



**Minutes**  
Water Quality Advisory Council  
January 9, 2018  
Missoula City-County Health Department  
301 West Alder 7:00 p.m.

**Present:**

Brett Rosenberg - WQAC  
Bruce Sims - WQAC  
Ian Magruder - WQAC  
Todd Seib - WQD  
Travis Ross - WQD  
Jen Harrington - WQAC  
Bev Young - WQAC

John DeArment - WQAC  
Don Latham - WQAC  
Lucricia Olson - WQAC  
Casey Ryan - WQAC  
Bob Hayes – City of Missoula, Stormwater Division  
Lauren Sullivan - WQAC

Bob Hayes – Stormwater Utility Superintendent gave an overview of the stormwater utility proposed facility plan and subsequent rate study. Current funding covers 2 staff and minimal projects. Billing goes out twice per year (\$9 per residential and \$23 per commercial parcel, city only). One CIP project this year was a rate study and a Capital Improvement Plan (CIP). Current maintenance covers just emergency repairs (vactoring out or replacing sumps). Piped lines were covered by the Wastewater Treatment Plant. The sumps were maintained by the City of Missoula Streets Division. Facility Plan should be completed in 3 or 4 weeks. The rate study is occurring concurrently and is looking at rate structures in other towns in the state and northwest. It is based on a vehicle trip number which is averaged over residential parcels. It was difficult to apply impervious area to the rate model. The plan and fee are scheduled to go out to public in coming months and then be in front of council and implemented by July 1<sup>st</sup>. Vehicle base model was chosen to establish fees. International Traffic Engineers manual provides a table that correlates commercial square footage and business type to trips per day.

There are seven MS4s in Montana. There are a few others such as Belgrade and Whitefish which are close to becoming an MS4. There are water quality requirements (TMDL's) that developed Waste Load Allocation. Missoula was the last program to be developed. Missoula infiltrates 77% of its stormwater.

Caras Park stormwater treatment device (Stormceptor) is one project that this utility supported. First cleaning of the unit will be in May. Council suggested that it would be good to get a metals analysis of this water. Phase II of the Caras Park Stormwater Project is in the Capital Improvement Plan. Phase II will infiltrate the water with a bypass pipe. It would likely go into infiltration chambers within the "hill" at Caras Park.

The utility will be working with WEN on classroom education, stormwater desiltation chamber. Montana Natural History Museum is an education partner as well.

The City of Missoula is in the 2<sup>nd</sup> year of a five year permit issued by Montana DEQ. Miller Creek is not included in the MS4. Water quality improvement projects outside MS4 would not covered. This was discussed by the WQAC in terms of possibility of paving or applying dust suppression on sections of roads that are contributing higher volumes of sediment. The council also discussed benefits in collaboration with the county. Bob stated that the University of Montana and the City are working on a co-permittee program.

The utility's wish list includes:

## Maintenance

### Phase II Caras Park

#### Hard Pipe solution for west of town – Engineering Analysis

More Comprehensive Facility Plan – There were cuts to the levee plans. There are 4 USACE levees. 2 are private. There are twice per year inspections (one with city and one with city and USACE). Trees will be clear cut. Another Levee is Pattee Creek. Another at Grant Creek from traffic light. North end of levee on Grant Creek was compromised. Another is along South Bank of Clark Fork by Madison Park. One charge of the stormwater utility is to maintain the levees. There is a 1.1 mile long levee in the Target Range area that is currently maintained by Missoula County. USACE maintenance manual states that all woody vegetation must be removed. USACE also requires a beaver management program. Bob stated that trees are inviting to the beaver. DNRC oversees the high hazard dam at Playfair Park. There has not been an ESA consultation on the tree removal program. The council expressed general concern of water quality and habitat detriment that may be caused by removing the riparian vegetation on the levees. Maybe there is some hybrid approach to levee management (clear a certain diameter of tree or offset the cutting by doing some planting on the south bank).

Ian will sign letter of support for the phase II Caras Park Stormwater Project.

Next meeting: Ian and Don update on their work on Smurfit Stone. Don believes the amount of material that would be washed out should a breach occur would be negligible. Northwestern Energy should be approached about the pcbs on their site.

#### Water Quality District update

Status of HHW building.

Submitted by: Travis Ross