

SWAC Meeting Notes – May 7, 2019

Committee Members Present:

Councilor Laura Reid
Councilor Marlene Parsons
Councilor Dan Kohler
Mark Caillier
Anita Panko
Matt Knudsen

Staff:

Elizabeth Sagmiller
Keare Blaylock
Chance Plunk

Call to Order: Mark called the meeting to order at 4:02 p.m.

Elizabeth introduced Chance Plunk, the new Environmental Compliance Coordinator, to the Committee. Yvonne Michaud, was introduced in absentia as the new Environmental Outreach Coordinator. Elizabeth said that the committee would be hearing more from both of these new employees regarding their particular programs at a later date.

Elizabeth then updated the committee on the TV inspection and cleaning contract with Int-R-Tech. The contract is being reviewed by Keizer's legal counsel, but is expected to be renewed prior to the new fiscal year, for an additional 2-year period. The contractor will be providing additional data (pipe condition indices) beginning in 2019-20. This information will help the department prioritize maintenance and plan capital improvement projects more efficiently. Elizabeth reported that the cost of disposing of spoils (material removed from the catch-basins and pipes) has increased significantly; while this was not surprising, staff are searching for alternative sites and potential options for the future.

The next item of discussion was the annual Water Festival. Keizer hosted approximately 90 (5th grade) students from Hallman Elementary school. Staff from multiple Public Works Divisions provided presentations including a groundwater model (water), Claudia the Chinook (parks), soil science (environmental), and the vector truck demo (stormwater); other activities included fish dissection, macros, turtles, and carbon journey game which were offered by our event partners (Marion SWCD, ODFW, Corvallis, Albany, and Salem).

No updates were provided on the Erosion Control Program.

Instead, conversation lead to a brief discussion on Public Education and Involvement. Elizabeth said that Yvonne would provide the group with an update of activities when the Public Education Plan was completed.

Anita shared that the City of Salem was participating in meetings with DEQ, ACWA (Association of Clean Water Agencies), and other Phase I permitted communities to discuss the development of a Phase I General Permit. She said that the meetings seemed positive and that DEQ was aiming for a 2020 issue date.

Matt reported that Marion County was scheduled to meet with DEQ's new Phase II agent, Ryan Johnson (who is also Keizer's agent). Matt said that he was planning to provide an overview of their program and seek clarification on some of the language in the General Permit.

Keizer is scheduled to meet with Ryan (DEQ) this Thursday (May 9th).

Elizabeth then announced that the department was investing in a new position dedicated to maintaining and updating the geographic information system, GIS. She said that a demonstration of how staff utilizes GIS would be shown after the committee reviewed the illicit discharge detection and elimination program.

Referring to the handout (DRAFT Stormwater Management Program Document Minimum Control Measure #3 Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination), Elizabeth gave a short overview of the five planned best management practices (BMPs) to meet the requirements. With regard to the ordinance, she explained that the language would need some modifications but that the primary issue is that the enforcement section is not sufficient to meet new standards. The current ordinance requires staff to notify a person committing a violation by mail, which can take several days to several weeks to resolve. The new permit requires a much more rapid response time. Staff will be working with this committee, the Director, and the legal department to modify the ordinance.

The Dry-Weather Screening Program is another area in which Environmental staff will be reviewing. Elizabeth explained that all outfalls are currently inspected annually, however the program will be improved: establishing sampling criteria, performing a "priority outfall" analysis, developing a reconnaissance plan, and building a pollutant source tracing model for GIS for desktop analysis of illicit discharges.

Elizabeth then turned the committee's attention to the City's GIS Online map (displayed on the television) to demonstrate how staff uses GIS to locate and eliminate illicit discharges (pollution).

The map displayed an aerial image of Keizer along with feature layers showing the stormwater infrastructure. The map was navigated to the area of River Road and McNary Drive. Elizabeth said that runoff from the gas station entered floor drains that connected to a sanitary sewer line – not storm drains. Runoff from the surrounding roadways and properties entered the storm system through catch basins shown on the map. She explained that runoff entering the storm system was carried only a short distance from this area to Claggett Creek. If an illicit discharge occurred in this vicinity, staff could use this accurate map of the stormwater infrastructure to

quickly locate all downstream structures. The downstream structures could be checked for pollution and mitigation measures could be deployed to prevent the pollutants from entering Claggett Creek.

The map was then navigated to Tiny Court to show the difference between the MS4 (municipal separate storm sewer system) infrastructure and how those differences are represented on the map. With the catch basin identified as a UIC, staff can quickly respond as needed to prevent pollution from spreading.

A final example was shown at Ben Miller Park, where an illicit discharge could reach the stream rather quickly. The outfall shown on the map may be deemed a priority due to its geographic location.

Dan Kohler asked how accurate the information shown on the map was? Elizabeth responded that it was very accurate because staff had collected the data first-hand using a high-accuracy Global Navigation Satellite System device.

Meeting Adjourned: Mark Caillier adjourned the meeting at 4:57 pm.