

MEETING MINUTES
MID CHARLOTTE STORMWATER UTILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE
October 8, 2014 – Regular Meeting
2:00 p.m. - Public Works Conference Room

Attendees: Michael Brown, George Kearns, Bob Logan, Ben Petrone, Dianne Quilty and Steve Vieira

County: Roy Benjamin, Karen Bliss, John Elias, Mike Dallenbach, Dawn Harrison, Joanne Vernon and Sandy Wright

The meeting was called to order at 2:00 P.M. A roll call was taken. A quorum was present.

The minutes from the August 6, 2014 meeting were unanimously approved as amended.

Citizen Input on Agenda Item Only (3 Minute Limit)

- Mr. Wood asked to reserve his comments until after the Desoto Ditch is discussed and that he is confused about the maintenance on the Phase 1 area. He stated nobody has been mowing the sod down into the ditch and he thought it was the County's responsibility. It doesn't look like it has been mowed since it was installed. Ms. Vernon stated it was never the County's intent to maintain the ditch; it is the homeowner's responsibility to mow the banks just as it is the swales in the right-of-ways. The banks were never to be mowed by the County; however the bottom of the bank would be taken care of with the minzi muck. Mr. Elias stated it will be scheduled.

Old Business:

- Desoto Ditch – Mr. Benjamin stated the project recently went out to bid and Marine Contracting Group was the lowest qualified bidder. The project will go before the BCC for approval on October 28. The contractor will have 30 days to start the project and 180 days to complete it; however the time will be interrupted by the scrub jay nesting season from March 1 thru June 30. The project is estimated to be complete during the fall of 2015. There was discussion regarding the project.
- Sunshine Lake Project – Ms. Vernon stated the contractor is in the last acre of the algae and nearly finished. They are anticipating they will be done by the contract date in Mid-January. The reports from Atkins came back; they found high phosphorus in the water that is coming into the lake and the system which is what they feel is causing the algae growth. They will come up with a plan to prevent the algae from growing again. Human fecal counts were tested with none found in one location and one out of a million in another location. Atkins provided a scope of work which would require a change order for an additional \$24,000 to try to determine where the fecal is coming from. Ms. Vernon asked the members to approve the change order to allow for additional testing; if the testing isn't done, there will likely be a lot of unanswered questions. A change order of this amount doesn't require BCC approval; however change order will be presented to the BCC anyway. SWFWMD, DEP, County staff, and Atkins are all concerned about the fecal being present. The final reports will include a management plan to prevent the algae from growing back. There was discussion regarding moving forward with the recommendation. Ms. Quilty made a motion to move forward with recommending the \$24,000 change order to the BCC for approval for additional testing; the motion was seconded by Mr. Petron and passed unanimously. There was discussion regarding the installation of the weir and raising the lake water level approximately 18 inches.

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New Business:

- Financial Reports – Ms. Harrison supplied a copy of the FY2014/2015 budget that was previously approved by the members and was approved by the BCC on 9/26/14. Ms. Harrison will research and send the amount in the budget for proposed work and how the amount was calculated.

Open Discussion:

- Ms. Quilty stated there is a wide green coloring of the water in other lakes that are within this MSBU. She is concerned about something growing in the other bodies of water and feels testing may be necessary to ensure another algae bloom doesn't form. Ms. Vernon suggested that this would need to be put into the new budget if the committee wants future water quality testing to be performed. There was discussion regarding other lakes.
- Mr. Kearns asked about the request from the last meeting for financial information regarding projects that are open. The information was emailed to the members. Ms. Harrison will resend it.
- Mr. Logan talked about the water quality issue in other lakes. He thinks it would be prudent to have the other bodies of water tested so this situation doesn't happen again. Ms. Vernon suggested minimal testing to be proactive.
- Mr. Brown suggested waiting for the final Atkins report before moving forward with testing in other lakes.

Citizen Input on MSBU Related Items (5 Minute Limit)

- None

Next meeting scheduled for Wednesday, January 28, 2015 at 2pm.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:46 pm.

Submitted by:

Sandy Wright
Public Works Department

