

Present: Scott Batterton, Robert Scott, Rich Edinger, Babafemi Adesanya, Neil Schaap, Randy Strunk, Anita Atkinson (online)

GWINNETT COUNTY STORMWATER AUTHORITY

OFFICIAL MINUTES

June 17, 2022; 2:00 P.M.

I. Open Meeting: Chairman Batterton

- i. Meeting called to order, verified quorum.
- ii. Approval of Agenda: June 17, 2022.
{Action: Approved; Motion: Scott; Second: Adesanya; Vote: 7-0}
(Batterton-Yes; Scott-Yes; Edinger -Yes; Schaap -Yes; Adesanya-Yes; Strunk-Yes; Atkinson-Yes)
- iii. Approval of Minutes: October 15, 2021.
{Action: Approved; Motion: Strunk; Second: Schaap; Vote: 7-0}
(Batterton-Yes; Scott-Yes; Edinger -Yes; Schaap -Yes; Adesanya-Yes; Strunk-Yes; Atkinson-Yes)

II. New Business

- i. Election of 2022 Officers (Scott Batterton, Chairman)

Call for Chairman nominations: Robert Scott nominated Scott Batterton:
{Action: Approved; Motion: Scott; Second: Edinger; Approved by All}
(Scott-Yes; Edinger -Yes; Schaap -Yes; Adesanya-Yes; Strunk-Yes; Atkinson-Yes)

Call for Vice Chairman nominations: Neil Schaap nominated Robert Scott
{Action: Approved; Motion: Schaap; Second: Batterton; Approved by All}
(Batterton-Yes; Edinger -Yes; Schaap -Yes; Adesanya-Yes; Strunk-Yes; Atkinson-Yes)
- ii. Law Department Refresher (Nathan Wood, Gwinnett County attorney)
Reviewed legal aspects for an authorized Board of the county including Open Meetings/Open Records Act(s) requirements and obligations; offered to attend future meetings.

SWA agrees to Law Department attendance at future meetings.
Questions/Comments: Member issues – current IT security policy is causing lock-out of county email.
Tyler Richards will work with IT for a solution.
- iii. 2021 Stormwater Program Recap (Rachel Jones, Capital Projects Portfolio Manager)
Reviewed budget and 2021 accomplishments.

Questions/Comments: What happened to Bird Lake Dam project? Lilburn determined they were not a property/dam owner.

- iv. American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Funding (Kat Gurd, Division Director, Stormwater/Brandon Harris, Eng IV Program Manager)

Discussed County ARPA funding. Dam rehab projects have been allocated \$10M. Discussed proposed projects – all are subject to Georgia EPD Safe Dams Program regulations.

Questions/Comments: Discussion on range of potential construction costs for proposed dam projects related to differing complexity; no anticipated delays with utilities, easements already in place.

- v. Dredging Requests/Costs (Gurd)

DWR receiving many community requests for lake dredging. Approximately 197 lakes across Gwinnett County; 90% private ownership; dredging costs can be \$1M+ per location; Stormwater Utility Ordinance doesn't allow funds to be used for work that is not within public right of way or county owned.

Questions/Comments: Lake maintenance discussion; SWA affirmed that responsibility is the owner(s) or HOA, not the county or SWU. DWR should work to provide guidance to owners and HOAs to help with long-term understanding of obligations and budgeting needs.

- vi. Countywide Ordinance Review (Gurd):

DWR/SW involved in countywide review of ordinances. Discussed Stormwater sections under staff review. If members have any input/questions/comments, please provide to Kat Gurd by July 15, 2022.

Questions/Comments: SWA discussed rare frequency of buffer mitigation bank use and that no ordinance changes were needed from the Metro North Georgia Water Planning District Plan update.

- vii. Regulatory Updates (Gurd): Reviewed recent changes to Industrial General Permit, Phase I Medium MS4, and Metropolitan North Georgia Water Plan updates.

Comments/Questions: SWA questioned existing program details; requested more data on the IDIC program and success statistics. Kat Gurd to report back at a future meeting.

