

IMPLEMENTATION COMMITTEE MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

March 20, 2015; 10:00 AM

90B North Center Street

Cecilton, MD 21919

Attendees:

Bay View Estates (BVE) Residents: Bill Haines, Kathy Zawatski, Dave Heacock, Sandra Stake, Stephen Zawatski, Ken Cowley, George Hansell, Wilma Fitzner

Cecil County Health Department (CCHD): Angela Scramlin, Fred von Staden

Cecil County Department of Planning and Zoning: Eric Sennstrom

Cecilton Mayor: Joe Zang

Maryland Environmental Service (MES): Cassandra Carr, Kristen Keene, Jeff Halka

Maryland Port Administration (MPA): Dave Blazer

MPA Consultant: Fran Flanigan

URS Corporation: Chris Rogers

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE): Richard DePasquale, Timothy Kelly

West View Shores (WVS) Residents: Valerie Woodruff, Stephen Modzelewski, Eddie Lavin, Bruce Hemphill

1.0 Welcome & Introductions

Mr. Dave Blazer

- Mr. Blazer convened the meeting and welcomed the attendees.

2.0 Summary Approval

Committee

- The January 30th meeting summary was approved as corrected.

3.0 Presentation of Liner Construction

Richard DePasquale

- The planned modification involves the installation of a synthetic (plastic) liner over the Dredged Material Containment Facility (DMCF) to isolate newly placed dredged material from the underlying aquifer.
- The DMCF is treated as a landfill in terms of construction specifications, and the first step involves clearing and grubbing the existing vegetation within the DMCF, re-grading the existing perimeter dikes to an elevation of 50 feet (ft.), and increasing dike stability. New steel sluice boxes and associated pipelines will be installed as well.
- A thick cushioning fabric, known as geotextile, will be placed over the improved subgrade to protect the liner from puncture. The plastic liner will be placed on top of the geotextile fabric and then another thick cushioning fabric will overlay the installed liner. There will also be 12” of fill material placed over the liner system for further protection.
- The baffle dike will also be improved during the re-grading process in an effort to lengthen the flow pattern the water travels to the sluice box.
- Geonet material will be installed in some areas of the liner to allow air that originates from below the liner to exit laterally towards the perimeter dikes and prevent the formation of air pockets.
- Geogrid, or thick plastic netting, will be used to prevent settlement of particles in a localized area by distributing the load, and will be placed beneath the sluice boxes and pipelines.

- The particular geotextile material being used for the Pearce Creek DMCF can elongate five times its length without breaking, which is beneficial when dealing with differential settlement.
- Upon installation there is a rigorous quality assurance/quality control procedure and stringent project installation specifications which must be adhered to. Extensive field and laboratory testing will also be performed during construction to ensure all quality requirements are met (i.e. geomembrane strength and thickness, seam strength and integrity).
- The construction contractor will hire an independent specialty inspection firm to conduct liner monitoring and testing. The United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) will also inspect the liner construction components (10% of the seams) via their own hired firm.
- Geosynthetics are engineering materials that have been used for decades in similar applications and field performance has been excellent. Additionally, the use of geosynthetics for a liner system is preferred over clay and asphalt, which can crack and form open fissures.
- Prior to liner construction, 1-2 ft. of soil will be graded and remain in the DMCF throughout construction and ultimately be placed on top of the liner.
- During construction, there will be a significant degree of typical site preparation activity (i.e. tree clearing, grubbing) and equipment inside the DMCF.

4.0 Pearce Creek Reactivation Updates

Tim Kelly

Timeline of Liner Construction and Placement

- Contractor negotiations will begin on April 30th and the liner installation efforts will be initiated this summer. The contractor will have until July 2016 to install the liner, and dredging activities are anticipated to occur from October 2016 through March 2017.

Groundwater Monitoring Plan

- The groundwater monitoring plan is being reviewed by Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE).

