



**STORMWATER COMMITTEE MEETING**  
**APRIL 18, 2016 ♦ 12:00 Noon**  
**Surfside Beach Town Council Chambers**

*(Note: The audio recording for this meeting failed. These minutes are based on the clerk's notes.)*

**1. CALL TO ORDER.**

Chairman Elliott called the meeting to order at 12:00 noon. Members present: Chairman Elliott, and Members Crouch, and Mabry. Vice-Chairman Mull and Member Beck were absent. A quorum was present. Others present: Dr. Susan Libes, Coastal Carolina University Director of the Waccamaw Watershed Academy; CWSEC Coordinator Lisa Swanger; Town Clerk Herrmann, and Public Works Director Adair.

**2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.**

Chairman Elliott led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**3. OFFICER ELECTION**

A. Chairman. Mr. Crouch moved to elect Ms. Elliot as chairman. Mr. Mabry second. All voted in favor. **MOTION CARRIED.**

B. Vice Chairman. Mr. Crouch moved to elect Mr. Mabry as vice chairman. Ms. Elliot second. All voted in favor. **MOTION CARRIED.**

**4. AGENDA APPROVAL.**

Mr. Crouch moved to approve the agenda as presented. Mr. Mabry second. All voted in favor. **MOTION CARRIED.**

**5. MINUTES APPROVAL.**

Mr. Mabry moved to approve the minutes of the November 9, 2015 meeting as submitted. Mr. Crouch second. All voted in favor. **MOTION CARRIED.**

**6. PUBLIC COMMENTS – Agenda Items.**

There were no public comments.

**7. WATER MONITORING REPORT, Dr. Susan Libes.**

Dr. Libes presented the water monitoring report, a copy of which is on file. Volunteers to do the water quality testing are needed, if anyone knows of someone who would like to help.

**8. EDUCATION, CWSEC Coordinator Lisa Swanger.**

Ms. Swanger presented CWSEC Stormwater Public Education & Involvement, a copy of which is on file, and distributed information and said throughout the upcoming meetings various topics would be addressed so the members would be better informed about stormwater issues and solutions. Several upcoming events and training sessions were noted, in addition to a discussion about Rain Gardens.

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**9. DIRECTOR'S REPORT.**

Mr. Adair said the number of South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control (DHEC) postings on the beach had gone down over the past few years. There are some sites that have a permanent warning sign, but those signs do not mean that it is dangerous to swim. The latest revision of the Federal NPDES (National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System) permit has new more strict requirements that develops legal authority for the town. One means of maintaining stormwater infrastructure is to have property owners execute a maintenance agreement that is recorded of record and runs with the land. The agreement requires the owner and any future owners to maintain their stormwater mitigation systems. If the owners fail to do so, the town can make repairs and charge the homeowner for the cost. Mr. Adair said the town has purchased and will be distributing biodegradable dog waste bags. The difference in cost was negligible, and this is one more step towards having an environmentally friendly town. The work on Surfside Drive not only created much needed parking, but also increased the number of catch basins from nine to 40. Those basins are all interconnected and will be maintained to ensure water flows properly.

**10. BUSINESS**

**A. Stormwater Priorities and Plans.** This item was not discussed.

**B. Stormwater Funding Recommendations.**

Mr. Adair said that the current practice for funding stormwater is by allocation of part of the total millage for projects. However, because of the \$2.7-million in projects that will need to be done over the next five to ten years, he believed the town should adopt a stormwater utility fee. Information was distributed about fees collected from neighboring towns and counties, copies of which are on file. A discussion ensued about taxes versus user fees.

**C. Stormwater Project Schedules.** This item was not discussed. A copy of proposed projects is on file.

**D. Education Opportunities for the Committee & the Public.**

Mr. Crouch thought an intern might be hired to write articles on stormwater for education purposes. He also wanted articles in every newsletter.

**11. DISCUSSION.** Any items of Interest or Concern to Committee Members.

Ms. Elliott asked whether the swashes at the ocean were safe for swimming. Mr. Crouch said they are clean. Mr. Adair said for the most part they are clean, but when there is a big rain and lots of runoff from the town, they bacteria levels may increase. There was no way to know without testing, and then the test results could vary from minute to minute. Mr. Adair would not advise swimming or playing in the swashes or within 200 feet of them.

**12. PUBLIC COMMENTS.**

Mrs. Mary Mabry agreed with Mr. Crouch that more public education was needed and that councilmembers also needed education.

**13. COMMITTEE COMMENTS.**

Mr. Crouch suggested that the new councilmembers be taken on the tour that the members recently took around the town to see the stormwater infrastructure.

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**14. ADJOURNMENT.**

Mr. Crouch moved to adjourn the meeting at 1:25 p.m. Mr. Mabry second. All voted in favor.  
**MOTION CARRIED.**

Respectfully submitted,

\_\_\_\_\_  
Debra E. Herrmann, CMC, Town Clerk

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Sandra Elliott, Chairman

\_\_\_\_\_  
Tabitha Mull, Vice Chairman

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Alan Beck, Committee Member

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Ron Crouch, Committee Member

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P. L. Mabry, Committee Member

*Clerk's Note: This document constitutes summary minutes of the meeting and are not intended to be a complete transcript. The recording for this meeting failed. However, appointments may be made with the town clerk to hear the parts that recorded or you may provide your own flash drive to obtain a copy. In accordance with FOIA, meeting notice and the agenda were distributed to local media and the email public subscription list. The agenda was posted on the entry door at Town Council Chambers, and meeting notice was also posted on the Town marquee.*

