

Ossipee Aquifer Steering Committee

November 12, 2010

10:00 am - 12:00 pm

MEETING MINUTES

ATTENDANCE

Pat Jones, Ossipee
John Shipman, Freedom
Tara Schroeder, GMCG
Eric Senecal, LRPC
Tim Miner, Sandwich
David Little, Tamworth
Diana Levy, Ossipee
Jackie Daoust, American Groundwater
Trust
Al Levesque, Effingham

UPDATES

Salt BMP Workshops

GMCG & UNH T2 hosted this training on October 29th. DOT district officer there from District 3 was there and asked for water quality data and info. for areas with higher salt concentrations in the Ossipee Watershed in order to be aware of these areas, and perhaps not salt them as much. 30 people attended, well attended, full day of classes. They provided a spreader calibration demonstration. Survey's for GMCG were filled out and the results determined that many thought the workshop was helpful and would like to see a similar training in the future. The idea of holding the training next year with T2 and inviting private lot salt applicators, in addition to road agents, was one idea that came up. Tara passed around the results of the survey.

BMP Strategic Plan

Plan will be handed out December 7th at the community meeting/forum. The plan will be made available for individuals who are interested in commenting on the draft prior to publication.

It was also discussed that the Ossipee Watershed Coalition is considering using a new kind of "report card" rating that EPA has developed and uses. It is more binary. The recent report card was passed around the meeting. It was explained that the current report card was from and Acton Wakefield Watershed Alliance Watershed Management Plan process, and was more objective than the color coding used in the New Jersey Great Swamp Watershed's process. This will also be presented at the December 7th regional meeting.

GPO UPDATES

Tamworth

Wednesday November 17th is the public hearing at the school 7pm. It is a good opportunity to see an example of what might come up in a public hearing for an ordinance. Following the last public hearing, the subcommittee decided to fully delete the bedrock blasting component from the ordinance. This is because there is only one WHPA in town in bedrock, and the

rest of the WHPAs and recharge areas are underlain by sand and gravel. It was excluded to avoid a sticking point with some of the public who thought the requirements of anyone doing small scale bedrock blasting and having to write a Stormwater Management Plan could be too cumbersome. Kamal Nath has put together some information and references about the impacts of bedrock blasting on water quality. This document is available upon request and has been sent out separately to subcommittees.

Effingham's subcommittee also recommended deleting the "subject to taxation" language in the ordinance, because there are some exceptions to this language, such as small harvests.

Freedom

John Shipman announced that November 18, 2010 was that next planning board meeting. The subcommittee decided it was important to have a firm understanding of BMPs, so they wrote up BMP explanations to share with individuals in order to clarify. The following update was inserted following this OASC meeting: *At the meeting, the Freedom planning board voted unanimously to approve the GPO (as modified for Freedom) and hold a public hearing at their regular Dec. meeting, Dec 16th (Thursday night 7pm).*

John expressed how necessary it was to post meetings and hearings in the newspaper.

Effingham

The meeting on Oct lasted 2 ½ hours. The planning board was well-supported. Instead of having a separate GPO, Effingham wanted to add the GPO as an article to maintain consistency with how they normally do things. The major discussion at the Oct. meeting was about the "greater than or equal to 5 gallon" language. The board wanted this to read "more than 5 gallons," but that would be inconsistent with the state rule, Env-Wq 401,

Env-Wq 401 applies to all persons who store or use regulated substances in regulated containers (with some exemptions for pesticides and agricultural uses). 401 clearly applies to all 5 gal. or greater containers of regulated substances, and ordinances that exempt regulated substances in regulated containers would be in violation of state rules. However, only PCSs (potential contaminant sources) are subject to inspections under the rule. PCSs are defined as:

"Potential contamination source" means, as specified in RSA 485-C:7, I, human activities or operations upon the land surface that pose a foreseeable risk of introducing regulated substances into the environment in such quantities as to degrade the natural groundwater quality. Examples of potential contamination sources are listed in RSA 485-C:7, II.

Here is the link <http://des.nh.gov/organization/commissioner/legal/rules/documents/env-wq401.pdf> Eric has also highlighted relevant sections of the rule and inserted helpful notes in a separate version, available as a PDF file if anyone is interested.

There was also discussion at the Oct meeting about the separate definitions of "impervious" and "impervious surface." Tamworth's subcommittee deleted the definition of impervious (definition E.), as well.

