



## GCWA Technical Committee Meeting Minutes

September 13, 2017

3-4:30pm

Jim Hamilton - L.B. Owens Airport Conference Room

### Committee Members

Lewis Kirk, James Atkins, Madilyn Fletcher

### Other Attendees

Erich Miarka, Mike Jaspers (City of Columbia), Bill Stangler (Congaree Riverkeeper), Jason Moak (Kleinschmidt), Jamie Kelso (CleanWater2020 – CDM Smith), Stephen Sealy (City of Columbia), Quinton Epps (Richland County), Alec Chaplin (Lake Katharine)

### Welcome

Lewis Kirk called the meeting to order at 3pm. Introductions were made.

### Minutes & Agenda

The minutes from the August meeting were approved.

Introductions were made.

### City of Columbia Lake Katharine Sewer Project

Jamie Kelso from the City's CleanWater2020 program briefed the committee on the upcoming Lake Katharine sewer upgrade project. This project is a result of the EPA consent decree. The project extends from Ft Jackson Blvd to the Lake Katharine dam, runs around the west edge of the lake, and parallels Pen Branch to Beltline.

Upgrade to a 30" gravity line from 18" to 20" line. Easement action is nearly completed. Corps of Engineers permit applications have been made, but approval may take around 6 months. Construction may begin July 2018 starting at the south end of the project so that the construction around Lake Katharine which will require a draw down of the lake will occur in Winter 2018.

Mr Kelso stated the purpose of the project is to eliminate the recurring SSO's that occur in the area. He stated a small section of line has been responsible for the majority of problems. In some areas, the smaller existing line will be utilized to collect from a number of homes to minimize disturbance, but will feed into the larger line.

He stated the new line/existing line and another existing line which comes down on the east side of the creek come together just above Ft Jackson Blvd and continue down the

west side of the creek adjacent and sometimes under Crowson Rd. The new line along Crowson will be a 42" line.

Mr Miarka stated that GCWA has the 319 creek restoration project coming up and that there are plans for a greenway along the west side of the creek there. He requested that the project team coordinate with us and the PDT as plans are being in that area. The lines in the area are 20' deep and so may not pose a problem; however, manhole placement may need to be considered.

Bill Stangler asked if this will eliminate SSO's in the Lake Katharine area. Mr Kelso stated that this project in combination with previous measures including pipe repair, small pipe and manhole rehab. He also stated SSO's have been reduced since the pipe rehab was done. He stated that a small section on Lake Katharine up near Pen Branch has historically accounted for the majority of SSO's.

Alec Chaplin said he lived in that area and has experienced 4 events in the past few months. Mr Kelso stated that any recent events have been the result of significant rain events and that on completion of the project they should be eliminated or greatly reduced.

Stephen Sealy stated that the City has implemented all the quick fixes that could be done until the major CIP project is completed. He stated the City has installed smart monitors on manholes which provide realtime data, but until the project has been completed the SSO's may still occur.

Mr Kelso said in a few areas the pipe will be placed under the lake bed, but will be encased in concrete. These are areas where coves or entering creeks are.

Mr Miarka suggested that we would like to maintain communication regarding this and other projects that the city is undertaking in the Watershed.

Mr Epps suggested that the public service providers (City of Columbia, Richland County, East Richland Public Service District) develop a regional master plan in coordination with the Central Midlands Council of Governments (CMCOG). Mr Sealy stated there is a work in progress to redefine the service districts.

#### Floodplain Preservation Program

Mr Miarka stated we need to develop a ranking criteria. He said perhaps it would be best done in an ad hoc committee.

#### Old Business

##### City of Columbia Gills Creek Debris Removal

Mr Jaspers stated that the City has included \$10 million for debris removal in Gills Creek in the City as part of the water and sewer bond recently issued. He is developing a 3 phase plan: a large debris cleanup from Lake Katharine to Rosewood, then Rosewood to Bluff, and an overall litter pickup. Mr Miarka will identify the large debris in those areas. Trees down in the natural areas below Rosewood may not be removed unless they create logjams or are impediments to navigation. Work may begin in a few months.

#### Crowson Rd 319 Grant

Mr Miarka said he feels GCWA should bid and manage the project with a steering committee made up of representatives from the City and County, and property owners in the area. Also the project will be set up as design, bid, build. The grant has a 3 year time frame.

Mr Jaspers said he likes the conceptual plan he has seen. He also sees no problem with the sewer line and City participation in the project. He stated he will check on the status of the Crowson Rd take over by the City as that would enhance options for the project.

#### County HMGP Buyouts

Mr Epps recounted the general locations of buyouts along Gills Creek below Rosewood. He stated the County will have a mini-master planning process to develop a land use plan in coordination with stakeholders and the neighborhoods in the area. He sees opportunities for a restoration project possibly including a park, and the greenway. The County announced the buyouts have been approved by FEMA but the actual properties are not identified.

#### New Business

There was no new business.

**The meeting was adjourned.**

**Next meeting: September 13, 2017 3-4:30pm**