

Stormwater Committee

11/6/25 Meeting Minutes

Members In Attendance:

Fred Nichols - University Police
Norman Walker - Committee Chair - Facilities - Utilities
Grace Tinker - Center For Management, Utilization & Protection of Water Resources
Jim Cobb - Capital Projects
Mary Elrod - City of Cookeville
Joshua Edmonds - Residential Life
DeLayne Miller - Facilities & Business Services
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.*

Aiden Gillis - Student Representative
Dr. Evan Hart - Earth Sciences
Dr. Michael Natrass - Agriculture

1. Meeting was called to order, and a quorum was perceived at 11:04AM by Committee Chair, Norman Walker.
2. Committee Chair, Norman Walker welcomed & thanked everyone for attending and had committee members introduce themselves.
3. Committee Chair, Norman Walker entertained a motion to approve the agenda. Motion was made by DeLayne Miller and seconded by Jim Cobb. With no objections, motion passed.
4. Committee Chair, Norman Walker entertained a motion to approve the 8/21/25 Meeting Minutes. Motion was made by Jim Cobb and seconded by Mary Elrod. With no objections, motion passed.
5. Opening Comments from Committee Chair Norman Walker:
 - a. Norman has passed the Level 2 certification; class and testing were completed successfully in Nashville.
 - b. Completing normal audits and everyday business.
6. Old Business
 - a. RUC issue with cooking oils; secondary containment on loading dock spill issue:
 - i. Norman Walker shared that the containers had not been replaced when he conducted his audit.
 - ii. *Dan Warren suggested that Norman contact Nick Dolata to bring to his attention and get an update on their efforts.*

- iii. Mary Elrod mentioned that she recently gave Dan Warren's phone number in answer to a concern they received in the City of Cookeville office from a new biology faculty member in regard to grease. She also mentioned that having a SOP to get the grease in the bins is needed.
 - iv. Matt Staton, invited guest, shared that he had discussed the grease issue with Nick in the past. Matt stated that there are inlet filters on the drains. He also stated that based on his previous conversation with Nick that he was exploring pump in place to eliminate the bins.
- b. Timeframe for TECH to monitor water flow/trace paths (our MS4 area) (City of Cookeville every five years):
 - i. Matt Staton, invited guest, stated that Norman conducts monthly outfall monitoring, those are the outflows from the outfalls of the campus MS4 area, but do not necessarily walk the path. Norman Walker confirmed. Matt stated that because we don't discharge directly to a blue line stream that we do not need to do analytical sampling, the monthly monitoring should be sufficient, based on the last audit.
 - ii. Mary Elrod, City of Cookeville, shared that TDEC structuring requires monitoring every five years by analytical monitoring of streams and a visual walk.
 - iii. *Norman Walker, Committee Chair, will follow up.*
- c. Permits closed with the City of Cookeville:
 - i. *Norman Walker stated he will make sure Wilmore Way aka Peachtree is closed.*
 - ii. Matt Staton, invited guest, mentioned that he previously saw the baseball and softball field with an open permit on the website.
 - iii. *Dan Warren asked Matt Staton to follow up by checking the site for any open permits and communicating back.*
- d. Update on Willow Utility Relocation
 - i. *Mary Elrod stated that she received a few letters in her office announcing the public meeting to be held at TECH on November 18, 2025, from 5-7 PM. The plans and documents will be available for review and comments.*

7. Miscellaneous New Business:

- a. Norman Walker mentioned that TECH will be breaking ground in the next month on the new residence hall. *Mary Elrod requested copies of the site plans for her records in case she receives any questions at the city level.*
- b. Mary Elrod, City of Cookeville, shared that the TDEC office in Cookeville has about six new employees. The city is normally audited once every five years with a check-in at two and a half years, but they are auditing them again next week, earlier perhaps because of the new employees. Jasmine

from the Cookeville office and Jeff Patton (contractor now) will perform their audit. TDEC's new temporary building is on 20th, and their permanent office will be in the new J&S building on Foreman when it is complete. MS4 audits are now done in the local office here, not from Nashville.
Heads up to us as we may get a call to audit.

8. Status of Campus Stormwater Projects – Norman Walker
 - a. Norman Walker shared:
 - i. Wilmore Way he will get permit closed.
 - ii. Foster Hall they are moving earth, but no issues.
 - iii. Tucker Stadium West, nothing has changed.
9. Such Other Matters
 - a. Grace Tinker shared that the Tennessee Nutrient Summit is at the engineering building November 7, 2025, 8-4:30. There will be attendees from TDEC and discussion on stormwater. Grace works with TDEC on data collection. *Invitation to stop in to attend when available.*
 - b. *Mary Elrod mentioned to confirm our MS4 annual report was submitted. It was due in September.*
10. Committee Chair, Norman Walker entertained a motion to adjourn. Motion was made by Jim Cobb and seconded by DeLayne Miller. Without objection, motion passed. Meeting was adjourned at 11:30 am.