Sandwich

Draft is complete. They sent out and asked for response within the next week. If there were any issues with this draft the subcommittee will complete a second draft by December 4th, 2010. They then plan to move to public hearing some time in December. There was

discussion that there are a few more wells not included in DES data that need to be added and the map.

Ossipee

Minor changes have been made, and the board wants another chance to look at the draft. The first meeting in December will be when the final draft is presented and then they will move to public hearing. They are also working on the hawkers & peddlers and sign ordinances, and these hearings will likely all be held together.

There was discussion about the intent of the “unused wells” language. It was confusing if it meant to close all unused wells. They then changed the language to “wells intended to be unused.” Those were the ones to be closed.

The Ossipee ordinance currently prohibits the storage of road salts. A special use permit was discussed, but ultimately, they did not think that was what the intention of the language was, so it was left alone. The board voted to leave the existing prohibition and not amend it to reflect the model (*outdoor* storage of road salts and deicing chemicals).

It was recommended that at the Ossipee public hearing the room did not need to be filled, but it would be helpful to have someone to speak from the OASC. Keeping things low key has been beneficial to the process so far; perhaps having a public campaign after the meeting might work best. Letters to the editor in the Conway Daily Sun would be helpful. Diana recommended that GALA, a local non-profit, might also help getting out the word. The Ossipee Chamber of Commerce, Ossipee Lake Alliance, local agricultural committees and Carroll County Collaborative were also mentioned as having large email distribution lists and could help promote the ordinance work.

Madison

December 1st is the next planning board meeting. The subcommittee of Noreen Downs and Jay Buckley are working on updates to the Madison GPO to propose at the next meeting.

STORM WATER MANAGEMENT PLAN

John provided an example of a management plan from EPA

http://www.epa.gov/npdes/pubs/exampleswppp_smallcommercial.pdf

John and Pat suggested that the Tractor Supply store (the Hutton Company) in Ossipee has a stormwater management plan. Pat said she would ask permission to share it with this group.

PUBLIC OUTREACH TO “GET OUT THE VOTE”

Notice for public hearings has to be 10 days prior to the meeting.

January 7th is the last day to post and publish notice for first public hearing.

January 18th is the last day to hold the first public hearing.

January 21st is the last day to post and publish notice of final public hearing.

February 1st is the last day for holding the final public hearing & last day for official copy of GPO.

Eric and Susan worked on and submitted an article about the regional GPO effort to many local papers. So far it has not been published. A more recent article with information about the GPO effort and December 7th meeting was published in The Conway Daily Sun on November 20th.

The group discussed letters to the editor, presentations, drive times/radio spots, video, developing a template page for each town's website to announce the ordinance, etc. Noreen will finish the DVD for public television later in November. Local Candidates Night will also be a venue where PBs and subcommittees can speak about the GPOs.

PRESENTATIONS

Tara discussed presentations to community groups. She asked for any more groups or venues with businesses that she is not aware of. Tara created a postcard mailing and asked everyone's opinion about to how she should send it and what it should include. Everyone discussed who should these cards come from, planning board? Town? How could they be the most effective? The website on the bottom of the postcard was discussed and it was agreed that it should be the LRPC website, that way each town can see that this is a united, regional effort.

UPCOMING PROGRAMS

**Community Presentation December 7th 6:30-8:30pm Runnells Hall Chocorua (Steve Whitman, Eric, John, Tara)*

* updates by town subcommittees, public feedback on GPOs, Report Card updates, introduce the BMP Strategic Plan

HOMEWORK

*Community Presentation December 7th: OASC group to help promote amongst town boards & residents.

*Pat and Tara to follow up with Ossipee Chamber of Commerce to see about doing a presentation in January or February at their regular meeting.

*Eric to send WHPA/PWS list to each town.

*Pat to check with the Hutton Company on sharing the stormwater management plan for the Tractor Supply store with this group.

*Tara to email postcard draft for OASC group for comment.

*December 1st Drive Time at WMWV with Eric & Tara.

*Diana and Stu to work on letters to the editor for upcoming months.

*OASC group members to notify Tara & Eric of scheduled public hearing dates.

*Tara to contact OLA, Province Lake Association, GALA and other local groups to help promote GPOs.

*Tara to complete website template for towns to use to announce GPOs/public hearings.

*February 2nd Drive Time at WMWV (someone to go?)

*February 16th Drive Time at WMWV (someone to go?)

NEXT MEETING

January 14, 2011at the GMCG office from 10am-12pm.