

Standards Oversight Council

Meeting Minutes

October 26, 2004

DATCP, Madison

Present: Bruce Webendorfer, Pat Murphy, Gordon Stevenson, Rebecca Baumann, Mark Jenks, Mike Murray, Bruce Olson, Ed Odgers, Gail Lisse
Absent: Robin Shepard
Guest: Bob Dupont Director of Program Development Dept. of Commerce, Lynita Docken Dept. of Commerce

A SOC meeting was scheduled for 9:00 - 12:00 on Jan 25th in Room 266 at the DATCP Office in Madison.

Department of Commerce Inquiry

Bob Dupont and Lynita Docken from the Dept. of Commerce attended today's meeting to gather information and discuss the potential of formally joining SOC. A discussion about the formation of SOC and the underlying principals of the SOC process were reviewed.

- Increased communication between agencies and their shared responsibility has improved the quality of technical standards in the State.
- The composition of technical standards work teams is based on technical expertise. An agency is not required to have personnel on a work team if their staff does not have the proper technical expertise. Input from the user group is sought during the drafting process to insure the technical criteria are acceptable on a statewide basis. This includes consulting with those involved with citing the standards in state code.
- Technical standards are often cited in State code, but the revision/creation of the standards do not always parallel changes in code. Separating the politics/agency issues and science is strived for when drafting a standard. Science based standards can reduce conflict during code revisions by removing questions about the technical merits. How standards are cited in code is decided by the individual agencies.
- Each agency has a Memorandum of Understanding with SOC which outlines responsibilities of each party, including financial contributions. Funding for SOC is split between the agencies. The DNR, DATCP and NRCS each contribute approximately \$25,000. County LCD's are currently being asked to voluntarily contribute \$350 (if all 72 counties contribute it would equal \$25,000). It is thought that Dept. of Comm. can decide upon financial contributions based on their projected needs and benefits. **AR: Mike** send a copy of an agency MOU to Lynita.

A partnership between SOC and the Dept. of Comm. is seen as beneficial, particularly because of the need to develop more urban technical standards. Bob Dupont recommends that Lynita Docken represent Commerce on SOC.

Review of Action Items from the August meeting

Training

- The DNR has scheduled a series of post-construction stormwater management training sessions. The new infiltration technical standards will be highlighted. **AR: Gordon** insure all interested parties received an invitation to the stormwater training.
- Training at the WALCE conference in addition to the Technical roundtable was discussed. **AR: Mike** summary of SOC accomplishments for WALCE.
- A systematic training system or organization should be developed to deal with new and revised technical standards. SOC may be able to play a role, but it is thought another formal mechanism is needed to manage interagency trainings. Members of SOC work teams are a useful resource for distributing knowledge of new standards.
 - Both DATCP and the NRCS have some staff time allocated for organizing trainings. **AR: Pat** keep the state interagency training list up to date.
 - It was suggested that the WALCE board submit a formal request to the agencies requesting a recognized training mechanism. **AR: Rebecca** track future developments concerning with IWCG (formerly QST).

The UWEX is developing a website titled “runoff info.” This site will be a clearinghouse of urban and agricultural runoff information. Links to the DNR and NRCS technical standards will be included. Linking the DNR and NRCS technical standard web pages remains to be done.

The SOC promotional blurb was edited to connect with urban users better. The text will be ready for use once revised. A new version will be sent to the group.

SOC may qualify for the Innovations in American Government Award. See <http://www.ashinstitute.harvard.edu/Ash/awards.htm> for details. An award could help to promote SOC.

Work Team Updates

Stormwater Infiltration Team

Standards 1003 Infiltration Basin and 1004 Bioretention for Infiltration and Specification S100 Compost were posted on the DNR website along with the new Tech Note. Standard 1005 Infiltration Grasses Swales should be published soon. The legal aspect of how swales will be counted towards meeting the infiltration credit in the code is delaying publication. **AR: Gordon** check on the status of Infiltration Grasses Swales.

Channel/Sediment Erosion Control Team

The Sediment Trap draft is currently in the broad review phase. Four other standards are nearing completion, and two drafts only need modified drawings prior to publication.

313 Waste Storage Facility Team

This team will finish the revision of 313, 634 and Spec 300 in November. The companion documents and related specifications will be completed over the next few months. **Parking Lot:** Could/should the use of Standard 313 by a consultant designing a 32,000 cow dairy in Russia be used for promotion?

590 Nutrient Management Team

This month the group will finish responding to the broad review comments and updating 590 and the Tech Note. The NRCS will release a final draft version of 590 that will be cited in the ATCP 50 revision. This version of 590 will remain draft until after the code revision is completed. The work team will reconvene (if necessary) to address any comments of a technical nature generated during the hearing process. This provides the production agriculture community another chance to assess the impacts of the new 590.

Milking Center Wastewater Team

The standard will be sent for initial review in November. A few team members have started working with UWEX to develop a companion document and the process is going smoothly.

580 Streambank and Shoreline Protection Team

Progress is being made with this revision.

Proposed Teams

The next teams to start will be the Urban Nutrient Management and Feed Storage Runoff.

- Urban Nutrient Management – John Steier, UW has developed a bulletin on this topic with recommendations and is interested in sharing his research. Lori Bowman at DATCP was contacted and also expressed interest in participation. **AR: Mike** start Urban Nutrient Management work team with Mary Anne Lowndes.
- Feed Storage Runoff – Interest was expressed by Dan Hedrington, ACA and Senn Blacktop in participating when the work team is formed. There is a possibility that they can help with conducting research/establishing test sites. The PDPW and DBA must be involved in the process. Ed and Bob Wilson have drafted rough criteria about this topic that could potentially be used as an outline for the standard.
- The Dept. of Commerce is interested in having a standard for Infiltration Trench developed. This need was also noted by the Stormwater Infiltration Work Team **AR: Lynita and Gordon** discuss the need for an Infiltration Trench and other stormwater infiltration standards.

Agency Reports

- WLWCA – The annual meeting is Dec 1-3.
- NRCS – The budget will be finished soon. A new CSP signup is expected this winter although funding is uncertain because money is being pulled for disaster relief elsewhere in the country.
- DATCP – The main items are the 590 revision and the creation of the livestock siting legislation. **AR: Rebecca** publish the link to the draft livestock siting legislation posted on the DATCP website in the Thursday Note.
- UWEX – A new SOC display is being developed. **AR: Bruce W** send draft display board verbiage to group.
- DNR - Implementation of the non-point rules was reviewed. Another fish kill occurred in the southwest due to negligence. Statistically small and medium sized farms cause more problems than CAFO's.
- **Parking Lot:** For a future meeting. How to involve WI Ag Stewardship Initiative group (WASI). {Tim Johnson is the coordinator}.

Next Meeting: Incorporating companion document process into the Handbook.

Action Register

Bruce W send draft display board verbiage to group.

Gordon insure all interested parties received an invitation to the stormwater training.

Gordon check on the status of Infiltration Grasses Swales.

Lynita and Gordon discuss the need for an Infiltration Trench and other stormwater infiltration standards.

Mike send a copy of an agency MOU to Lynita.

Mike summary of SOC accomplishments for WALCE.

Mike start Urban Nutrient Management work team with Mary Anne Lowndes.

Pat keep the state interagency training list up to date.

Rebecca track future developments concerning with IWCG (formerly QST).

Rebecca publish the link to the draft livestock siting legislation posted on the DATCP website in the Thursday Note.

Parking Lot

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