III. Old Business

- i. None

IV. Updates

- i. USACE Stormwater Utility Update (Gurd)

Corps has been unresponsive to utility fee update requests in 2022.

Batterton: Motion to Request to Move July 15 meeting to Oct 21, 2022:

{Action: Approved: 7-0; Batterton-Yes; Scott-Yes; Edinger-Yes; Schaap-Yes; Adesanya-Yes; Strunk-Yes; Atkinson-Yes}

V. Adjourn (Batterton)

Motion to Adjourn: Batterton

{Action: Approved: 7-0; Batterton-Yes; Scott-Yes; Edinger -Yes; Schaap -Yes; Adesanya-Yes; Strunk-Yes; Atkinson-Yes}

Welcome to the June 17th Gwinnett County Stormwater Authority meeting

Please mute your phone unless speaking



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2021 Stormwater Accomplishments

Stormwater Authority Meeting

June 17, 2021




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2021 Accomplishments

Donegal Way Dam Construction




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Stormwater Authority Meeting

Friday, June 17, 2021


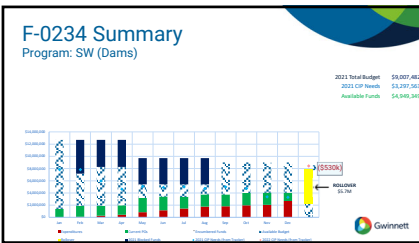



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F-0234 Summary

Program: SW (Dams)

2021 Total Budget	\$9,087,482
2021 CIP Needs	\$4,297,563
Available Funds	\$4,789,919

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2021 Accomplishments

Lake Louella Design and Procurement




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Agenda

- Law Department Refresher
- 2021 Stormwater Program Recap
- American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Funding
- Dredging Requests/Costs
- Countywide Ordinance Review
- Regulatory Update



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2021 Accomplishments

Stormwater F-0234 (Dams)



Design/Construction	Programmatic
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Donegal Way Dam Construction Lake Louella Design/Bid Process TM-1 Maintenance 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dam Breach Zones Added to Emergency Response System Protocol for Reverse 911 Minor Dams Program Development 104 Quarterly Major Dam Inspections 47 Minor Roadway Dam Inspections Dam Classification Studies (reduced two dams from Category 1 to Category 2 Status)



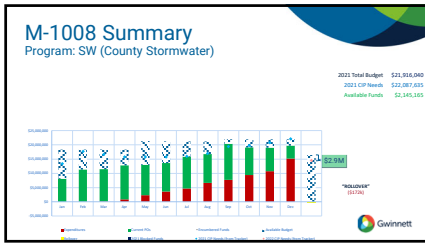
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2021 Accomplishments

Dam Inspections

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- ### 2021 Accomplishments
- #### Stormwater M-1005 (Liburn Stormwater)
- Design/Construction**
 - Liburn City Park Phase 1
 - Bird Lake Dam Design
 - 278 LF Stormwater Pipe Lining
 - 831 LF Stormwater Pipe Replacement
 - Programmatic**
 - 14,700 LF Stormwater Pipe Condition Assessment

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- ### 2021 Accomplishments
- #### Stormwater M-1008 (County Stormwater)
- Design/Construction**
 - Desiree Drive Culvert Replacement
 - Hickory Drive Culvert Replacement & Stream Restoration
 - 26,550 LF Stormwater Pipe Lining
 - 8,654 LF Stormwater Pipe Replacement
 - Programmatic**
 - 795,538 LF Stormwater Pipe Condition Assessment

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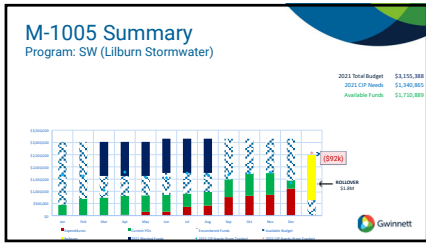
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Questions?

