

Minutes of the Rutherford County Stormwater Advisory Committee

May 21st, 2024 at 6:00 p.m.
Commission Chambers
Historic Courthouse

Members Present

Delia Goodman
Mark Lee
Bonnie Ervin
Diane Patterson
Josh Upham
Jennifer Watson

Others Present

Shelia Huffmire
Ben Fultz
Phyllis Fultz
Jonathan Stem
Allison Benincasa
Jeff Benincasa
Dr. Charles Goodman
Robert Haley

Delia Goodman called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. A quorum was established with six voting members present.

Minutes: Chair called for questions or approval of the September 12, 2023, meeting minutes. "Diane Patterson moved, seconded by Bonnie Ervin that the minutes be accepted. The motion passed unanimously by voice acclamation."

Mark Lee asked about by-law changes, and Shelia Huffmire said she would send everyone a copy.

Chair Delia Goodman opened the floor for public comment, no one spoke, and the public comments were closed.

Chair Goodman turned the public hearing on the MS4 Stormwater Ordinance Revisions, Post Construction Regulations, and the Rutherford County Stream Buffer Policy and SWMP to Ms. Huffmire. Highlights include:

- A description of the water quality riparian buffer zone. "A water quality riparian buffer zone is a permanent strip of natural perennial vegetation, adjacent to a stream, river, wetland, pond, or lake that contains dense vegetation made up of grass, shrubs, and/or trees. The purpose of a water quality riparian buffer is to maintain existing water quality by minimizing risk of any potential sediments, nutrients or other pollutants reaching adjacent surface waters and to further prevent negative water quality impacts by providing canopy over adjacent waters."

-A description of the design standards for water quality buffer zones as defined by TDEC. "A water quality buffer zone is required along all perennial and intermittent stream waterways and wetlands as identified on a 7.5-minute USGS quadrangle map, or as determined by the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation (TDEC) or Rutherford County Engineering Department. The buffer zone width shall be determined as follows:

Where a subdivision is traversed by a watercourse, drainageway, channel, or stream, there shall be provided a water quality buffer zone that meets the criteria below:

- a. thirty (30) feet or sixty (60) feet from top of bank depending on the drainage basin. 30ft is required for less than a square mile and 60 ft for more than a square mile. The 60-foot criterion for the width of the Buffer Zone can be established on an average width basis at a project, as long as the minimum width of the buffer is more than 30 feet at any measured location. This buffer zone shall be required unless a licensed engineer demonstrates to the satisfaction of the county engineer that a lesser buffer zone is required using an alternative best management practice equaling or exceeding the effectiveness of the required buffer zone.
- b. All new developments must install stream buffer protection signs every (100') or as requested by the County Engineer along a stream buffer water quality protection area."

- Changes to the Water Quality Buffer Zone Policy

Discussion about changes and some options. Mark Lee suggested removing Section 4 Item I: "All lease agreements shall contain a notation regarding the presence and location of protective covenants for water quality buffer zones. The aforementioned agreement shall contain information on the management and maintenance requirements for the buffer zones for the new resident." The County does not deal with lease agreements in this capacity.

"Mark Lee moved, seconded by Diane Patterson to remove Section 4 Item I from the Rutherford County Water Quality Riparian Buffer Zone Policy. The motion passed unanimously by voice acclamation."

- Changes to the Stormwater Management Ordinance

Discussion about changes and some options. Mark Lee suggested to change the wording on Page 4-4 of the STORMWATER MANAGEMENT ORDINACE draft from "No Stormwater Control Measure (SCMs) from row 1 or 2 of the WQTV treatment chart (Table 1) will be allowed in the floodplain" to "Stormwater Control Measures "SCMs" may be considered in the floodplain at the discretion of the Stormwater Department from row 1 or 2 of the WQTV treatment chart (Table 1)."

"Mark Lee moved, seconded by Jennifer Watson to change the wording on Page 4-4 of the STORMWATER MANAGEMENT ORDINACE draft from ""No Stormwater Control Measure (SCMs) from row 1 or 2 of the WQTV treatment chart (Table 1) will be allowed in the floodplain" to "Stormwater Control Measures "SCMs" may be considered in the floodplain at the discretion of the Stormwater Department from row 1 or 2 of the WQTV treatment chart (Table 1)." The motion passed unanimously by voice acclamation.""

- Discussion of Effective Date for the Water Quality Buffer Zone Policy and the Stormwater Management Ordinance

After a short discussion, it was decided that the Effective Date will be September 1, 2024, and the changes will be brought to the Rutherford County Board of Commissioners Meeting June 13, 2024.

“Diane Patterson moved, seconded by Mark Lee to present the changes and effective date to the Rutherford County Board of Commissioners at the June 13, 2024, meeting.

With no other comments or questions, “Bonnie Ervie moved, seconded by Jennifer Watson to adjourn. The motion passed unanimously by voice acclamation.”

Delia Goodman adjourned the meeting at 7:28 p.m.

DELIA GOODMAN, CHAIRMAN