

Memorandum

DATE: December 23, 2008 – Revised December 31, 2008
TO: Palm Beach County NPDES Permittees
FROM: Alan Wertepny
REF. NO. A8045.01
SUBJECT: Minutes of NPDES Steering Committee Meeting held on December 10, 2008

I. Attendees/Introductions

Approximately 20 of the 41 permittees were represented at the December 10, 2008 NPDES Steering Committee meeting. Steering Committee members present included: Laurent Van Cott (Chair), Jay Foy (Vice-Chair), Karen Brandon (Member), Bonnie Finneran (Member), and Randal Krejcarek (Member). A copy of the sign-in sheet is available upon request.

II. Administrative Activities

- a. **Approval of October 15, 2008 Meeting Minutes** – A motion was made by Jay Foy to approve the minutes, seconded by Randal Krejcarek, and approved by the Steering Committee.
- b. **Status of Third Term Permit** – The State has not released the draft of our third term permit. FDEP is still working on the new language for Section 5 “Monitoring.” Orange and Pinellas Counties have received FDEP’s proposed new monitoring requirements. Both entities have requested FDEP to reconsider the programs as outlined. Copies of concerns expressed by both entities were distributed to all participants. FDEP’s shift in requirements is a result of the monitoring programs being under new leadership. FDEP’s desire is to standardize the monitoring among all 27 Phase I NPDES MS4s in Florida and to establish consistency with the national trend toward monitoring direct discharges. The proposed requirements focus on monitoring of major outfalls from residential, commercial, or industrial land uses. Ambient water quality monitoring currently conducted by 88% of the Phase I MS4s would be optional under the proposed requirements. Concerns expressed by other MS4 co-permittees relate to difficulty in establishing trends with the limited amount of proposed new sampling, increased costs due to high staff utilization per sample, and a disregard of the need for ambient water quality data relative to the TMDL Program. Orange County’s estimated cost was an additional \$239,000. Our initial estimate to provide compliance with these new requirements would be a 25% increase in the annual fees paid by all of our co-permittees. After some discussion among the Steering Committee and the co-permittees, it was decided that a letter would be sent by the Chairman of the Steering

Committee to the State expressing our concerns regarding the proposed requirements and the potential loss of an ambient water quality monitoring program which has been used successfully to identify trends and assess the effectiveness of our MS4 stormwater programs. A letter will be coordinated with the Steering Committee and transmitted to the State as quickly as possible.

III. **Public Education Sub-Committee Presentation** – Anne Capelli outlined a proposed program developed by the Sub-Committee. The Sub-Committee proposed a mascot, a logo, a website format, three (3) TV clips, sponsoring a booth at local events, providing give-aways, and an annual budget. The following comments and suggestions were made:

- (1) agreement on the “off blue” color for the mascot.
- (2) a suggestion that the mascot include something that better identified him when/if he were to appear without the logo.
- (3) A suggestion that the use of an acronym was very powerful...an acronym of the recommended slogan (keep all pollution out of our water) might be KaPOW.”
- (4) A suggestion that the acronym might be used as the mascot name.
- (5) Of the names proposed, “Stormy” got the most support; but the acronym idea seemed to get more support.
- (6) A suggestion that we coordinate with the developing PBC ERM Lake Worth Lagoon initiative to bring greater awareness to the Lagoon ecosystem.
- (7) A consensus that “pollution” be taken out of the program name.
- (8) A consensus that tote bags and chip clips should be the two (2) items for give-aways, choose chip clips with a magnet.
- (9) A suggestion to do a “spin the wheel and answer a question correctly” activity at festival booths/tables to ration give away of tote bags.
- (10) A suggestion to give out stickers with the logo to people at the festivals, possibly as a “consolation prize” if they don’t win the tote bag.

III. 6th Year Co-Permittee Reports – The final version of all final co-permittee reports are due January 15, 2009. Currently we have received 4 of the 41 reports.

IV. Next Steering Committee Meeting

The next steering committee meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, January 21, 2009, 9:00 a.m., at the Northern Palm Beach County Improvement District. The purpose of the meeting will be to receive the 6th Year Co-Permittee reports, updates on the Public Education Sub-Committee and, if available, discussion of the draft of the 3rd Term Permit with the proposed monitoring requirements.

I believe these minutes accurately reflect the discussions and decisions of this meeting; however, additions and/or corrections will be accepted in writing within seven (7) days of the date of these minutes.

If you have any questions, please call me at 683-3113, extension 231.

ADW:jeh

Copies: All Permittees
Christine Garrow