

May River Watershed Action Plan Advisory Committee Meeting

Theodore D. Washington Municipal Building, Henry “Emmett” McCracken Jr. Council Chambers, 20
Bridge Street, Bluffton, SC

July 25, 2024

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Rogers called the meeting to order at 3:03pm.

II. ROLL CALL

PRESENT

Chris Shoemaker
Vice Chair Al Stokes
Chair Stan Rogers
Jessie White
Chris Kehrer
Larry Toomer

ABSENT

Amber Kuehn

III. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

1. Adoption of June 27th, 2024 Minutes

Motion to adopt the June 27th, 2024 made by White, Seconded by Shoemaker.

Voting Yea: Shoemaker, Vice Chair Stokes, Chair Rogers, White, Kehrer, Toomer

IV. PUBLIC COMMENT

V. NEW BUSINESS

1. Election of Officers - Beth Lewis, Water Quality Program Manager

Motion to have Stan Rogers continue serving as WAPAC Chairman and Al Stokes continue serving as WAPAC Vice-Chairman made by White, Seconded by Shoemaker.

Voting Yea: Shoemaker, Vice Chair Stokes, Chair Rogers, White, Kehrer, Toomer

2. Strategic Plan Priority Seven (7) to establish a Climate Resiliency Plan for adaptation to coastal impacts from changing environmental conditions (“rain bombs” and sea level rise) on stormwater runoff water quality and quantity. Assess the environmental resilience of stormwater ponds to changing climate conditions for retrofit opportunities, e.g. ensuring ponds have capacity to hold rain events instead of being pumped full of ground water. – Beth Lewis, Water Quality Program Manager

Staff presented on the Resiliency Analysis and Comprehensive Drainage Studies currently in process by the Town. These studies include engaging community members to identify historical areas of flooding through a coastal flooding survey, scientific modeling, and

analyzing current stormwater infrastructure. The committee then offered feedback for Town consideration, which included the following: releasing the coastal flooding survey in Spanish; including marsh migration data in the Town's dataset that will drive a watershed resiliency plan; working with the South Carolina Department of Natural Resources (SCDNR) to obtain data on oyster migration and oyster leases and focusing Town HOA educational resources on best irrigation practices.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn at 4:30pm made by White, Seconded by Shoemaker.

Voting Yea: Shoemaker, Vice Chair Stokes, Chair Rogers, White, Kehrer, Toomer

NEXT MEETING DATE: August 22nd, 2024