



MARION WATER QUALITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

MEETING MINUTES

O R E G O N

Tuesday, November 12th @ 5:30 pm | Attendance in-person and virtually (via Teams)

MEMBERS PRESENT: Gary White, Chair, Member at Large
Brenda Sanchez, Vice Chair, Member at Large
Jeff Crowther, Member at Large
Mark Grenz, Home Builders Association
Richard Walker, Member at Large

STAFF PRESENT: Stephanie Pulvers, Marion County Public Works
Cory Swartwout, Marion County Public Works
Roxanne Toepfer, Marion County Public Works
Ryan Wade, Marion County Public Works

GUESTS: Lyle Schellenberg
Angela Plowhead

ABSENT: Rick Massey, Land Development
Jake Hush, Member at Large
Brent Stevenson, Agricultural Industry

QUORUM: Yes

MEETING OPENED Gary called the meeting to order at 5:37 p.m. Attendance was noted, and introductions were made.

CONSENT AGENDA **Meeting Minutes**
Approval of August 13 and September 18, 2024, Meeting Minutes:

- Motion: Brenda moved to approve minutes; Mark seconded.
- Discussion: None.
- Results: Voice vote is unanimous – motion passes.

STAFFING UPDATE **New Environmental Compliance Specialist**
Ryan Wade, the new Environmental Compliance Specialist, was introduced to the committee. Ryan started at Public Works in 2022 as a summer temp in the Engineering division and has been working with the Parks team on wildfire recovery for the last 1.5 years. Ryan brings a lot of experience in the environmental realm, including project management, stormwater permitting, education and outreach, and volunteer management.

ACTION ITEMS

Construction Site Runoff Control Management Strategy

Staff reintroduced the Construction Site Runoff Control Management Strategy for approval after modifications. The options were updated to clarify the potential consequences of inaction and consolidate program elements. Staff explained the three revised options, which the committee needed to review and reapprove.

Revised Options:

- Option 1 (No Action/Non-Compliance): Marion County takes no action to implement a runoff control strategy, resulting in non-compliance and potential daily fines from DEQ.
- Option 2: Expand Marion County's Erosion Prevention and Sediment Control Program countywide, with or without the 1200-CN permit. This option would require increased staffing and resources for effective management and enforcement.
- Option 3 (Preferred): Incorporate erosion and sediment control language into building permits, informing applicants of their responsibilities and providing resources for voluntary compliance. This option also includes the development of a GIS tool to help applicants determine if their project site is near a conveyance system or water body.

Recommendation of Construction Site Runoff Control Management Strategy:

- Motion: Mark moved to reapprove the Construction Site Runoff Control Management Strategy with the revised options, affirming option 3 as the committee's recommended approach.
- Second: Jeff seconded the motion.
- Results: Voice vote is unanimous – motion passes.

COMMITTEE STRUCTURE

Bylaws

Gary discussed the need to review and potentially update the MWQAC bylaws to reflect current roles, processes, and membership needs. Options were presented for conducting the review via a subcommittee or by staff alone.

Subcommittees

The committee agreed to form a subcommittee for bylaw review, with members including Brenda, Richard, Jeff, and Gary. Cory will send an email to see if absent members would like to participate. Staff will support and coordinate virtual meetings to ensure participation.

Future Planning

Staff proposed using the February 2025 meeting to review program goals and strategies, integrating findings from the bylaw review into strategic planning.

REGULATORY UPDATES

Temperature TMDL

The Willamette Subbasin Temperature TMDL has been approved. Staff expect approval of the Willamette Mainstem and Major Tributaries Temperature TMDL by February 2025.

New Pollutants TMDL: No new information.

MS4 Phase II Renewal:

Staff reported that The DEQ is finalizing the post-construction language within the draft MS4 permit. Final language for the permit renewal is expected early in 2025. Additional timelines are being updated and will be shared with permittees once available.

STAFF UPDATES

Annual Reports

Staff completed annual reports for MS4 Phase II and TMDL compliance. These reports will be available upon DEQ approval.

Upcoming Training Events:

- Certification Prep Classes: Laws and Safety and Right-of-Way classes will be hosted by OSU Extension in February 2025.
- BMP and CESCL Training: The annual BMP Field Training and CESCL Training are scheduled for March 2025.

COMMITTEE UPDATES/FEEDBACK

Members shared updates on local water conservation projects, educational programs, and upcoming initiatives, such as the Marion Soil and Water Conservation District's cover crop program and urban conservation efforts.

PUBLIC INPUT

None.

MEETING ADJOURNED

Gary adjourned the meeting at 6:17 p.m.

NEXT MEETING:

February 11, 2024, at 5:30 pm – Marion County Public Works