



Stormwater Enterprise
30 S. NEVADA AVE., SUITE 401
COLORADO SPRINGS, CO 80901

2A Stormwater Advisory Committee (SAC): Meeting Minutes

2-4 p.m., May 16, 2024

Location: 401 Large and Teams

Richard Mulledy called the meeting to order at 2:01 pm

Doug Conlon moved to approve previous minutes, unanimously approved. Introductions were provided for: Eric Stedman, new member, Fadil Lee, new member, and Kyler Bush, new member. Also in attendance: Sam Acosta, Councilor Dave Donelson, Tim Biolchini, Rich Mulledy, Bobby Ingels, Douglas Conlon, Maren McDowell.

A special recognition was presented for David Havlick, as his membership on the committee timed-out. Richard thanked him for his help and time over the last several years. "It's been a joy to have you," he said.

Because there were so many new members, time was spent introducing the Stormwater Advisory Committee and giving an introduction to what the committee members can help do. Rich said that Stormwater wants to rewrite the drainage criteria manual, and we are hoping for this group's help to audit/direct our rewrite to better fit our MS4 permit and to fit the requirements set forth in the consent decree. This document has a lot of guidance mixed with criteria mixed with discussion. It needs to be more specific when it comes to criteria. We'll be passing out draft chapters for review and comment.

The Quarterly Financial Update was provided, with an emphasis on the basics of how Stormwater Enterprise operates.

- The stormwater program has three budgetary elements- MS4 Operating, Maintenance, and SW Capital Projects.
- History provided on Stormwater lawsuit for new members and explanation of the consent decree and projects to mitigate. We must hit target metrics within the CD.
- 2024 Q1 Financial Overview provided. Largely on target in all categories.
- New slide: a new pie chart showing more detail about the amount of money that is contracted and the amount that remains in the budget, as well as the amount expended.

Of the remaining budget, a portion is planned projects, and a portion is consent decree funding.

- Also provided year-over-year comparison by quarter to show where we are for construction versus design. Discussion of when projects are funded/when permits are acquired/when construction typically occurs during the year.
- Will go back and add grant money for the sake of total dollars.
- We are busier now than we have been in eight years.

The enterprise has three sources of revenue: the stormwater fee, permitting from GEC permits fees (about \$400-500k/year), and fees from submittal document review.

Discussion of how to invest money while it is waiting to be spent.

YOY stormwater fees billed and collected- collected more than we have billed because we do pre-payments.

Discussed how CSU bills on our behalf and what we provide them to be able to do that. Currently 96% of our bills are sent through CSU. The remainder are through a third party.

David Havlick asked why was there so much rollover (\$16M) from the previous year?

Rich said that last year was slower, and the result of a lot of rain last summer which slowed construction. Then delays and permitting were also slow. A lot of our projects have finally gotten through the permitting slowdowns. Will probably be spending \$20m this year on projects.

Discussion was held about the jurisdiction of the Army Corps of Engineers. Colorado is reverting to a tougher standard with more waters under the Corps' jurisdiction.

Tim Biolchini then provided a stormwater projects update.

Richard Mully gave a short overview of the Pueblo IGA stating we would spend a certain amount of money on mutually beneficial projects to meet conditions of SDS.

We always provide Pueblo with status on projects, audits, etc. We are engaged in a 20-year agreement, entered in 2016. We will spend \$416M over 20 years with minimum block expenditures every five years. \$460 million will be spent on projects within the City. More history on previous stormwater funding mechanisms and last 20 years of work within the City of COS. Continual, ongoing conversations about the work with Pueblo, to include prioritization and need.

It was asked who approves the list of projects; this is negotiated between SWENT and Brightwater.

Typically, we are not changing projects, just moving them around in the schedule and based on grants, need, deterioration. We get as many monies as we can from other sources (like grants) so we can use the money in the IGA on other projects. One concern within the IGA is that the projects cost was only estimated at 2.5% inflation, which we have vastly outpaced. Without grants, we would be way behind. Granted, development has also outpaced what we ever imagined.

\$460M is a minimum and we must do all the projects even if we outspend. So that's why it's good when we are ahead of schedule (inflation etc.)

Discussion was then held regarding the Drainage Criteria Manual Update: Chapter Reviews.

We are rewriting the whole DCM: members received a draft copy. They'll go a chapter at a time. Will be released to development community within the next couple of weeks.

Doug asked what changed as far as the old DCM and permit.

The board unanimously elected Sam Acosta as new board chair. Sam called for dismissal 3:12 p.m.