

Nutrient Scientific Advisory Board Meeting #25 Minutes

Friday, February 1, 2013

TJCOG - 4307 Emperor Blvd, Durham NC, 27703

9:30 am -12:00 pm

Attendees

Members: Charles Brown (Matt Flynn's alt) John Cox (& Michelle Woolfolk, alt), Trish D'Arconte, Bill Hunt (& Kathy Debusk, alt), Andy McDaniel (& Brian Jacobson, alt), Josh Johnson, David Phlegar

Non-Members: Andy Sachs (facilitator), Jason Robinson (DWQ), Rich Gannon (DWQ), Aduugna Kebede (DWQ), Robert Patterson (DWQ), John Huisman (DWQ), Mike Schlegel (TJCOG), Haywood Phthisic (LNBA), Alix Matos (CardnoEntrix), Dan McLawhorn (Raleigh), Cy Stober (PTRC), Trevor Clements (TetraTech), Tom Davis (Orange Co.), Sandra Wilbur (Durham), Steve Bristow (Wake)

Agenda Topics

- Nutrient Load-Reducing Measures for 205J Project
- Jordan Watershed Modeling
- Existing Development Model Program

Material

- NSAB February Meeting Plan
- NSAB January Minutes
- Watershed Model Subcommittee January 16 Meeting Summary (attached)
- Candidate Nutrient Load-Reducing Measures for 205J Project – January 30, 2013 Draft (attached)
- Falls/Jordan Model Local Stormwater Program for Existing Development & Guidance for Affected Parties – February 1, 2013 Outline (attached)
- TetraTech's BMP Memorandum (attached)

Housekeeping/Admin

- January's Meeting Minutes were approved

Nutrient Load-Reducing Measures for 205J Project

A revised draft of the Candidate Nutrient Load-Reducing Measure for 205J Project dated January 30, 2013 was sent out to the board prior to the meeting (attached). Jason Robinson of DWQ gave a brief overview of the project, which also included updates to the Jordan/Falls accounting tool, and went over the document and the revised description of the project. Jason pointed-out that since the document was drafted DWQ had decided to require full-reporting on the 6 shaded measures only. There will not be a scoping-level review of all 13 measures. Bill Hunt described the details and timelines of the measures in Table A that he and his colleagues are working on. The following bullet points capture highlights of the Board's discussion:

- Board members expressed interest in DWQ and NCSU developing a database that can be used by local government to track BMPs for nutrient reductions, since most existing BMP databases are focused on maintenance and do not include critical data useful to tracking nutrient reductions. Bill Hunt and DWQ representative Robert Patterson will work on this before next meeting. The point was made during the subsequent agenda item that the set

of data elements to support the credit accounting approach needs to be made practically implementable, not too demanding.

- Michelle Woolfolk read Forrest Westall's comments on the draft document, since he was unable to attend the meeting. DWQ agreed to send Forrest's comments to the group.
- The Board agreed with DWQ on their decision to drop the scoping-level review of all 13 measures.
- No objection was voiced to the idea of including in the July model the accounting values and explanation of methods for permeable pavement improvements and floating wetlands while not yet having them actually hard-wired into the accounting spreadsheet tool.
- John Huisman gave a brief overview of Hazen and Sawyer's Onsite Wastewater Report for Raleigh. This report will be sent out to the group. John pointed out that for discharging sand filters the report produced concentrations, but not loads, and the subject of loads from malfunctioning septic was not explicitly addressed in any quantitative way.
- A Board member asked for the titles of "Soil Amendments" and "Urban Fertilizer Management" to be more descriptive.
- A Board member asked if the accounting tool update will use the simple method or the runoff reduction method, which account for soil type. DWQ is looking into it.
- Jason mentioned that the BMP Subcommittee should assist DWQ in developing an RFP or RFQ for the two 205J projects, as well as developing a method for crediting BMPs that were installed during the interim period (after the baseline).

Jordan Watershed Modeling

Michael Schlegel reported on the status of the project, including a general overview of the Watershed Model Subcommittee's January 16th meeting. Andy McDaniel then gave a more detailed presentation on the Subcommittee's meeting, including an explanation of the Subcommittee's recommendation that stormwater BMPs not be explicitly modeled under this project. (See the Subcommittee meeting summary and TetraTech memorandum, both attached, for the explanation.)

The following bullet points capture highlights of the Board's discussion:

- TetraTech followed-up with Greensboro to collect BMP data and analyzed it to confirm the assumption that leaving BMPs out of the model will not have substantial affect on the accuracy of the calibration.
- DWQ will need to develop a method to credit BMPs that were installed after the baseline.
- TetraTech's next memorandum will be produced in March, and the Subcommittee will meet in April.
- The Board voted to accept the Subcommittee recommendation that stormwater BMPs not be explicitly modeled under this project.
- Rich Gannon mentioned that board members should be prepared to explain the benefits of this decision to other affected parties.
- TetraTech clarified that the model will not be recalibrated for 2010 conditions but run to get 2010 loads driven by 2010 land use input changes from 2001. If funds allow they will compare modeled 2010 loads to gauge-estimated loads where possible. Additional funds during peer review would better ensure this step. Either way, where significant BMPs have gone in post-baseline the model would be assumed to over-predict loads, and the credit tool would be used to estimate reductions. *[Editor's note: exact approach will need to be determined, but the model should provide additional insights in any case.]*

Existing Development Model Program

John Huisman of DWQ went through a revised outline of the Jordan/Falls Stage 2 and focused on the changes made since the last version that was distributed to the Board. He made it clear that this model program was not for the NCDOT. The following bullet points capture highlights of the Board's discussion:

- Board discussed that under the Falls requirements, point source reductions need to be permanent if they are to be used towards existing development reduction requirement.
- Board member asked for more detail in the document on trading.
- Board member asked something to be added to the document about development and redevelopment in relation to existing development requirements.
- Board member asked that the ED model program outline be shared with all affected parties as soon as possible.
- Board member asked about the Jordan clause of allowing site-specific monitoring data to be used. The Board member wanted this to be broader than site-specific. (e.g., Durham's Raincatcher study).
- Board member requested annual report be kept simple while getting the information that DWQ needs, since local governments are also responsible for other annual reports. The Board member requested that the due dates of annual reports be staggered, so they're not all due at the same time.

Potential Future Agenda Items

- Watershed Model Update
- Continue with Existing Development Model Program discussion
- Continue with Load-Reducing Measure 205j Project Discussion
- Legislative Update

Future Meeting Dates

- Unless specifically rescheduled, the first Friday of each month, 9:30 – 12:00 at TJCOG.
- March 1, 2013.