

# Meeting Notes

Rensselaer County MS4 Communities Meeting

Zoom

January 19, 2021

10:00 a.m.

The meeting opened at 10:05 AM. After greetings, the meeting continued into Local BMPs.

The topic of on training started the section of the meeting. Training can be had through webinars and YouTube. Mr. Koziol stated that most of his communities have about 80% of their relevant employees trained. Ms. von der Heide stated that once the COVID restrictions, the highway department will probably resume their training sessions. Ms. von der Heide stated that they really need to make a good winter road de-icing training since some of the trucks are being over loaded or need to be swept. The discussion then turned to where to limit salt. There was legislation passed to reduce salt in the Adirondacks. The alternative is sand, which requires clean-out of stormwater facilities.

Mr. Yagelski asked how would be the best to handle stormwater permitting in subdivisions with developers and separate builders. Presently, East Greenbush is requiring each lot to get separate coverage. A question was made of whether the original permit was still open. In Schodack, the landowner/developer is on the hook until the project is done. In North Greenbush, the original permit holder is on the hook. Ms. Barrie stated that sometimes it gets murky, especially once a developer moves on or abandons a project. The permit shouldn't be closed after the infrastructure is put in. The Builder should sign on as a certified contractor as part of the original permit. Schodack still has open permits from 2006. The original permittee is responsible for what they did and post construction. Ms. Barrie stated that the Town of Colonie doesn't allow the original permittee off the hook. If the permit gets closed out before the construction of the lots is completed, the Town or whoever is responsible post-permit will be responsible for cleaning out the post-construction BMPs. If a builder makes a mess, who is going to clean up? If the original permit is closed, the builders will try to not get a permit. Builders need to take this seriously and build stormwater into their budget. Closing coverage would also mean that a strong tracking system is needed to make sure that individual permits are received.

There is still no update on the new permit. The draft permit is still with the lawyers. The EPA is now sending letters to communities on questions from the Annual Report. This is in lieu of doing audits. (**NOTE: Make sure your annual reports jive from last year and your data is solid.**) The Village of Colonie received a question from the EPA on their training. Ms. Fuda stated that the building code training can be found online. The EPA website also has a lot of training opportunities. A need for training for Planning Boards for review of sites that need permits was stated. Ms. von der Heide stated that CDRPC held such training and should be on their website (<https://cdrpc.org/news-events/cdrpc-planning-and-zoning-webinar-series>). Mr. Koziol stated that he had a Powerpoint that he could share on the MS4 program. Communities could have their boards look at it and then have members e-mail that they have reviewed the training. Some members have done the 4-hour construction course, but that doesn't really help them with the

planning aspect. They need to understand the long term implications of their approvals. Right now, there is an issue where the boards are more educated, they need higher level training than what is given through the Department of State (see CDRPC website above). The building courses are online.

The discussion then went to the Multi-Sector permits. Ms. Barrie stated that she just found a business the other day that didn't have a permit although it should have. We should let her know if a business that should have a Multi-Sector permit doesn't. Look at the MSG permit to see what kinds of businesses that entails.

Mr. Yagelski stated that the MS4 mapping program is coming along and would like to make a presentation about it at the next meeting in March.

Next Meeting – March 16, 2021 on Zoom.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84051469038?pwd=YjBUQmxacStFT3Z4MVZuN1FIUWxGUT09>

Meeting ID: 840 5146 9038

Passcode: 953914

One tap mobile

+16468769923,,84051469038#,,,,\*953914# US (New York)

Dial by your location

+1 646 876 9923 US (New York)

Attendees:

Adam Yagelski	East Greenbush
Andrew Golden	Troy
Chris Wheland	Troy
Eric Westfall	North Greenbush
Linda von der Heide	Rensselaer County
Mark Hendricks	Rensselaer
Mary Barrie	DEC Region 4
Megan Myers	Rens. Co. Soil & Water Conservation District
Nadine Fuda	Schodack
Phil Koziol	Laberge Group/Schodack
Tracy Church	Poestenkill

This year's meetings:

March 16, 2021

May 18, 2021

July 20, 2021

September 21, 2021

November 16, 2021