

MINUTES
NORTH CAROLINA SEDIMENTATION CONTROL COMMISSION
COMMISSION'S TECHNICAL COMMITTEE
JUNE 17, 2021
ONLINE WEBEX MEETING

The North Carolina Sedimentation Control Commission's Commission Technical Committee met on June 17, 2021 at 3:30 p.m. online via WebEx. The following persons were in attendance for all or part of the meeting:

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Mr. Mark Taylor (Chair) – joined late
Ms. Karyn Pageau
Mr. AJ Lang, PhD
Ms. Robin Smith
Mr. Steve Albright
Dr. Rich McLaughlin
Ms. Toni Norton
Mr. Donald Pearson

OTHERS

Mr. Brian Wrenn, Director, DEMLR, DEQ
Mr. Graham Parrish, Assistant State Sediment Specialist, DEMLR, DEQ
Ms. Rebecca Coppa, Sediment Education Specialist, DEMLR, DEQ

Minutes:

In the absence of the Chair, the committee began the meeting at 3:35 pm.

Dr. McLaughlin gave a presentation/overview of the current trends in E&SC.

Ms. Coppa offered to track down the recording of Dr. McLaughlin's longer presentation from the 2021 Local Program Workshop for the committee.

Mr. Taylor asked the committee if any revisions were needed on the draft meeting minutes from the past two meetings. No edits were offered so the meeting minutes from April 15, 2021 and May 20, 2021 are now considered final.

The committee began to discuss their rankings of the suggested topics for the committee to address from DEMLR staff.

Ms. Smith proposed that the climate change/rainfall intensity topic provided by the SCC be a high priority. Mr. Albright concurred. The committee then queried Mr. Wrenn on how DEMLR

believes the committee could participate most effectively with regard to evaluating the impacts of greater rainfall/storm intensity/extreme weather events on state regulation of land resources.

Mr. Wrenn suggested that the CTC could keep eyes on real impacts from more intense/severe weather and sensitive sites and promote awareness and greater protection. He promoted preconstruction meetings as an opportunity to educate landowners of risky sites. He suggested higher design standards may be needed than those incorporated in the current SPCA. The CTC could look at design standard modifications, pre-rule-making technical support, and perhaps ways to incentivize owners and designers to utilize more protective E&SC measures.

Mr. Wrenn noted that a study is currently planned by DEMLR and NCDOT to revise NOAA Atlas 14 maps of rainfall intensity. DEMLR and NCOOR plan to study storm return frequencies for design, especially the Probable Maximum Precipitation (PMP). Toby Vinson is involved with the planning of these grant-funded studies and can provide more details. DEMLR is also working on more frequent inspections of risky sites and emphasizing preconstruction meetings.

Ms. Coppa offered to find and share with the committee the presentation Mr. Wrenn gave to the SCC on Nov. 5, 2020 about a risk-based approach to construction projects in mountainous areas of North Carolina.

Mr. Taylor noted that the meeting's scheduled end time had arrived and asked if the committee wanted to extend the meeting, add an additional meeting between today and the next regular meeting, or adjourn the meeting and resume discussion next month. The consensus was to add another meeting and determine the meeting date/time with a poll.

Ms. Coppa reminded committee members who haven't yet to submit brief bios to her to be shared with the other committee members.

Mr. Taylor suggested that a vice-chair vote should be held during the next regularly scheduled meeting of the committee.

Mr. Taylor ended the meeting at 4:41 pm