

Monterey Regional Stormwater Management Program

Management Committee

MEETING MINUTES For October 25, 2023

AGENDA ITEMS

1. Call to Order / Roll-Call

Chairperson Gomez (City of Sand City) called the meeting to order at 9:32 a.m. and performed roll call.

Management Committee Members:

City of Carmel – Mary Bilse (virtual)
City of Del Rey Oaks – Ron Fucci
City of Monterey – Tricia Wotan
City of Pacific Grove – George Fuerst
City of Sand City – Leon Gomez
City of Seaside –Patrick Grogan
County of Monterey – Michael Trapani

MRSWMP Staff:

None

Other:

Jessica Juico – City of Carmel (virtual)
Maris Sidenstecker – PE/PO Coordinator
Mike McCullough – Monterey One Water
Rachel Gaudoin – Monterey One Water
Kristi Kisso (virtual)

2. Public Comment

None

3. Approve Management Committee Meeting Minutes for 9/27/23

- **Action:** On a motion by Wotan (*City of Monterey*), seconded by Grogan (*City of Seaside*), Management Committee approved the Management Committee Meeting Minutes for 9/27/23

INFORMATION AND DISCUSSION ITEMS

4. Annual Report Debrief

Overall, participating entities successfully submitted their respective Annual Reports (AR). Management Committee Members all experienced challenges with the PCR sub-portal which never fully functioned. Challenges were also expressed related to Second Nature.

Wotan noted the company made a notable change to its platform in October that impacted the data they were trying to enter for their AR. While Second Nature was responsive, this has happened several years in a row.

Grogan appreciated the support Second Nature provided this year but recommended a more detailed training with Second Nature on how to manipulate the spreadsheet closer to permit time.

5. Update on PE/PO Program

Sidenstecker provided the below updates on the PE/PO Program.

a. 9/28 Construction BMP Training Debrief

Sidenstecker requested feedback from members on the September training.

Gomez noted the presentation focused on what not to do vs what to do – needed better examples.

Grogan was disappointed in the presentation; suggested exploring other options that may be more professional. The presentation included anecdotal examples while BMP diagrams and tips would be more helpful for site inspectors.

Wotan concurred and shared she did a follow-up training with her team based on smaller, more relevant examples.

McCullough shared the original presenter left the company a few weeks before the training and the training was reassigned.

Gomez requested for the future, MRSWMP review all training presentations ahead of time. Grogan offered to review future presentations ahead of time; Wotan also volunteered.

Trapani also found the training disorganized and didn't find inspectors got much out of the presentation; suggested MRSWMP look into other options and consider paying for the next training in an attempt to improve quality. Fuerst suggested trying to find someone local more familiar with coastal areas and less new construction to better align with what local inspectors see. Wotan noted that the group previously used Sandy Matthews which was a lot of money so they decided to try the free option; might consider something in the middle so it is cost conscious but isn't free so MRSWMP can have some control over the content.

Suggestion to bring back the training sub-committee to help coordinate and vet training content.

Trapani confirmed attendee lists included in the packet were in person only. Stormwater Awareness Week provided a list of virtual participants that will be included in next year's AR resource folder.

Format:

Pro – Lunch was enjoyed and appreciated by attendees.

Con – Virtual audio was hard to hear.

b. Update on TV Ads

Sidenstecker shared an update on the new TV ads. The videos are complete, and the regional partners (City of Salinas and Santa Cruz County) are reviewing now. DAS approved the use of the animated storm drain emblem at the end of the video. Sidenstecker will forward an email from DAS to M1W and Chair Gomez stating the company is ok with the use as is and no copyright notation is needed as the emblem is

not used in its entirety.

c. First Flush Call for Volunteers

Print and digital ads were placed in the MC Weekly to find volunteers. Sidenstecker noted at this point the ads have only generated interest from five (5) community members. Follow up with volunteers is underway to determine how they heard about First Flush to help determine next steps in advertising.

Wotan asked if the volunteer opportunity was sent to CSUMB and MIIS. Sidenstecker confirmed she had sent it to professors at these institutions, but it is often hard for students as the First Flush often occurs unexpectedly at night. Wotan offered to share with Monterey's Communication Director. Sidenstecker will email MC members information on the call for volunteers for the First Flush event that they can disseminate through their communication channels.

d. Stormwater Awareness Week Social Media Update

Sidenstecker shared that the social media campaign during Stormwater Awareness Week generated an increase in social media traffic.

e. School Outreach Program (Dee the Whale) and School Bookings

There are a few upcoming school events in November and December. Sidenstecker also updated the committee on a recent school event at Robert Down Elementary that had to be rescheduled. Setting up Dee the Whale requires several people. The Elementary School now requires anyone onsite associated with the program to be fingerprinted. Fingerprinting was not disclosed when recruiting CSUMB volunteers and the cost of fingerprinting was not included in the budget. A plan needs to be developed to address this issue as it may arise again.

f. Storm Drain Emblem Installation Updates

Missing or damaged emblems were updated. MC Members were encouraged to let Sidenstecker know if they have areas that need storm drain emblems added or updated.

