

Minutes of the Chatham County Environmental Review Advisory Committee (ERAC) Meeting, March 12, 2015

Attendance

Committee members:

Present: Jerry Cole, Dave Mattison, Vic D'Amato, Fran DiGiano, Graham Swift, Ray Bode, Bert Garrido and Joan McLean

Absent: Mary Beth Koza, Sherri Stuewer and Terry Schmidt

Guests:

Catherine Deininger

Staff:

Dan LaMontagne, Chatham County Public Works Director

Call to order

6:30 PM by Chairman Jerry Cole for meeting to begin following the published Agenda

Introductions

All present, including guest representing Chatham Conservation Partnership

Recording Secretary

- Victor D'Amato was designated by chairman Jerry Cole as recording secretary for the meeting

Approval of minutes of the January 8, 2015 meeting

- Graham Swift moved to accept the minutes and David Mattison seconded the motion. All members of committee present voted to approve the motion.

Public Input

No public in attendance

Presentation and Discussion by Catherine Deininger of the Conservation Ordinance Review Committee (CORG)

- Planning Tools for Pittsboro project
 - o Collaborative Chatham Conservation Partners (CCP) project.
 - o 7 main planning tools to implement conservation plan in Pittsboro
 - o Hand-out: Summary Report - Land Cover Change Analysis and Urban Tree Canopy Analysis
 - o Ordinance is the tool that the other tools feed into
 - Natural Resource Conservation Ordinance - creates natural resource conservation overlay district
 - Tree Protection Ordinance - creates framework for communities to go through to go about protecting trees
- Natural Resources Conservation District
 - o 30' x 30' resolution, spatial layers rated by relative conservation value
 - o Seven HUC 12 watersheds that touch PBO ETJ

- CCP Wiki site <http://chathamconservation.wikispaces.com/>
- Presenting to Chatham BOC in April, along with CCP background (by Allison Weakley) - possibility of doing something similar in the County

Discussion of Proposed Permanent Rule - Mitigation Program Requirements for the Protection and Maintenance of Riparian Buffers

- Dan and Ray believe the language changes are not substantial
- Added provisions for alternate stormwater management methods
- Added option to enact stormwater controls for mitigation on a case-by-case basis

Updates from County Staff

- Refer to Dan's e-mail this afternoon about public comment period starting on proposed stream and wetlands impact permits for coal ash reuse projects - Thursday, April 16th 5:00 pm public hearing at Courthouse in PBO
 - 60-day comment period
 - Will be similar public comment periods and provisions for other permits
 - Dan believes leachate management is most important issue since pits will be lined
 - WWTPs would consider leachate as an industrial source and require a pre-treatment permit
 - Would we want to prevent WWTPs from land-applying sludge from plants treating coal ash leachate in Chatham?
 - Do we want to put together consensus comments?
 - Review permit application and come prepared for next meeting with comments
- Dan updated mission statement in accordance with ERAC suggestions and Diana Hales' comments - he will forward around for our review
- Watershed Review Board issues coming up in future meetings
 - NC 64 Storage facility offset of built-upon area
 - 3M going to expand quarry - stream and wetland impacts, and buffer impacts which we will look at

Announcements and updates from ERC members

- Jerry reported that we had previously discussed inviting a representative of Planning Commission. Planning Commission is currently going through zoning discussion and the current direction is not clear, so it would be better to wait on this.

Adjournment

- Dave motion to adjourn, Graham seconded
- The meeting adjourned at 8:00 PM

Next meeting will be April 9th at 6:30 PM - meet in Dan's conference room above the Y on East Street