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American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA)

- What is it?
 - Continues State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds
- How Much?
 - \$181.6M awarded County-wide
 - \$144M for DWR Projects
- What Will the County fund?
 - Septic to Sewer Conversion Program - \$23M
 - Home Repairs Assistance Program - \$23M
 - Dam Rehabilitation Projects - \$10M



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Summary of Dams Project Drivers

Federal/State Regulatory Compliance

- NRCS Y-15 & H-21 Dams Outlet Control Structure Replacements & Pipe Linings
- Rhodes Jordan Park Lake Dam Rehabilitation

Life-Cycle Major Maintenance Needs & Safety Upgrades

- Combined NRCS Dams (10) - Outlet Works Rehabilitation
- Tribble Mill Park Dam No.2 Rehabilitation (NRCS TM-2)

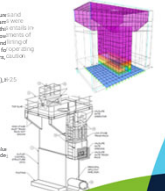
Funds must be obligated by the end of 2024 and expended by the end of 2026.

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Combined NRCS Dams (10) - Outlet Works Rehabilitation

- Description** - This is a combined major maintenance project for outlet control structures (OCS) principal spillways at 10 NRCS Dams that control reservoirs and operate. These dams were originally designed as flood retention structures throughout the county. As a project, the OCS will be replaced with new structures to extend the service life of multiple dam features. Improved OCS will reduce the risk of dam failure due to debris, erosion, overtopping, structural damage, localized concrete repair, and surface spalls. Some of the maintenance efforts to take place. Safety improvements for OCS will be performed and the public (i.e., roadway, parking, additional, signage, and access features, etc.) signage, parking) are also included in project.
- Lake Atlas** - H-22 (Shallowford), M-7 (Dunwoody), TM-1 (Dunwoody), Y-14 (Dunwoody), H-3 (Mableton) #1-15 (Dunwoody), Y-6 (Dunwoody), Y-6 (Dunwoody), H-1 (Dunwoody), H-1 (Dunwoody), H-1 (Dunwoody)
- Costs**
 - Design - \$160,079 (expended as of 2022)
 - Construction - \$2,425,000
- Schedule** - 8 to 10 months construction
- Status** - Pre-design conceptualization. Bid package & specifications being compiled. Value engineering design and permitting completed in 2021-2022. Continued public outreach needed.



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Home Plumbing Repairs & Septic System Repairs/Conversions

DWR is partnering with Habitat for Humanity for plumbing and septic repairs for low-income property owners within Gwinnett County.

DWR is currently evaluating potential septic system conversion projects and other potential partnership opportunities.



Plumbing Repairs

Service provided to low-income households with plumbing issues such as leaking faucets, clogged drains, water heater repairs, and pipe repairs.



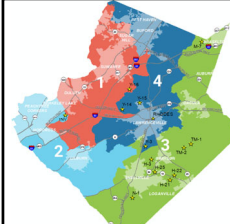
Septic System

Service provided to low-income households with septic system issues such as clogged drains, water heater repairs, and pipe repairs.

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PROJECT LOCATIONS




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Rhodes Jordan Dam Rehabilitation

- Description** - This high hazard dam in the City of Lawrenceville Park Lake is in need of an emergency. Project would install permanent valve(s) to serve as the primary spillway. Additionally, project entails the piping adjustment of a penstock arm at the toe of dam currently undergoing the embankment stream adjustments. Will also remedy issues of previously submerged foundation drains of the dam.
- Costs**
 - Design - \$272,000
 - Construction - \$1,600,000
- Schedule**
 - Design/Permit/Build - 12 months
 - Construction - 3 to 6 months
- Status** - Pre-design conceptualization. Value engineering design, construction planning, refined costs estimates, permitting, bid and specification packages needed.



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Proposed Dam Projects

- NRCS Y-15 & H-21 Dams Outlet Control Structure Replacements & Pipe Linings
- Combined NRCS Dams (10) - Outlet Works Rehabilitation
- Rhodes Jordan Park Lake Dam Rehabilitation
- Tribble Mill Park Dam No.2 Rehabilitation (NRCS TM-2)


Funds must be obligated by the end of 2024 and expended by the end of 2026.