Fucci noted there are areas in Del Rey Oaks and will connect with Sidenstecker on specifics. Trapani noted the County is identifying areas without emblems and high traffics areas per the permit. Will coordinate directly with Sidenstecker related to East Garrison community.

g. Seaside Fire Station Open House

Successful event. Sidenstecker noted events take a little more caution. Have completed two (2) and usually do six (6) to eight (8) – primarily in the spring. Sidenstecker encouraged members to share local events.

Wotan asked how open Sidenstecker is to new events, like Monterey's "Parking" Day. Sidenstecker was open and encouraged members to email her.

Future Ideas: A social media toolkit on rainy season. Wotan noted she wrote an article on this topic and will provide Sidenstecker with the article to help with this effort.

Other Note: Sidenstecker is working with M1W on her contract.

6. Update on Post-Construction Requirements

a. PCR Quarterly Training Series Recommendations

In June 2023, PCR subcommittee discussed having a training in Q1 of 2024.

Gomez reviewed the list of potential topics: operation and maintenance (O&M), pervious pavement and concrete pavers, design constructions O&M, hydro dynamic separators O&M. Considering three (3) separate trainings vs one (1) longer one. Wotan added that another potential idea is to bring in a few manufacturers to do a combined training; not a sales pitch but how the product pertains to the PCRs.

Committee agreed the subcommittee should meet again before the end of the year to continue planning the PCR training(s). Preferred time is early December.

b. County of San Luis Obispo's Stormwater Technical Guide Update

County of San Luis Obispo Detailed and long guidance; about 300 pages.

Gomez suggested the PCR subcommittee review and parse out what may be helpful to incorporate into the MRSWMP efforts. Wotan reviewed when it was first released and found some things helpful as well; recommended waiting a few years before incorporating anything to see their lessons learned. Members agreed with this approach.

7. Trash Assessments

a. Status of Assessments

Chair Gomez agendized this item given the interim measures in place and to discuss the plan for this optional item. Wotan expressed support for putting the Trash Assessment on hold until the staffing level allows for adequate member support to complete the item. Tapani agreed missing one round was fine as it is not a requirement; more informational to help related things.

Wotan shared the timeline for completion was typically one in Sept/Oct (wet) and one in spring (dry). It was a joint effort with the Program Manager. She estimated two staff members, an intern, and the Program Manager would take about a week per wet and per dry assessment. Tapani noted members could choose to use the Second Nature platform to complete the assessments independently. Wotan noted there are also EOA video trainings available.

Sidenstecker noted she had supported the effort in the past via walking with students. The committee discussed the pros and cons of walking vs driving.

Gaudoin noted the Second Nature contract was recently signed and may include unused modules. Wotan noted they are not using at least half the modules, for example Street Sweeping, due to incompatible data or other available databases. Tapani uses the Street Sweeping module as the County's schedule allows for batch entry. Grogan and Wotan would need zones to use the module or tonnage.

Chair Gomez requested follow up on the contract to look over the services and meet with Second Nature to provide recommendations for platform improvements.

Tapani requested adding Street Sweeping as a future agenda item. Bilse will get more information on Carmel's new electric sweeper.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

8. Management Committee Member and Program Manager Reports

- Monterey – Reminder on the importance of fire departments/emergency services being trained on spill situations. Wotan will get more information on the trainings the City fire department conducts.
- Seaside – Requested an updated at the next meeting from M1W on the status of the Program Manager.
- Carmel – Echoed importance of coordinating with fire department and utility.
- Pacific Grove – No update
- County of Monterey – Monterey County U-Connect app had technical issue but is now available. Storm drain prioritization on Annual Report may be a potential topic for a future meeting. Chair Gomez noted this and asked members to send questions or ideas for future group discussion.
- Del Rey Oaks – FORTAG Project is underway. Night work will occur 10/3-11/2/2023 on Hwy 218 for underground work. Shared experience on pursuing FEMA funding and the challenging process that does not always yield results.
- Sand City – Annual Report process gives an opportunity to re-evaluate forms/program implementation. Working on new efficiencies for staff to better reflect work habits of today.

SCHEDULE NEXT MEETING / ADJOURNMENT

9. Schedule Next Meeting

The next Management Committee meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, November 29, 2023, at 9:30 am.

10. Meeting Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 10:51 am.