

Minutes from April 18, 2012 WRAC Meeting

Attending this meeting were the following: Ron Beck, Barry Rosen, Jeff Clymer, Janet Adachi, and Rob Bukowski.

Ron Beck opened the meeting at 7:01 PM.

The minutes for the March 14, 2012 meeting were reviewed and unanimously approved.

Most of the discussion of this meeting was focused on section 6 of the Chapter W Bylaw which defines the performance standards by which activities will be evaluated for permitting purposes.

The first performance criterion in section 6 is qualitative. This first criterion provides that “No new storm-water conveyances (e.g. outfalls) may discharge untreated storm-water directly to or cause erosion in wetlands or water bodies or vernal ponds as defined by the Commonwealth and/or the Town of Acton”.

Maximum velocity of run-off is a factor in erosion so may not be appropriate as a separate criterion

May not want to limit erosion to wetlands, water bodies and vernal pools as erosion adjacent to these may lead to issues

May not want two thresholds for small and large properties

Need to decide as to whether a 10-year or 25-year storm will be the standard (currently the zoning bylaws use a 10-year storm as the standard).

Measure of recharge for criterion #4 shall not include “subsurface sewage disposal” (no definition of this term is needed).

Remove 80% of total suspended solids (TSS) - look in the Handbook for BMP and percentage removal from the different best management practices (BMPs).

Maintenance plan and need for a storm-water utility, possibly a wastewater utility

The issue is how we reference the Handbook and what we change. The key criteria for section 6 are also in the Handbook so we may want to reference the Handbook rather than restate all of these criteria in the bylaw.

Homework for Jeff is to review and modify the Bylaw to more directly accommodate the Handbook.

Rob provided some feedback on some questions that arose in a prior meeting. Soil types (higher the number the more runoff) are all defined. Key references for many of the

critical measures and standards are the TR55 Manual and the TP40 May 1961 rainfall numbers.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:47 PM.