



**Term IV Semi-annual Meeting for Anchorage MS4 Permit No. AKS05255-8
Municipality of Anchorage and State of Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities**

MEETING SUMMARY

Wednesday, March 26, 2025– 2:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.
Online Meeting via Microsoft Teams

Introductions

Melinda Kohlhaas	Ron Searcy	Chris Moffitt
Kenna Billups	Alex Read	Kyle Cunningham
Vernon Vreeland	Renée Goentzel	Sam Kito
Tony Winsor	Orion LeCroy	Josh Horner
Steve Ellis	Kayce Eliason	Paul Van Landingham
Nick Waldo	Nicole Warner	Jim Belz
Burrell Nickeson	Kirk Warren	

October 2024 Meeting Summary – Approved
with no additions.

March 2025 Meeting Agenda – Approved with no additions.

Old Business:

2025 APDES Annual Meeting

Kenna B. – Thanked everyone for attending, asked for any feedback.

Melinda K. – Kudos for job well done, expressed that she always learns new things at the Annual Meeting and appreciates the reminder about APDES green infrastructure (GI) requirements.

Ron S. – DOT needs to get some new people on board, WMS will update invite list.

Orion L. – Apologies for not attending, wasn't sure if he received an invite. WMS will check to make sure he is on invite list for future meetings.

Melinda K. – MOA will be rolling out Campbell Creek Master Plan docs when they are finalized and will let people know how to get them.

Kenna B. – AWR is looking for GI project opportunities and identifying priority sites.

Melinda K. – Acknowledges that many MOA projects have difficulties incorporating GI due to project and environmental constraints (high water table, impermeable soils, etc.), and wondered about getting credit for GI projects in other areas.

Paul VL. – Recommended leveraging Parks and Recreation projects to fulfill GI requirements.

2024 Annual Report

Kenna B. – 2024 APDES Annual Report was submitted on time and ADEC is currently reviewing the report.

Term V APDES Application

The APDES permit term V application proposal has been submitted to ADEC.

Sam K. – DEC is approximately halfway through reviewing the proposal, should be able to finish up within the next few weeks.

Renée G. – Inquired about the status of the MSGP and APDES.

Sam K. – Delayed slightly, but APDES/MS4 should be wrapped up by mid-summer. MSGP expires on March 31, and will go into extended status if not renewed before then. All authorizations will be automatically extended until MSGP is renewed.

Nick W. – Nick is the lead on the MSGP renewal and is currently incorporating review comments and completing an internal review.

New Business:

Staff Changes

Melinda K. – Kristi Bischofberger is retiring but will be staying through mid-June and possibly longer.

Ron S. – No new staffing changes at this time, newest staff were introduced at the last meeting.

Paul VL.- Jim Belz and Hope Stizel will be retiring from MOA Street Maintenance on May 1st.

Melinda K. – Russ Oswald will be retiring from MOA PM&E on April 30th, Julie Makela and Charles Bang have accepted PM&E Project Manager positions.

ADEC Audit 2025:

ADEC will be auditing the APDES program again in 2025. Nicole Warner will be leading the audit for ADEC. A kickoff meeting will be scheduled in the next couple of weeks.

Nicole W. – Lots of ground to cover, trying to work within existing schedules. Goal is to contact permittees within the next week or two.

Renée G. – Asked for a schedule for audit inspections and deliverables.

Ron S. – Recommends doing construction site inspections this summer and paperwork audit would be preferable for fall.

Nicole W. – Acknowledged scheduling preferences and recommendations and will try to accommodate. No set specifics on sections/sectors/topics yet.

Volcano Prep:

Kenna B. & Melinda K. – MOA will be having a managers meeting tomorrow (3/27) to discuss volcano preparations in the event of a Mt. Spurr eruption. Melinda asked if there were any specifics in the permit regarding volcano cleanup or natural disasters.

Sam K. – The MS4 permit doesn't address natural disasters, any emergency operations or cleanup should proceed as needed and any necessary permits may be applied for after the fact.

Paul VL. – MOA Street Maintenance is working with the MOA Emergency Operations Center and other departments with emphasis on employee safety, PPE, and BMPs. SM will do its best to keep cleanup operations clean, may limit traffic in certain areas to concentrate BMPs for cleanup. SM is converting plows to squeegees and has been purchasing additional BMP stock. Recommends other agencies assess and purchase additional BMP stock.

