

**CLARK COUNTY
CLEAN WATER COMMISSION**

Meeting Notes

Wednesday, June 6, 2012

6:30 – 8:30 P.M.

Public Service Center, 6th Floor Training Room
1300 Franklin Street, Vancouver

Clark County Clean Water Commission Members Present

Troy Maxcy, Don Moe, David Morgan, Nancy Olmsted, Susan Rasmussen, Art Stubbs, Virginia van Breemen

Clark County Clean Water Commission Members Absent

Jim Carlson, Brian Peck

Clark County Staff

Jane Tesner Kleiner, Bobbi Trusty, Ron Wierenga

Public

None

Quorum

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

Agenda and material review

1. Agenda
2. May 2, 2012, Meeting Notes

Approval

The May 2, 2012, notes were approved as submitted.

Clean Water Commissioners: Communications with the Public

Mr. Morgan was asked by a citizen if the culvert at the end of Lancaster Road was public or private and was not certain of the answer. Mr. Wierenga said he will find out and follow-up with Mr. Morgan.

Ms. Tesner Kleiner introduced herself as the new Project Coordinator for the Environmental Services Department. She has previously worked at Vancouver/Clark Parks in the Planning and Acquisition division and also has about 17 years experience consulting to governments for watershed management projects in Michigan.

Public Comments

None

Action Items

Operation and Maintenance: Annual Cost Estimating and Modeling

Mr. Wierenga reviewed pictures of stormwater facilities and described some types of maintenance: street sweeping, mowing, replacing cartridges and cleaning catch basins with a vacuum truck.

Mr. Wierenga summarized the draft memo and described how the inventory of stormwater infrastructure was used to help calculate the estimated maintenance budget. Mr. Wierenga noted the increase in spending for maintenance activities over the last five years is because more inspections are being completed, more defects are found, permit requirements are getting more stringent and timelines for correcting defects have become shorter.

The Clean Water Commission (CWC) asked more questions about the model and the maintenance schedule. There was discussion about the frequency of repairs or cartridge replacements, older facilities and upgrades as they need repair, the role annexations play, private or public facilities, and how to get citizens more involved. Mr. Wierenga acknowledged there has not been a successful link between people's behavior and the cost to maintain stormwater facilities as the infrastructure is interconnected and people do not understand the cumulative scale of the impacts.

The county has started the budgeting process for the next biennium. This tool is being used to help the Clean Water Program calculate how much money is needed to deliver the current level of services and meet the NPDES permit requirements. Mr. Maxcy asked how the CWC should engage in the budgeting process. Ms. Olmsted said that the CWC needs to be prepared during the budget cycle by understanding the information that staff is providing, know what each of the different elements are, be able to defend or prepare a recommendation on how things should change. Mr. Wierenga agreed that starting in July staff will be bringing in more budget information monthly to share with the CWC, and the CWC should feel comfortable enough to voice their opinion about where the money should be spent.

Mr. Maxcy suggested a possible recommendation would be that the Board of County Commissioners raise the rates and give reasons why they should. He said that since the 70's, Clark Public Utilities have been asking us to turn off lights and people have reduced their use, but the rates still went up and the clean water fees have not been raised in over 13 years. Mr. Morgan agreed and will start to draft a letter from the CWC regarding their budget concerns.

Clean Water Program Update

Mr. Wierenga let the group know that capital construction will start in July on the NE quadrant of Padden Parkway and Andresen Road near Home Depot to capture the runoff that is not being adequately treated.

Mr. Wierenga announced that the oral arguments for the State Court of Appeals regarding the county's stormwater management program will be in Tacoma on July 2, 2012. An update will be provided at the July 11, 2012 meeting, but we do not anticipate a decision until later in the year.

The next meeting will be held on July 11, 2012.

Public Comments

None.

Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Bobbi Trusty

Action Items

- Draft memo to the BOCC regarding Clean Water Budget concerns: Mr. Morgan