) incentives.

F. 5-How do we align with future budget and long range planning?

G. 2-Effective communication with the public.
The next meeting is scheduled for April 11, 2008 at 7:30 A.M. The item for discussion at the next meeting will be the first priority established in today’s meeting “A”.

A = 1-Residential water run-off in remodel construction projects.
   4-Inventory of stormwater problem areas.
   6-Stream bank erosion and stream buffers.

The meeting adjourned at 9:00 A.M.

Minutes submitted by:

Julie Stasi
Administrative Services Manager
Leawood Public Works Department