

REQUEST FOR BOARD ACTION

HENDERSON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

MEETING DATE: September 19, 2007

SUBJECT: Stormwater Management Continued

ATTACHMENTS: Yes
1. Updated Stormwater Management Presentation

SUMMARY OF REQUEST:

The purpose of this agenda item is to present options for the Board's consideration regarding developing a County Stormwater Management Program. A presentation is attached updating the original stormwater presentation with information from the proposed County Erosion and Control program and the current State stormwater management program.

The options presented by staff and reflected in the suggested motions below are as follows:

1. No County Program. This option would leave management of stormwater to the State (Department of Environment and Natural Resources) which began July 1.
2. Further Decision. This option will schedule an Agenda Item for a future meeting for the Board to discuss the matter and if needed for staff to research and answer any questions or concerns.
3. Initiate County Program. This option directs staff to start the process for initiating a County "delegated" Stormwater Program similar to our efforts in Sediment and Erosion Control. The first step would be to apply for a NC Clean Water Management Trust Fund Grant. Upon completion of the grant, a proposed ordinance would be brought to the Board for consideration and approval.

BOARD ACTION REQUESTED:

The Board is requested to provide direction to staff regarding a County "delegated" Stormwater Program. A suggested motion has been provided for each of the three options discussed above.

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Suggested Motion:

Option #1 (No County Program): No motion required

Option #2 (Further Decision): I move that the Board schedule an Agenda Item for *(insert date of a future meeting)* to further investigate and discuss development of a County Stormwater Management Program. Any questions and concerns for staff to address should be provided in advance of this meeting.

Option #3 (Initiate County Program). I move that the Board direct staff to apply for a NC Clean Water Management Trust Fund grant to initiate a possible County Stormwater Management program.

Attachment 1

Stormwater Management (SWM) Update Presentation

Engineering and Facility Services



Stormwater Management (SWM)

Presentation Overview

- Review Information Presented to Date
- Options for Henderson County
- Clean Water Management Trust Fund
- SWM Program Budget
- Implementation
- Additional Considerations for County SWM

SWM Review

Why do we need to manage stormwater and polluted runoff?

- Polluted stormwater runoff is the number one cause of water pollution in North Carolina. In most cases in North Carolina today, stormwater either does not receive any treatment before it enters our waterways or is inadequately treated.
- Polluted water creates numerous costs to the public (Water Treatment)
- Polluted water hurts the wildlife in creeks, streams, rivers and lakes.
- Because more water runs off hard surfaces, developed areas can experience local flooding. The high volume of water also causes streams banks to erode and washes the wildlife that live there downstream.

from NCDENR's www.ncstormwater.org

SWM Review

NCGA Session Law 2006-246

- On July 1, 2007 the Water Quality Section of NCDENR began managing stormwater in Henderson County.
 - Will be managed out of Raleigh (one engineer for 19 counties)
 - “Self Imposed Unfunded Mandate” (similar to E&SC)
 - Permit Fee is \$505.00

SWM Options for Henderson

- “Do Nothing Option” with NCDENR managing the State SWM Program
- Develop a Delegated County Program
 - Similar to Erosion & Sediment Control
 - Partnership with Municipalities
 - Complementary to E&SC

NC Clean Water Management Trust Fund

Out of cycle Grants available for Stormwater Master Plans

- Model Stormwater in County
- Identify Projects to Help Control Existing Flooding Problems
- Develop SWM Ordinance
- Local Grant Match in FY08 Budget

SWM Program Budget

- Combine SWM with Erosion Control into Stormwater Division
- Stormwater Enterprise Fund
 - Revenues from permit fees offset expenses with retained earnings (self supporting)
 - Retained earnings possible to fund Stormwater Capital Improvements to resolve existing flooding problems
- State program is funded by permit fees

SWM Program Budget, cont.

- Estimated annual revenue
 - From State program, monthly permit rate is approximately 15 permits.
 - Annual permits estimated at 180 permits
 - State permit fee is \$505.00
 - Estimated annual revenue (180 permits x \$505.00) = \$90,900.00
 - Possibility for County permit fee to be less than current State fee.

SWM Program Budget, cont.

- Estimated annual expenses added to Erosion Control's current budget
 - One additional staff if municipalities participate (salary & related): \$60,000
 - Other operating expenses: \$5,000
 - Total Operating Expense: \$65,000 with approximately \$25,000 in retained earnings
 - Vehicle & Equipment (start up cost only): \$30,000

Implementation of SWP

- Fiscal Year 2008
 - Apply for CWMTF Grant
 - Model Stormwater
 - Develop Ordinance
 - Apply to State for Delegated Program
 - Estimate and Budget for Program Cost
- Fiscal Year 2009
 - Begin Program

Additional Considerations

- Not a new regulation (i.e. developer expense), currently a State program
- Develop program to fit specific needs of County (not part of Statewide program)
- Efficient Regulation = Better regulation for Applicants and Environment
 - One stop for Erosion Control & SWM
 - Quicker response: Local vs. Raleigh
 - Possibility for reduced permit fee
 - Efficiency develops cooperation not confrontation

Stormwater Management

- Natalie Berry, Erosion Control Division Chief for Henderson County
 - Very Experienced and Talented Stormwater Professional
 - Great asset to County's environment and development community
 - We're fortunate to have her!

Questions?

Thank you.