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NRCS Y-15 & H-21 Dams Outlet Control Structure Replacements & Pipe Linings

- Description** - Original OCS for 15 pairs of concrete outlet dams at NRCS Y-15 and H-21 dams were evaluated after structural condition and structural assessments performed. Low-level gated dams of structures are non-compliant with state regulations due to poor operability and antique iron structure to obsolete per NRCS standards. Pipes will be replaced with current NRCS standard structures. Additionally, primary spillways will be lined to extend service life. Accompanying major maintenance items associated with dams (e.g., pipe) coupled to project to take advantage of contractor mobilization.
- Lake Atlas** - Channing Lake, Midway Lake
- Costs**
 - Design - \$461,148 (expended as of 2022)
 - Construction - \$1,430,144
- Schedule** - 10 to 12 months construction
- Status** - Pre-design conceptualization. Value engineering design and permitting completed in 2021-2022. Continued public outreach needed.



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Tribble Mill Park Dam No.2 Rehabilitation (NRCS TM-2)

- Description** - NRCS TM-2 dam impounds the upper lake in Tribble Mill Park that was constructed in the 1960s. Structural condition assessments and design impressions have shown the Outlet Control Dam Structure of the dam now needs complete replacement. Rehabilitation of principal spillway pipe and addition of long-term storage hours of lake is also required for project goals.
- Lake Atlas** - Candler Lake
- Costs**
 - Design - \$324,000
 - Construction - \$2,900,000
- Schedule**
 - Design/Permit/Build - 5 months
 - Construction - 6 to 8 months
- Status** - Pre-design conceptualization. Value engineering design, construction planning, refined costs estimates, permitting, bid and specification packages needed.




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Combined Costs




Project	Cost Estimate
NRCS Y-15 & H-21 Dams Outlet Control Structure Replacements & Pipe Linings	\$1,630,144
Combined NRCS Dams (10) - Outlet Works Rehabilitation	\$5,625,829
Rhodes Jordan Dam Rehabilitation	\$1,600,000
Tribble Mill Park Dam No.2 Rehabilitation (NRCS TM-2)	\$2,700,000
TOTAL	\$11,555,973



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Lake Dredging


- Growing numbers of customer inquires
- SWU does not support lake dredging

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Magnitude of Issue

- Dredging costs can be easily \$1M+ per location, depending on lake size and sediment depth
- ~\$95M in county-wide need for public and private inventory



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Questions?



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Stormwater Utility Responsibilities

Sec. 38-244. Scope of responsibility for the stormwater utility.

(a) The stormwater utility shall provide stormwater management services for existing and proposed public stormwater management systems and facilities, as defined in this division, subject to funding availability and to policy determinations made in the best interest of public health, welfare and safety and the environment. Additionally, the stormwater utility may accept the responsibility for providing stormwater management services, on those portions or sections designated by the board of commissioners to which uniform policies established by the board of commissioners, or those portions or sections designated by the board of commissioners to set such policies.


(b) The county owns or has title established by written agreements which allow the stormwater utility to provide stormwater management services and access those stormwater management systems and facilities which are located:

(1) Written public easements and public road easements;

(2) On private property, but written easements granted to and accepted by the county, or an otherwise permitted to be located on such private property by written agreements for rights-of-entry, rights-of-access, rights-of-use or other permanent provisions, or

(3) On public land which is owned by the county or by another governmental entity, and with which the county has written agreements to provide stormwater management services and access to the stormwater management systems and facilities.


(c) Stormwater management systems and facilities, which are located on private property or on public property not owned by the county or leased to the county by another political subdivision of the state, and for which there has been no written agreement granting easements which have been dedicated to and accepted by the county, rights-of-entry, rights-of-access, rights-of-use or other form of dedication thereof to the county for operation, maintenance, improvement and access of such stormwater management systems and facilities, shall be and remain the legal responsibility of the property owner, except as otherwise provided for by the laws of the state and the United States.



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Discussion

- How to address
- How to fund?
 - Owners
 - HOAs
 - Special assessment districts – how to delineate?
 - Other ideas



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Dredging Request/Costs







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Magnitude of Issue

197 lakes have been identified across the County

- Over 90% of these are privately owned

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Questions?



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Countywide Ordinance Review

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Questions?



