

Meeting Notes

Rensselaer County MS4 Communities Meeting
Brunswick Town Beach
September 17, 2019
10:00 a.m.

The meeting opened at 10:10. The first item on the agenda was introductions. As there was a new face around the table, introductions were made.

The second item on the agenda was Training Videos. The Rensselaer County MS4 Communities have purchased several training videos throughout the years. These include Stormwater for MS4s "*Rain Check*", Stormwater Municipal "*Storm Watch*". IDDE for Employee training "*A Grate Concern*", Spill Prevention Control & Countermeasure for "*Municipalities*" and "*Environmental Management Systems ISO 14001:2015*". Please let Ms. von der Heide know if you want to make use of them.

The third item on the agenda was Local BMPs. The first topic broached was solar farms. The Town of Brunswick has had a couple solar farms installed in the past year. They have seen compaction between array rows. Where the soil between arrays has been seeded and fertilized, coverage has occurred. One solar installer has not wanted to follow their town permit requirements in this case. The other solar installer created a permeable road design that DEC appears to have accepted. In addition, scarification between the rows needs to be put on the specs during site plan review and SWPPP development.

The next topic was the review of a site plan and proposed SWPPP for a site in North Greenbush that is being developed for medical offices. The DEC needs to review sewer and water extensions that use 2,500 gallons or more. The site proposes to directly drain into the Quackenderry Creek which now regularly floods in the city of Rensselaer. The site plan proposed has no retention or treatment and proposes flowing straight in the wetlands on the Quackenderry. A blue roof and use of the parking islands to retain water might help. The discussion then digressed into the dam on the Poesten Kill in Troy and the impacts on the wetlands lost by their draining.

The discussion then went into a proposal to build a house in Poesten Kill at DEC wetlands. The site is also in the FEMA floodplain. A discussion of the amount of time that DEC usually takes processing wetland permits ensued. Another site in Poestenkill was in violation of the Town's zoning permit. They had clear-cut a wetland and proceeded to use the site to store commercial equipment. The applicant had misrepresented that the site would be used for residential purposes. There was a case of manure storage in the flood plain of one community. The livestock owner was made to move the manure pile.

For the timing of receiving DEC permits, there was a house damaged during Irene where the Poesten Kill damaged the bank in the back yard of a house. The property owner wants to place

rock at the bank to keep erosion from taking the house. They are still waiting for a permit from DEC.

Schodack stated that Rensselaer County has taken two properties which have stormwater detention ponds on them for back taxes. A discussion then ensued on homeowner associations versus stormwater districts. In Poesten Kill, the developer sold the lot that accessed a detention pond prior to placing an easement on the property granting access. The Town requires drivable access. To give permits and COs, the Town needs the access easement. The contractor isn't building the access road as it is the developer's responsibility. A discussion then ensued that the easement and other requirements should be on the site plan. There is a need for on-site planning board training by the DPW for stormwater needs.

CDRPC will hold its next Planning Workshop on October 23, 2019. Included will be MS4 101 – work in the field/permit, EV charging station, SEQR update, energy management/geothermal, on-line mapping tools, and source water protection.

Amazon was going to blast, but could not due to the County law that was set in place to stop the pipelines. They are going to rip out the shale the old fashioned way.

The next meeting will be November 19, 2019 at the East Greenbush Town Hall.

Attendees:

Paul Barringer	Poestenkill	PBarringer@poestenkill.com
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