Water Quality Discharge Monitoring

- The Water Quality Certification discharge monitoring will be conducted by the USACE via automatic samplers, which will collect water samples during dredging and surface water discharge

5.0 Exterior Monitoring Program

Kristen Keene

- The Pearce Creek DMCF Exterior Monitoring Program is a voluntary effort developed to monitor the environmental conditions surrounding the Pearce Creek DMCF.
- The first monitoring event (fall 2015) will serve as the baseline event; the data and measurements collected from the first event will be used to compare to all subsequent sampling events.
- Sampling events will occur bi-annually, once in the fall (prior to the dredging season) and once in the spring (after the dredging season has ended). There is flexibility in the sampling schedule to avoid such things as a big storm event, which could skew the results.
- Relative to the Pearce Creek DMCF monitoring efforts, samples will be collected from the Pearce Creek Lake and the Elk River; sample collection will be concentrated in areas where the water is being discharged.

- The Maryland Port Administration (MPA) has conducted exterior monitoring at other DMCFs such as Hart-Miller Island (HMI), Masonville, and Cox Creek.
- Based on the sampling results, there have been no indications of negative impacts to the environmental conditions surrounding the DMCFs.
- The monitoring stations for the Pearce Creek DMCF are still being determined; community concern regarding the beach area is being considered.
- Hydrographic and topographic surveys of the Pearce Creek Lake will be conducted before sampling begins, which will take about two (2) months to complete. The hydrographic surveys will measure the depth and bottom configuration of Pearce Creek Lake. Topographic surveys will be used to identify and map the contours and existing features of the Pearce Creek Lake and associated drainage channel.
- Once the surveying efforts are complete, the data will be used to finalize the parameters associated with the monitoring program.
- Outreach to the residents and other interested stakeholders will continue throughout the process, and the sampling reports can be shared with the public.

6.0 Drinking Water Line Planning Progress

Mayor Zang, Chris Rogers

- URS has completed the 95% design plans, bid documents, and specifications related to the water system construction and the plans have been submitted to Maryland Environmental Service (MES) for review.
- URS has been coordinating with the State Highway Administration (SHA) regarding the alignment of the main line pipe in the right-of-way on route 282. Sediment and Erosion Control, and Stormwater plans are contingent on SHA guidance, which impacts the need for easements and the ability to finalize the plans.
- URS is conducting borings along the main line and within the communities in an effort to delineate the road sections to determine necessary paving replacements later.
- URS met with the Cecilton Fire Chief and town hall representatives regarding the installation of fire hydrants. The water system can produce reasonable fire flows and the hydrants are being pursued by the Town of Cecilton independent of MPA, which would include ten (10) hydrants in each community with an additional four (4) hydrants along South Drive, totaling twelve (12) hydrants in each community.
- The current proposed financing plan will cost about \$22/quarter for each home and buildable lot for five years in Bay View Estates (BVE) to install the fire hydrants. West View Shores (WVS) will have a lower cost due to the higher number of lots; costs are spread over the existing and buildable lots. URS will be providing service line stubs to all buildable lots.
- URS has been in contact with MDE regarding the Cecil County Master Water and Sewer Plan and has requested that the Pearce Creek project (Cecilton) component be approved in advance of the entire plan. MDE agreed and will send a letter of approval for the Cecilton component.
- URS will be attending the BVE Community Association Meeting on March 21st and the WVS board meeting in May to present the water system plans.
- URS will need access agreements from Homeowners before the on-lot work can begin, which will be drafted by the Town Attorney. Easements will also be needed from the Homeowners' Associations.
- There is a need to inject chlorine at the beginning and towards the end of the line; there are no pumping stations required to increase pressure.

- A resident expressed concern about the high number of hydrants and presented a revised proposed plan. A meeting was arranged between the entities to discuss the number of hydrants.

7.0 Bottled Water Update

Dave Blazer

- Based on discussions with MES, MDE, and the Town of Cecilton, a filling station is not feasible.
- The MPA attorneys have determined that there is no lawful responsibility to provide bottled water.

8.0 Water and Sewer Plan Submission

Eric Sennstrom

- The Cecil County Master Water and Sewer Plan has been submitted to MDE and they have agreed to expedite the Cecilton subset of the plan. The entire plan is expected to be approved by the end of May.

9.0 Citizen Comments

Community Representatives

- Citizen comments were addressed and discussed during the meeting.

10.0 Other Issues

Committee Members

- The next meeting will be held on May 15th; the attendees were encouraged to inform MPA of any suggestions for agenda topics.
- A resident requested an update regarding the mowing of the side of the berm and the addition of trees in the communities.

11.0 Adjourn

Dave Blazer