



Fairbanks  
**Stormwater**  
Advisory Committee  
Meeting Minutes

1/11/2024

**Agenda items 1-5:**

**In Attendance** Corey Whitley (TVWA), Melissa Riordan (DOT), Janet Smith (FNSB), Don Kaiser (FNSB), John O'Brien (COF), Chris Darrah (Shannon & Wilson), Melissa Spicer (Stantec), Dan Adamczak (DOT), Jeff Fisher (DEC), Robert "Danny" Wallace (CoNP), Ida Peterson (Ft.WW), Fischer Ridge (UAF/Ft.WW)

**Public Comment** None.

Today's (1/11/24) meeting Agenda was approved and October 12, 2023, meeting minutes approved.

Meetings to begin and end on schedule. We can convene sub-committee meetings if further discussion is warranted.

**6)MS4 Annual Report**

Melissa and I have been working on the 2023 AR Draft. The Draft will be ready for co-permittee review, next Friday, January 19, and the final report is due to the State on February 15, 2024. Janet brought up submitting the report through EDMS (DEC's online permitting portal). Dan Adamczak stated that we have tried that in the past but were met with technical difficulties and we have resorted to submitting the report as a .pdf document with attachments outside of EDMS. We've attempted to submit through EDMS in the past and it didn't work.

Many AR appendix items have already been submitted. Check the Annual Report Appendices Spreadsheet. Some on the outstanding list from the agenda have now been submitted (i.e. TVWA annual report has been submitted). See Melissa R. if you need access to Share Drive. COF needs the sign-in sheet for the Contractor Workshop we did with FNSB in April 2023.

Illicit discharges, CESCL training numbers, sign-in sheets for Storm Water (DVD) training (CoNP is picking them up from UAF this afternoon), DOT outfall sampling, public comments on Storm Water received by DOT via social media, maintenance logs (due in January 2024), TVWA Annual Report, storm drain stenciling 2023 location map, dry outfall sampling, Don't Pollute Spring PSA, for the year briefly discussed for inclusion in Annual Report. Submittals from all permittees contributing to the annual report are due December 1 and submittals should be uploaded to the Microsoft Share Drive (except for UAF, they will use the Google Drive).

Road maintenance logs are still needed (CoF, CoNP) and this is the time of year we collect those. UAF has already submitted theirs. Also need MS4 training sign-in sheets from CoNP (Note: CoNP submitted both of the outstanding items above shortly after the meeting). We need any new snow dump location changes.

**7) Other Business:**



2023 Storm Drain Art (SDA) Posters have been printed by TVWA/COF and are ready for display at Barnette Elementary School (team effort: Cory, Melissa, and John)!

### **8) 2024 Look Ahead**

School Storm Water Presentations. Letter (email) to schools/science teachers to go out next week. Pearl Creek Steam Night is Friday, February 1. This will be our first Public Education Opportunity for 2024. DOT and COF have purchased a new Watershed Model (Stream Table) for use as a hands-on activity that complements the SW presentations. This has been very popular and successful with students and teachers in the past.

Storm Drain Art (SDA) Event, we have a date: First Saturday in June (Saturday, June 1). We made a request that TVWA share the past two year's (2022 and 2023) SDA locations with FAST planning so that they can add those locations to their SDA online picture map.

Ideas discussed for increasing participation: Reach out to UAF Art Department, Expressions in Glass, First Fridays.

Stream Clean-up Day 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary! Saturday, June 8 is the date!

Hopefully the Aurora Bridge construction project will be completed so that we can return to the Lion's Club Park!

How to better advertise? Go with social media, news articles, and radio spots. We will be using social media more this year (Facebook, COF & DOT) What about a T-Shirt Contest for t-shirt designs for the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the event? It would be good to include sponsor logos on the back.

Please send more ideas on how we can make this event special for the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Melissa: reach out to Newsminer so that they can do an article highlighting this long-standing community event. Also continue with radio spots to advertise it.

2024 Public Outreach Events: we are required by our permit to do at least 3/year. Outdoor Show, ~~Outdoor Days~~, Earth Day, Midnight Sun (we need to do a minimum of 3 to meet our permit req.). TVWA had a good turnout on Wild Salmon Day. They are considering offering the same but at the Midnight Sun Festival in 2024. Outdoor Days (Tanana Lakes) will be a good venue if it is not canceled this year as it was the two past years.

Outdoors day has been canceled frequently the past few years, so we won't count on that one. There is a new event this year: (1) Golden Heart Waste Management Recycling Symposium. January 19 at the Carlson Center. TVWA will do (2) Midnight Sun and (3) Wild Salmon Day. Cory: (4) Fairbanks Waste Reduction Week (GreenStar, Compost FBX, soil and water conservation district; happens in March). We will investigate this. We are going to register for the January 19 event! Need volunteers to staff a table from Noon to 7pm. So far Melissa Spicer, Melissa Riordan and I will participate. Can we get another



couple of volunteers? I will circulate a sign-up sheet by email. (5) Outdoor Show, April 19<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup>; this year looks like it is at the Tanana Valley State Fairgrounds and NOT at the Carlson Center.

Hand-outs and Swag: scoop the poop bag holders is one we already have. Squeeze ball of "spout the drop". Melissa has information on where to get these. Chris Brenner had some good ideas last year; I will find my notes on that. Chris D.: stormwater superhero/stream cleanup capes for kids! FWW has fridge magnets with kitchen measurement conversion with a water conservation message and reusable shopping bags.

Brief discussion on the UAF Environmental Community Partnership with US Army Fort Wainwright, led by Fischer Ridge and Ida Peterson. They have discussed this with FSWAC member, Russ Steiger (not present). Ida is looking for new opportunities for collaboration. She also informed the group about a "pale sheen" detected on the Chena River in summer and white and black residue in a drainage canal that had an unusual (sewage) odor. We also discussed the FWW Earth Day Event. It is not currently available to visitors except for presenters. FWW Boss Program was acknowledged for 2023 Stream cleanup day participation.

#### **9) Current Advisory Committee**

MS4 expiration date (June 30) has passed but our permit has been administratively extended by DEC (J. Rypkema). We don't know when. Janet Smith: we received a letter saying that DEC is going to re-issue permits. COF has been billed for the permit fee. Once the permit is issued, we have 180 days to draft a new intergovernmental agreement to divide permit responsibilities.

#### **10) Ideas carried over from July Brainstorming Session**

SDA event ideas for increasing artist and public participation. Location for 2024 TBD. We need flyers for this year's SDA event to bring to businesses and events like First Fridays art openings. DOT and TVWA can help with this. The flyers could have a QR code that links to more information. Janet suggested perhaps moving the event to residential neighborhoods. Some discussion of this and/or doing the event in multiple locations. This would be logistically difficult from a safety and traffic control standpoint. The City Engineer told me after the meeting that we should NOT worry about choosing roads that will be re-surfaced when we decide on this year's event location. Ida described some of the storm drain marking activities done on base.

Discussion about increasing public participation through increased use of social media. Chris D.: public participation is low until an issue that comes around that is about to affect them. When can use social media to promote upcoming and recent successful projects (i.e. 5<sup>th</sup> avenue repaving). Discussion of holding next contractor workshop (2025) at the Northern Living Home Show or AGC "Agency Day", to increase contractor participation which was low in 2023. We could call contractors and request that they send a representative to the workshop.

**Adjourn** meeting ended at 12:00pm