



Meeting Minutes

NMSA Member Call

June 5th, 2017

3:30pm to 5:00pm EDT

I. **Phase II remand rule survey**

NMSA has assembled a survey, to be distributed to the NMSA email list, interest list, through WEF contacts (Chris French to work with Randy Neprash as appropriate) and the EPA NPS listserve. The purpose of the survey is to gauge understanding of the Phase II remand rule and provide feedback to the EPA. Robin Craver noted it would be a good incentive to provide the results to those that take the time to fill it out. She also noted that the survey should reference local VS4 organizations in addition to state organizations. A copy of the revised and updated survey is attached to these notes for reference. Randy Bartlett suggested that it would be helpful to provide information upfront in the survey on how the information will be used. Nate Hartman asked when the information would be shared with EPA – Randy Neprash was unclear exactly when this would occur, but noted it would likely be in mid-summer. Geoff Brosseau noted that it would be beneficial to describe the length of the survey upfront (to encourage people to complete the survey knowing it is a short survey).

II. **Future call dates**

- a. Two future call dates were discussed, Wednesday, September 6th and Tuesday, December 12th. The persons present on the call agreed to these two dates for future member calls. Scott Taylor will send an Outlook appointment with a call bridge. It was also noted that the NMSA meeting at WEFTEC will be held on October 4th, starting at 8am. More information to follow.

III. **NMSA Annual Meeting agenda (at WEFTEC)**

The annual meeting agenda for WEFTEC was discussed. Preliminary agenda items are:

- a. EPA update – Opportunity for EPA staff to provide members an update on EPA initiatives and direction
- b. WEF SWI Update – Chris French will update members on work the Storm Water Institute has completed over the past year, and initiatives for 2018.
- c. WEF Stormwater Committee update – WEF or Committee staff will update members on work completed by the Stormwater Committee, and anticipated work items for 2018
- d. Member Issues Forum (and survey) – We will hold a member forum during the meeting to discuss items of import to the NMSA members. This will be preceded by a survey sent to members ahead of time to help organize the discussion.

- e. Report out: Activities from Year – NMSA officers will report out on accomplishments of the organization in 2017.
- f. Planned Activities for 2018 – This item is planned as a round-table discussion on NMSA initiatives for 2018.
- g. Membership, and Treasurer Report - Reports will be provided on membership and finances.
- h. Handout: NMSA WEFTEC Guide – NMSA will provide attendees with a guide to stormwater activities at WEFTEC. This guide will be in .pdf format, and will note all Stormwater related activities, and will be color coded by activity type (i.e., workshop, paper session, meeting).

IV. Website and content

- a. Upgrades – The website needs to be upgraded to allow content to be easily uploaded. Currently there is a short blog and contact information and basic information about NMSA. The upgraded website, with target completion prior to WEFTEC, will have a 'page' format with resources and links. A request was made by Seth to the group to share ideas or thoughts on how best to upgrade the website.
- b. MS4 Database – This database would reside behind a map of the US, and would contain contact information for MS4 program leads, as well as MS4 Permits. More detailed information will be developed on this concept and shared with the group.
- c. Monthly newsletter – Monthly newsletter to be published by NMSA that will be in bullet format with information of relevance nationally. Will be a link to the newsletter on the NMSA website which will be sent to members monthly.

Geoff Brosseau noted that website content should be original, and not material available elsewhere. Robin Craver suggested the NMSA site could link to state websites for technical resources.

V. Regional EPA Roundtable concept

Seth Brown described that the roundtable for EPA would consist of engaging all 10 regions to participate on a quarterly or (interval TBD) to facilitate and coordinate information exchange. An underlying motive would be to improve consistency of implementation of the Act across the US, and facilitate technical exchange between the EPA and permittees.

VI. Report on Water Week Meetings

Scott Taylor provided an overview of meetings during waterweek in March of this year. The meetings held were:

- a. National Association of Home Builders – Eva Birk (will be providing a compendium of treatment requirements nationally).
- b. American Society of Landscape Architects – Mark Cason (Potential to review existing case studies)
- c. National Association of Clean Water Agencies – Emily Rimmel



- d. National Association of County Engineers and National Association of Counties – Brian Roberts and Julie Ufner (NMSA prepared an introductory article for organization’s newsletter)
- e. National Recreation and Park Association – Kevin O’hara. (NMSA prepared an introductory article for organization’s periodical)
- f. WEF SWI – Chris French provided a brief overview of this meeting.

Discussion on an FTP site used by the Minnesota Cities Stormwater Coalition (MCSC) for members to share permit-related information. A second FTP is also envisioned to share educational/outreach information in the future. Both FTP sites are “member-only” portals. This example was provided to illustrate a web-based feature that may be considered for NMSA’s website upgrade.

VII. Draft WOTUS comment letter

A comment letter to the USEPA on the waters of the US rulemaking (WOTUS) was reviewed. No suggested changes to the letter were discussed. Scott Taylor will send a note for an up or down vote on the letter during the week of June 5th to the membership. A copy of the draft letter is attached to these notes for reference.

VIII. Method for vetting comment letters

The members discussed the method for vetting and approving future comment letters. Scott Taylor suggested that draft letters will be prepared and emailed to members with a two week review period. Following the review period, the letter will be revised within one week and sent out for an up or down vote, with a simple majority required for approval. Members discussed that some comments in a letter may be ‘deal breakers’ and should be noted as such within member comments. Sensitive issues on comment letters will be addressed by the Executive Committee.

IX. NMSA Outreach update

NMSA representatives have provided outreach to the following organizations:

- a. Alabama – Seth Brown provided a presentation on NMSA, Alabama is in the process of forming a statewide organization that may join NMSA.
- b. Utah – Scott Taylor provided a presentation on NMSA, the Utah MS4 group, USWAC, is interested in joining NMSA.
- c. WA – Scott Taylor provided information to a group interested in forming a statewide organization to join NMSA
- d. HI – Seth Brown traveled to a WEF MA conference in Hawaii by invitation to provide a keynote address and information on NMSA.
- e. Articles: NMSA executive officers have written articles in the last quarter for NRPA, WEF, and NACE/NACO



The meeting was adjourned at 5:00 pm EDT.

Participants in the call:

- Christina Hoppes – AZ
- Nate Hartman – NE
- Randy Bartlett – VA
- Crystal Bishop – TN
- De Ette Smythe – LA
- Geoff Brosseau – CA
- Daniel Apt – CA
- JB Dixon – NE
- Chris French – WEF
- Scott Taylor – CA
- Randy Neprash – MN
- Seth Brown – WEF
- Robin Craver – MA
- Jesse Maines - VA