Sam K. – Inquired about the use of street sweepers in volcano ashfall cleanup.

Paul VL. – Street sweeping will be a final cleanup step, with the first priority being ashfall pickup to prevent resuspension of ash.

Kirk W. – DOT is currently messaging to staff and deciding which entities will take lead in the event of an eruption. PPE has been provided to all staffed and unstaffed airports. DOT Commissioner is working on a plan. No specific plans for facility ashfall cleanup.

Paul VL. – Plans are in place, but will have to play by ear and work together with DOT regarding ashfall cleanup. Resources are limited and SM will coordinate with Kayce E. of DOT.

Orion L: - Inquired about current lead time for BMP acquisition.

Paul VL. – Local vendors are gearing up for spring operations and currently have decent stock on hand. Municipal manager has shifted more focus and meetings to volcano prep.

Renée G. – Suggested an emergency coordination meeting with DOT, SM, and the EOC.

Kirk W. – Agrees with meeting regarding volcano prep and inquires about the need for a MOU or changes to the MS4 permit.

Volcano cleanup would be considered an emergency operation and would not need to be specifically addressed in the MS4 permit.

Current Activities:**Construction**

Ron S. – DOT has six carryover projects, four new projects under contract, and potentially four more projects in Anchorage for 2025. DOT will be resurfacing the Knik River bridge this summer and intends to close one bridge at a time and limit traffic to two lanes incoming and one lane outgoing in the morning, and the opposite in the evening. DOT will be using zipper barriers for the first time in AK.

DOT will also be doing repairs to the North Peters Creek bridge this summer due to damage from a vehicle accident.

Paul VL. – Inquired about contractor for zipper barriers.

Ron S. – Will check contractor.

Melinda K. – Outlined MOA PM&E projects for 2025 (resurfacing, traffic calming, pedestrian improvements, drainage). Dowling Rd. Lake Otis to Elmore, Forest Park and Northern Lights, Eagle River traffic mitigation, Quinhagak and Dowling, West Anchorage snow disposal site (Mass X is currently working on the pad, MOA is working on a secondary contract, goal is to be operational by next winter). Northern Lights – Bragaw to Lake Otis should be finishing up this summer. Lift station project for 64th and Meadow is out to bid.

Monitoring

Kenna B. – APDES wet weather monitoring and dry weather sampling programs are continuing this summer and are on track with contractors.

New Development

Alex R. – No major MS4 projects.

Orion L. – BLM Campbell Tract entrance off Elmore will be realigned to connect with the Elmore and 68th intersection, and DOT is working on designs to incorporate/capture shallow groundwater flows that have been causing icing near the intersection. Will need input from the Municipality.

Melinda K. – Asked if there would be any geometry/alignment changes to the existing design?

Orion L. – No, just incorporating drainage concerns.

Melinda K. – Might be a good opportunity for a green infrastructure project.

Orion L. – Green infrastructure may be difficult at this site due to high groundwater.

Maintenance

Renée G. – Thanked WMS for reviewing the new DOT O'Malley snow dump design materials and has forwarded comments to the design team. New DOT OGS facility at MLK Jr. Blvd. and Tudor Rd. – DOT has a contract with R&M to assist with land use permitting and planning, pre-app meeting should be happening soon. The project has no federal funding,

but DOT still hoping the facility will be built this summer. DOT is prepping for the new APDES permit, holding a staff training on 5/16/25 and would like to include details on any permit changes if possible.

Vernon V. – DOT is getting street sweeping contractors online for the spring sweep.

Paul VL. – Asked Vernon if DOT has reached out to AWWU regarding spring sweep?

Vernon V. – Not yet. Vernon and Paul will keep folks posted on upcoming sweeping.

Melinda K. – PM&E has RFP out for a review of the OGS at ANMC campus that discharges to University Lake, currently in procurement.

Paul VL. – MOA Street Maintenance started bulk sweeping this week. Working with DOT and AWWU and dealing with air quality spikes. Plans to start full spring sweep by mid next week.

Tony W. – Eagle River Steet Maintenance not using MgCl this year.

Kayce E. – Fire hydrants aren't open yet. AWWU needs 5 days in a row above freezing temps to open hydrants.

