

Stormwater Committee 8/21/25 Meeting Minutes

Members In Attendance:

Fred Nichols – University Police
Norman Walker – Facilities – Utilities
Grace Tinker – Center For Management, Utilization & Protection of Water Resources
Jim Cobb – Capital Projects
Mary Elrod – City of Cookeville
Aiden Gillis – Student Representative
Dan Warren – VP of Facilities & Business Services
Committee Executive Officer
Michele Chumley – *Committee Administrative Services*

Absent Members: *Link to meeting recording emailed to absent members*

Joshua Edmonds – Residential Life
DeLayne Miller – Facilities & Business Services
Dr. Evan Hart – Earth Sciences
Dr. Michael Natrass – Agriculture

1. Meeting was called to order and a quorum was perceived at 11:06AM by Executive Officer, Dan Warren.
2. Executive Officer, Dan Warren welcomed & introduced committee members:
 - a. Future meetings will not occur on the first day of classes.
 - b. Dan Warren is VP of Facilities & Business Services and oversees physical assets including Capital Projects.
 - c. Dan Warren stated he is looking forward to an active year for this committee as there have been several changes in ownership.
 - d. Norman Walker will oversee Utilities (chiller, steam plant, underground, as well as electrical circuit back-up, sanitary, domestic water, and stormwater).
 - e. Grace Tinker shared that we have a state-certified commercial lab where they can do water quality analysis tests.
 - f. Mary Elrod shared that she has been in her position with the City of Cookeville since May 2022. She is our city representative and has been attending these meetings as delegated by Blake Mayo. Mary Elrod shared that the city does get a copy of building plans to see where runoff will impact their MS4 areas. *She also shared that the city adopted ordinance changes last year and that TECH normally follows them as well.*
 - g. Fred Nichols, UPD, is involved on an awareness level as if they receive calls and dispatch to an area, they in turn may need to notify the city who will assist with signage, road closures, cleaning grates, etc.

3. Executive Officer, Dan Warren entertained a motion to approve the agenda. Motion was made by Jim Cobb and seconded by Aiden Gillis. With no objections, motion passed.
4. Subsequent meeting dates have been scheduled for:
 - a. 11/6/25
 - b. 02/26/26
 - c. 05/21/26

Executive Officer, Dan Warren entertained a motion to approve the meeting dates. Motion was made by Jim Cobb and seconded by Mary Elrod. With no objections, motion passed.

5. Executive Officer, Dan Warren entertained nominations for FY26 Committee Chair. Norman Walker offered to be Committee Chair. Dan Warren entertained a motion to approve the nomination. Motion was made by Jim Cobb and seconded by Mary Elrod. With no objections, motion passed.
6. Old Business
 - a. Reviewed FY25 Annual Report:
 - i. Submitted in March 2025
 - ii. Eric Callahan left and was replaced by Matt Staton.
 - iii. RUC issue with cooking oils; secondary containment on loading dock spill issue; Auxiliary Services looking for better solution. *Grace Tinker asked if there was water quality monitoring from the grease issue?*
 - iv. Received complaint: North Franklin Street / Purple Parking embankment had water flowing across street / installed rip rap
 - v. 12th Street: 72" open end pipe flows water under 12th Street near Stadium
 - vi. South of stack at Steam Plant: catch basin (beginning of Short Creek)
 - b. No Miscellaneous Old Business

7. Miscellaneous New Business:

- a. Jim Cobb shared: Pumps in spillways/creek underground pumping out into pond
 - b. Mary Elrod shared: the city walks waterways/streets , traces paths to monitor water flow (illicit discharge, etc.) every 5 years. *Mary suggested Norman check what timeframe TECH monitors our MS4 area.*
8. Status of Campus Stormwater Projects – Norman Walker
- a. Three inspections last month on active projects.
 - b. Jim Cobb mentioned to check with Stefanie Rezsnyak for 1 year warranty issues.
 - c. *Mary Elrod suggested to get permits closed with the city.*
 - d. Jim Cobb shared that there are new buildings breaking ground in October 2025 & April 2026.

9. Such Other Matters

- a. Mary Elrod encouraged Norman Walker to contact Curtis Duncan to attend the TDOT meeting on the Willow Utility Relocation Project taking place in Chattanooga and possibly on Teams as well. Barry Turner is the contact for Water Quality Control and Carl Payne is the Energy Department Director.*

10. Executive Officer, Dan Warren entertained a motion to adjourn. Motion was made by Jim Cobb and seconded by Mary Elrod. Without objection, motion passed. Meeting was adjourned at 11:45 am.