

Standards Oversight Council
Meeting Minutes
September 12, 2002
DATCP Headquarters, Room 172
Madison

Present: Pat Murphy, Ed Odgers, Perry Lindquist, Rebecca Baumann, Mike Murray

Absent: Russ Rasmussen, Pat Walsh, Paul Daigle, Gail Lisse

Review of past meeting minutes.

General Issues

The Stormwater and Blue Book teams are both trying to base a standard on planning. Site selection (Stormwater) and site scheduling (Blue Book) are the two standards in question.

- The nature of planning fits better with companion documents than a technical standard.
- The DNR teams are including many code/legal items in their standards that should be excluded. SOC needs to address this issue with DNR to steer process back to writing technical standards. This issue results from DNR's historical reliance on regulations to enforce standards.
- The SOC process is not meant for writing administrative codes, the process needs to be followed.

Review of Work Teams:

Stormwater Infiltration

John Pfender, the team lead, had a heart attack and is at home recovering. Mary Anne Lowndes will be the acting team leader in his absence.

This team has been going for 1½ years with slow progress.

- Stormwater infiltration is a controversial issue.
- The council is concerned about the team's progress. Results are needed to avert burnout of team members.
- The progress of this team was discussed; the team needs to refocus on the objective. A divide and conquer approach that separates legal codes from the technical information should be tried.
- No facilitator is available at present due to staffing deficiencies.

The site evaluation standard group has compiled data that may fit better as a soil investigation specification. A soil investigation specification is worth having the team think about.

- The site selection material could then be incorporated into the remaining standards and/or a companion document.

A better plan is needed for this team to refocus on goals. There is danger of losing support if problems with the team are not resolved.

- At team formation the initial SOC intro may not have been effective.
- New teams need to be started better to avoid some of the problems this team is facing.
- DNR needs to determine the plan for the team.
- Is there a NRCS engineer who could replace Tim (who retired) on the Team?

AR: Mike update SOC on Infiltration team's progress after next meeting.

Polymer Team Review

The standard was sent for broad review Sept. 11.

DNR is not sure where they will house the companion document.

- Can it go with NRCS Technical Notes? Probably not unless there is some sort of overlap with the NRCS standards.
- The companion documents could be a chapter in DNR blue book or similar document.

Parking Lot: DNR needs to determine where their companion documents will go.

590

A review team will be set up in Jan/Feb for possible revisions voiced by users.

- A letter from the Municipal Environmental Group's attorney was received expressing concern about restricting the use of biosolids.
- Companion documents are being worked on by NRCS.

New Standards:

313 Waste Storage Facility

NRCS is receiving criticism regarding this standard. A few clean up items are required to update the standard. This standard is not on the SOC work plan but will be acted on.

- This is not an interim standard. How procedurally SOC shall form the team was decided. Solicit public for volunteers and ask old team members to join.

Hydraulically Applied Products

Gil Layton, WisDOT, has expressed interest in starting this team. He has spoken to people from Michigan and Minnesota that are interested in being team members.

SOC Coordinator Orientation Review

Meetings with Ed Odgers, Pat Murphy and Perry Lindquist

- Review SOC, discuss training options

Tours

- North Central Land Conservation Association Summer Tour – Portage County.
- DOT tour of road and bridge construction projects near Ithaca.

Future Meetings

- Grazing tour in Marathon County with Paul Daigle.
- Fall engineering Tour
- Entry Level Conservation Planner training February.
- Review TQM binders
- Oct. 3 John Bartow installing Mail Management software in WLWCA office
- Look for facilitator training.

General business

- Write quarterly reports for agencies by end of month.

Agency Updates

NRCS

- Farm Bill issues. Distribution of federal funding to counties, training, and planning programs were discussed at length.

New Soc Meeting Scheduled

Wednesday, December 18th 9:00 – 3:00 at the DATCAP office

Action Register

AR: Mike update SOC on Infiltration team's progress after next meeting.

Parking Lot

Parking Lot: DNR needs to determine where their companion documents will go.