

**THURSTON COUNTY
STORM AND SURFACE WATER ADVISORY BOARD MEETING**

**September 21st, 2023
Meeting Summary**

<u>Representative</u>	<u>Representing</u>	<u>Present (P) Not Present (NP) Excused (E)</u>
Jake Wager (Chair)	At Large	P
Edward O'Brien	At Large	P
Britt Nederhood	District 3	P
Nancy Winters	At Large	E
David Hartley (Vice Chair)	District 1	P
Zahid Chaudhry	District 3	E
Phyllis Farrell	District 1	E
Daniel Vlad	District 2	P

Staff:

Larry Schaffner, Corey Bennett, Miriam Villacian, Ashley Arai, Nate Ensley, Tim Wilson

Introductions/Process/Correspondence (Jake Wager, Chair)

Introductions made. No correspondence.

Public Comment

No public comment.

Amendments to the Agenda

No amendments made.

Meeting Summary

Ed motions to approve meeting summary from the July 20th meeting.
Britt seconds.
Motion approved.

Debrief Outcome of BoCC Briefing (*Jake Wager, Chair*)

Jake felt the briefing presentation went well and commented on the composition of SSWAB based on the addition of the new commissioner districts.

Larry noted that he expects the Board of County Commissioners (BoCC) will provide direction on SSWAB after determining how to move forward with other advisory boards and commissions, the Planning Commission being their top priority.

There was clarification about whether or not a question posed by the BoCC regarding localized flooding and street sweeping was within SSWAB's purview to respond too or staff – the questions mentioned were more appropriate to direct to staff and not SSWAB.

Western WA Public Review Draft MS4 Permit (*Larry Schaffner*)

Larry provided a broad overview of the proposed changes contained in the Permit's formal public review draft.

Geographic scope will expand for Thurston County to include unincorporated portion of Yelm's urban growth boundary.

Proposal to provide annual average cost or estimates for implementation by various program areas. This will prove challenging for some programs. Tracking implementation costs inside vs. outside the regulated area poses additional accounting challenges.

Proposes additional source control measures for Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS) found in some firefighting foams as well as Polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) in building materials. Street sweeping of high priority areas is another proposed addition involving sweeping streets at least three times per year, with at least one sweep between July and December.

In regard to stormwater planning, additional obligations are proposed for stormwater management action planning (SMAP) and relating to developing tree canopy goals and policies to support stormwater management and water quality improvement. Staff did not feel this would present compliance challenges.

The Permit also requires mapping of areas draining stormwater to the County's outfalls and discharge points. Other than questions associated with tree canopy mapping, staff doesn't see any changes associated with the new mapping obligations.

Proposes a new program area for Phase 2 permittees: Stormwater Management for Existing Development (SMED). This is a rebranding of an existing Phase 1 requirement for stormwater retrofits and enhanced stormwater management activities. The level of effort for Thurston that would equate to addressing a total 5.1 acres across multiple projects.

Proposes annual documentation of public involvement and opportunities provided to overburdened communities, in addition to the methodology that is used to make those identifications.

The draft Permit includes a new obligation associated with water quality impairments in Bud Inlet for nutrients and dissolved oxygen.

If Ecology proceeds with updating their stormwater management manual, there would be several updates to the County's Drainage Design and Erosion Control Manual as well.

November 10th is the deadline for public comment.

Utility Fiscal Report (*Tim Wilson & Ashley Arai*)

Tim and Ashley presented a breakdown of the revenue and expenditures for the storm and surface water utility.

2023 Budgeted Revenue for the Utility is estimated at \$7.1 million: \$5.9 million to Stormwater Assessments, \$1.1 million of Stormwater Assessments from WSDOT and County rights-of-way, \$120,000 from Ecology grants, and \$30,000 in the interest from Stormwater Assessments.

Utility revenue collected is driven by the number of parcels and the amount of impervious surface.

For the 2023 Operating Budget, money for supporting SSWAB comes partially out of the Community Planning & Economic Development (CPED) Water Planning budget which is noted as \$2.6 million. While expenditures exceed what is budgeted, Tim notes that the remaining money of expenditures comes from remaining fund balances which are healthy.

For 2023, the Capital Budget totals \$4.15 million. Tim noted that there were some missing budget lines. Tim details the different costs associated for the different Capital Improvement Projects, including costs for administration and project planning.

Public Works portion of the operating budget includes: 21% for administrative, 22% fund transfer from operations to capital, 17% for maintenance, and 8% for other program expenditures (e.g., infrastructure mapping, drainage manual administration, training, planning, illicit discharges detection and elimination).

Community Planning and Economic Development's portion of the operating budget amounts to 32% to support education and outreach, stewardship programs, public involvement, stormwater management-related planning, policy review, program coordination, monitoring, and tracking emerging policy issues.

Extra Meeting(s) & Subcommittees Proposal (*Chairs*)

Jake notes that some of the topics identified at the June 9th Retreat will have to be prioritized. He requests that the SSWAB moves to monthly meetings and to establish subcommittees to work on the individual projects.

Concern emerged regarding workload impacts for staff to support additional SSWAB meetings because they would constitute public meetings. Staff would not necessarily have to be present for subcommittee meetings as long as they don't constitute a quorum of SSWAB members. Another concern raised was the time commitment being doubled for SSWAB members.

Britt moves to establish subcommittees to meet every other month.
Ed seconded.
Motion passes.

SSWAB Elections (*Larry Schaffner*)

Britt leads this portion of the agenda discussion at the request of Jake.

Britt is nominated for Chair David is nominated for Co-Chair. Both accepted the nominations. All in favor. No objections. Britt and David elected as Chair and Co-Chair respectively.

SSWAB General Discussion

Britt suggests establishing subcommittees will be a topic for the next meeting given the absence of several SSWAB members.

Some discussion on submitting comments to the public review draft MS4 permit on the distinction between commenting as a citizen and commenting as SSWAB. It is noted that if any SSWAB members comment independently, they do so as a private citizen whereas commenting as SSWAB requires a vote by a quorum of SSWAB members.

Jake discussed his experiencing going to Thurston County Fair and seeing an interesting interactive stormwater display. He also shared a personal experience about pet waste.

Nate Ensley announces his pending departure from Thurston County.

SSWAB discusses topics for the next meeting, which will include subcommittee assignments. The next meeting will also include a presentation on the County's Comprehensive Plan revision process.

In response to an inquiry, Nate provided a status on the Stormwater Comprehensive Study. Once the revised goals and policies are agreed upon, a set of level of services for the various objectives will be developed along with associated performance indicators. Once staff technical advisory

group develops a draft level of service, that would be a good time to bring those to SSWAB for discussion and feedback.

SSWAB thanked Jake for his service as Chair.

Adjourn

Britt motions to Adjourn.

Jake Seconds.

Motion passed.

Next meet will be November 16, 2023