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Industrial General Permit


- New EPD Electronic reporting for monitoring data to be rolled out
- Indicator Monitoring for pH, TSS, and COD (Parts 6.2.1 and 8)
 - Sample once a year for the duration of the permit
- Indicator Monitoring for PAHs (Part 6.2.1)
 - Sample once a year for the duration of the permit
- Applies to specific Sectors



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Stormwater Related Sections

- Part 1 – Related Laws
 - Division 9: Stormwater Authority: Creation (state enacted legislation, no edits)
- Chapter 38 Environment and Natural Resources
 - Article VI: Stream Buffer Mitigation Bank
 - Article VII: Stormwater Management
 - Division 1: Illicit Discharge and Illegal Connection
 - Division 3: Stormwater Utility
- Unified Development Ordinance
 - Chapter 800: Stormwater Management



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Regulatory Update



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Industrial General Permit (continued)


- Monitoring Schedules for Indicator, Benchmark, Effluent, and Impaired Waters Monitoring (Parts 6.2 & C)
- Benchmark monitoring for bacteria (Part C.2.4)
 - For Discharges into a Stream Segment Impaired for Bacteria
- Biannual monitoring for total phosphorus and Nitrogen (Nitrate + Nitrite) (Part C.2.6)
 - For Certain Sectors with potential exposure
 - For Discharges into Water Bodies Impaired for Chlorophyll a



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Review timelines


- Internal review ongoing
- If you have suggested edits, please email comments to katherine.gurd@gwinnettcountry.com by July 15th
- Comments will be forwarded to law for discussion



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Regulatory Updates


- Industrial General Permit (effective June 1, 2022)
 - Applies to Wastewater Treatment Plants, along with businesses that have specific SIC Codes.
- Phase I Medium MS4 Permit
 - Does not apply to the County but can be indicative of the future direction of our permit.
- MNGWPD Plan Update



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MS4 - Phase I Medium


- Existing Flood Management Projects, Table 3.3.1 (5)
 - Clarified that the BMPs required for retrofit review are only those owned by the permittee and designed prior to the 2016 GSM.
 - Our permit does not restrict us to those designed prior to 2016 GSM, it's all detention/retention owned by GC. This change could reduce our list, if we choose to follow the restriction.
- IDDE Plan, DHS Table 3.3.2 (3)
 - Clarified that permittees could use "approved alternate method inspections" this could be a separate method for addressing illicit discharges (e.g. staff training, increase focus on inspections of potential sources).
 - We presently do not have permission to use an alternate method. If they include this option in our permit, we could potentially change our approach, ex. more business inspections, dye testing of the business.



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MS4 - Phase I Medium

- Impaired Waters Plan, Section 3.3.7.
 - Revised to required E. Coli monitoring in place of fecal coliform bacteria upon EPA approval of new standard.
- GI/LID Structure Inventory 3.3.11(b)(3 & 4).
 - Requires that permittee's GI/LID Inventory includes all publicly-owned GI/LID structures including those owned by other entity not covered by an MS4 Permit (that the Permittee has legal authority to inspect) **i.e., GC Public Schools, State buildings with GI.**
 - BMP inspections used to meet this requirement must be performed by the Permittee or their contractor, not by the owner of the BMP.




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2022 SWA Meetings

Future Topics


- Private BMPs: how many exist and how do we manage these BMPs?
- Drainage easements: private and eroding. What can we do for the customer?
- Policies regarding upsizing pipes based on modeling.



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MNGWPD

- New version has some minor changes to the Watershed Action Items
 - **Watershed 1** – Post Construction SW Management – brings the action item into compliance with the changes in the MS4 Permits and the new RR requirements.
 - **Watershed 6** – Litter Control – the wording is changed from "should" adopt the District's Model Ordinance for Litter Control to "shall".
- **Removed 3** action items due to duplication with State law, EPD regulations, or the item is covered in another Action Item.
 - Watershed 2 – E&S Control
 - Watershed 7 – Promoting a Green Infrastructure Approach
 - Watershed 11 – Macroinvertebrate Bioassessments



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Questions?



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