

SUSSEX COUNTY WATER QUALITY MANAGEMENT

POLICY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

MINUTES

NOVEMBER 4, 2010

The meeting was opened at 7:33 p.m. by Chairman Armeno. The meeting was held in compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act, N.J.S.A. 10:4-1 of 1975, as amended, and notice has been forwarded to the newspapers and posted on the bulletin board maintained at the Sussex County Administrative Center for public announcement.

ROLL CALL:

MEMBERS PRESENT: James Landrith, Andover Borough
Richard Pumphrey, Frankford Township
Jeffrey Butz, Vice-Chairman, Fredon Township
William Sanford, Hampton Township
David Muscalo, Lafayette Township
Paul Baldwin, Town of Newton
Joe Pinzone, Sandyston Township
James Benson, Stanhope Borough
Geraldine Pflugh, Stillwater Township
John Armeno, Chairman, At-Large
Richard Gottemoller, At-Large
Ernie Hofer, At-Large
John Nugent, At-Large

EXCUSED MEMBERS: Howard Baker, Hopatcong Borough
Eric Powell, Sparta Township
Denise Webb, Wantage Township

STAFF MEMBERS: Antoinette Wasiewicz, Recording Secretary

ALSO PRESENT: Jason Drift, Septic Management Group
Tom Haeseker, Hasco Sales, Inc.
Wayne Ingram, Engineering & Land Planning Asso., Inc.
Len Moore, Planet Care

PRESENTATION:

A. PEAT MOSS SEPTIC SYSTEMS IN NEW JERSEY:

Leonard Moore of Planet Care did a Power Point Presentation on the Eco-Pure Peat Moss Biofilter. He introduced Jason Drift, a product distributor; Tom Haeseker, a representative of the manufacturer, covering the mid-Atlantic region; and Wayne Ingram, a professional Engineer.

The Eco-Pure Peat Moss Biofilter was designed for extreme site conditions and sensitive environments. The system utilizes a specific blend of sphagnum peat moss for the treatment of septic tank effluent. Sphagnum peat moss provides a well-balanced eco-system of naturally occurring organisms that digest the harmful pollutants contained in the wastewater stream. The system replicates the same process that occurs in nature.

During installation, pre-packaged sphagnum peat moss pillows are placed within a proprietary polyethylene module. One Eco-Pure module can treat the wastewater from up to a four bedroom home or 650 gallons per day. (Newer models have been developed for smaller homes.) Modules can be linked together for larger wastewater flows.

The unique properties of sphagnum peat moss allow the system to operate without expensive air blowers or compressors. The system was designed to be gravity-fed and depending on site conditions, dosing pumps may not be necessary, providing additional cost savings compared to other systems.

The benefits of the Eco-Pure Peat Moss Biofilter include a green technology and a cost of 30% less than other treatment systems. It naturally eliminates greater than 99% of harmful bacteria and provides a substantial nutrient reduction. The system is completely passive---no electricity is needed, is easy to install and maintain. It is well suited for high water table lots, easily blends into landscaping and is ideal for seasonal use homes.

There was a brief period of questions and answers which focused mainly on the installation cost, maintenance and maintenance cost of the system.

MINUTES CORRECTION/APPROVAL:

A motion was made by David Muscalo to approve the Minutes of July 8, 2010 as presented. The motion was seconded by Jeffrey Butz. All were in favor, with abstentions from Richard Pumphrey, Paul Baldwin, Joe Pinzone, James Bensen, Geraldine Pflugh and John Nugent. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Geraldine Pflugh to approve the Minutes of September 9, 2010. The motion was seconded by David Muscalo. All were in favor, with abstentions from Richard Pumphrey, William Sanford, Paul Baldwin, Joe Pinzone, James Benson, Ernie Hofer and John Nugent. Motion carried.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Alice Brees was excused from this evening's meeting and therefore Correspondence was not covered.

PROGRAM MANAGER'S REPORT:

None.

ATTORNEY'S REPORT:

County Counsel was excused from this evening's meeting.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

A. WATERSHED UPDATES: UPPER DELAWARE, WALLKILL:

Jeffrey Butz said he did not have anything new to report on the Upper Delaware Watershed. Ernie Hofer said there was one major grant award for the Papakating and Clove Brook and there are five implementation projects out for bid by contractors. The second major grant award was for the Paulins Kill and they are presently scoping eight implementation projects.

Bob Canace is completing the Paulins Kill study addressing aquifers within a project area, which includes Newton, Sparta, Andover Township, Lafayette, Fredon and a few others. When that study is completed, probably in January, they will be able to make a presentation to PAC.

One of the projects that have been recently implemented is at the Homestead Complex. The pond area closest to the library had 150 trees, shrubs, etc. planted to provide tree canopy cover and filtration for the runoff water. Riparian restoration is also planned for the other ponds. A one-year study planned at the Wallkill Wildlife Refuge to address water quality.

NEW BUSINESS:

John Armeno reported that in September the County participated in a collection of old medicines. Another collection is being organized by the Sheriffs in each county and American Medicine Chest. The purpose of the collection is to prevent medication from being flushed into toilets or disposed of in landfills and eventually entering waterways. It also will help keep the medication out of the hands of youth for "pharm" parties. The collection date is November 13. Collection sites will be announced.

Ernie Hofer announced that there is a meeting scheduled for November 16 between 6:00-8:00 p.m. at the Homestead regarding manure management. The program is sponsored by Steve Komar, from the Rutgers Extension Office. They are trying to have an outreach to small horse farmers to educate them on proper manure management in an effort to keep runoff from entering waterways.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

None

ADJOURNMENT:

All business having been completed, a motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Geraldine Pflugh. The motion was seconded by Jim Landrith and carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m.