



Storm Water Advisory Team – SWAT

March 17, 2015 Meeting Minutes

221 Palafox Place, 4th Floor Training Room

In Attendance:

Committee: Mary Gutierrez, Nathan White, Glenn Niblock , Dr. Elizabeth Benchley, Phil Turner, & Garrett Walton **Absent:** John Cheney

Staff: Colby Brown, Chips Kirschenfeld

Citizens: Barbara Albrecht, Daniel Broxson, Allen Vinson

- Welcome – Mary Gutierrez
 - Mary Gutierrez, Chair, called the meeting to order at 4:36 p.m.
- Meeting Properly Advertised – Ms. Gutierrez verified with staff that the meeting had been advertised and staff presented Proof of Publication dated 3/7/15 and 3/14/15 in the Pensacola News Journal.
- **Approval of 02-17-15 Minutes** - Ms. Gutierrez called for approval of the February 3, 2015 minutes, Dr. Benchley made a motion to approve, the motion was seconded by Mr. Niblock and carried unanimously. (Mr. White abstained due to his absence from the meeting.)
- Mary Gutierrez introduced and welcomed, Nathan White as the new District 1 appointee.
- Baskerville Donovan, Inc. White Paper Drafting & Scope Review (Daniel Broxson)
 - Daniel Broxson reviewed the Task & Scope of Work by Baskerville-Donovan, Inc. (BDI). Colby Brown discussed white paper prioritizations; and informed the Team that the April 2014 Project List is posted on the SWAT page of the County web site.
- Executive Order for Federal Flood Risk Management
 - Mary Gutierrez read information provided by Keith Wilkins regarding the President's Executive Order for Federal Flood Risk Management. Keith Wilkins' message stated that Escambia County already has a 2'-3'

freeboard established. A discussion regarding the City's freeboard specifications took place; and it was requested that this issue be added to next month's agenda. Mr. Walton requested verification that the City of Pensacola designs for a 100-Year Storm and suggested that this information be used as additional support to move forward with the 100-Year design standards.

- The Design Storm Issues in the Land Development Code (LDC) will be presented to the BCC at their first meeting in April. Staff's goal is to create Design Standards that are less cumbersome; more standard and more technical. Colby Brown explained that The Planning Board did not accept Staff's recommendation of 100-Year Design Standards; but suggested a 50-Year Design. Staff will re-present the 100-Year Storm Criteria to the BCC. As it is currently written with a 25-Year Open; and 100-Year Closed Basin. The Public Hearing is scheduled for April 2, 2015.
- Mr. Walton also asked for the number of Closed Basins in Escambia County and what the design standard requirements would be for Private Ponds. Phil Turner made a motion to move forward with presenting the Executive Summary to the BCC; the motion was seconded by Mr. White, and passed unanimously.
- Ms. Gutierrez directed staff to submit a letter of support of the 100-Year Design Standards to be presented to the Board on March 19th and nominated Phil Turner to present with Glenn Niblock assisting with the presentation to the Board.
- Colby Brown informed the SWAT that the Pensacola Basin simulator had been posted to the SWAT page of the County web site and requested that all review. Mary Gutierrez discussed her opposition to the City's approach and Dr. Benchley addressed the Longhollow area demonstrating that the historic areas of the City were built in low lying wetland areas; and stated that she would like to see the wetlands used as natural stormwater capture zones and discourage bordering area development. Ms. Gutierrez added that she would like to see the County move forward in increasing the wetlands buffer rather than minimizing to 30'. Colby Brown stated that these uses are still under review by the LCD.
- Garret Walton stated that he would like to present Low Impact Development to the BCC and the City requesting that they take actions to 1: Incorporate Low Impact Development standards; and 2: Changes to the LDC should be prefiltered by technical standards and incentivized actions; charging the Staff; BCC and City Council to adopt Low Impact Development Standards. Mr. Walton will present more LID information at the April 21st SWAT meeting. Mary Gutierrez indicated that she may have a PowerPoint presentation regarding Low Impact Development and Ecological Impacts. Colby Brown suggested bringing forward recommendations for incentivizing; by offering a supportive group in the development community.

- Ms. Gutierrez informed the SWAT that she had attended a Climate Change workshop and provided a handout of links to informative websites containing current, historical and future scenarios.
- Public Comments
 - Colby Brown announced the Nature Conservancy /Sam Brody meeting scheduled for April 10th. Mr. Brown gave a brief explanation of the 41 drainage basins and 16 basin studies already performed.
 - Chips Kirschenfeld stated that the 16 studies address issues and make recommendations for problems in the south portion of the County.
 - Phil Turner expressed that we all must be using the same reference points.
 - Barbara Albrecht addressed the SWAT, discussing definition of riparian zones and what the County is doing regarding them, who has authority over them and how water quality is being addressed; the City's EWP work on Carpenter's Creek due to private property erosion; hardening urban streams; suggesting integration; LIDAR needing to be calibrated and the need for GIS funding to update the LIDAR data; she asked Daniel Broxson (BDI) about the Scope and if the County is working on a comprehensive watershed plan. Mr. Broxson stated this is a first step in that direction and they are looking at what has already been done and where and how we need to move forward.
- Old Business
 - District 1 SWAT position
 - Community meeting updates
 - Grant writing
 - Area of Discussion: Lake Charlene
 - Mr. Niblock Questions/Comments (Handout)
 - Public Comments
- Other items for consideration
 - Agenda for April 21, 2015
 - Freeboard: City & County
 - Flood Plain Managers
 - Garrett Walton – Low Impact Development Paper
 - Invite Derek Owens, City Engineer
 - Tying Studies Together
 - Current Standards
 - Address the City's plans from here forward
- General
 - Ms. Gutierrez thanked the SWAT and staff and stated that she hopes the public will stay involved.
- Adjourn
 - The meeting was adjourned at 6:13 p.m.