Set next meeting date – October 29, 2025, invite forthcoming.

Adjourn: 3:29pm



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Municipality of Anchorage and State of Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities**

MEETING SUMMARY

Wednesday, October 29, 2025– 2:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.
In-Person and Online Meeting via Microsoft Teams

Introductions

Melinda Kohlhaas	Ron Searcy	Eric Hodgson
Kenna Billups	Alex Read	Kyle Cunningham
Vernon Vreeland	Sam Kito	Nicole Warner
Tony Winsor	Josh Horner	Kayce Eliason
Athena Marinkovic		

March 2025 Meeting Summary - Topics: Campbell Creek Master Plan, Green Infrastructure opportunities, AWR working on draft summary of GI project possibilities. Minutes approved with no additions.

October 2025 Meeting Agenda – Approved with no additions.

Old Business:

APDES Term V Permit

Kenna B. – Permit renewal for Term V still pending.

Sam K. – Term V permit draft is complete. Nick W. is working on resolving permit coverage boundary between APDES permit area and the Port of Alaska (POA).

Kenna B. – PTS Inc. (MOA contractor) preformed an investigation of the drainage and storm drain pipes at the POA this summer, no report has been received yet.

2025 APDES Audit

Nicole W. – Almost finished with draft report. Report will be different from previous audit reports in terms of formatting and focus. Focus will be on action items from years 3-5 of Term IV, facility visits, and documenting incident communications (Titan, University Lake, etc.) Hoping to review draft next week and have report out by mid-November. No expected items of concern.

Kenna B. – R&M Consultants working on assessment project for University Lake and ANTHC campus MS4 system, expect report to be ready by early spring 2026.

New Business:

ADEC CGP Draft Review

Review comments due November 15th, expect minor changes only.

Construction Dewatering:

Kenna B. – AWWU will discontinue allowing construction dewatering to be discharged to sanitary sewer starting in 2026. MOA and ADEC are working on a permitting process to allow construction dewatering to MS4, with measures to ensure dewatering discharges will not violate APDES permit terms or Anchorage Municipal Code. DOT will need to be a part of the review and approval process when dewatering will be discharged to a DOT owned or shared MS4 system. There have been recent incidences of non-permitted dewatering to the MS4.

Ron S. – Is there a map showing MS4 ownership?

Kyle C. – Yes, any MOA online maps that contain Drainageways, Drainageway Nodes, or Storm Drains, have attribute fields indicating ownership and maintenance responsibility.

Kayce E. – It would be good to have just one group that is responsible (for reviewing dewatering requests?). Can we charge a review fee?

Kenna B. – Hopefully yes, working on it, but the intention is to charge a review fee.

Eric H. – There are a lot of shared MS4s, where one agency's pipes flow into another's system. Something to keep in mind.

2025 Annual Report:

Kenna B. – Start pulling together info for the 2025 Annual Report, ex. training records, costs, materials quantities, etc. Annual report is due February 15, 2026.

Ron S. – Deadline to submit report info to MOA?

Kenna B. – As soon as possible, but by January 15, 2026, at latest to have report finalized by Feb. 15, 2026.

Kyle C. – Would like street sweeping records as soon as possible. Street sweeping samples will be going to the lab soon for PSD testing.

2026 Annual Meeting:

2026 APDES Annual meeting will be held on March 10, 2026, from 9am-12:30pm at the BP Energy Center in Anchorage. An invite has been sent, so check to see if it is on your calendars and let us know if you or anyone you know that would like to attend did not get an invite.

Kenna B. – Any volunteers for meeting topics or presentations please let us know.

Melinda K. – Anyone have any new "wins" we can present? DOT new OGS facility?

Kayce E. – DOT is still working on the new OGS facility, but intent is to have it in place for OGS cleaning contractors next summer.

Ron S. – Good meeting topic would be any changes between the new and old permits.

Kyle C. – 2025 ADEC audit will be a meeting topic.

Kenna B. – Construction dewatering will be meeting topic. CJ Weed, an MOA stormwater inspector was at a recent AGC event and reported that AGC was generally not aware that any changes to dewatering practices were forthcoming.

Kyle C. – It doesn't seem like AWWU has done much outreach to let usual clients know that changes are coming. Please let any colleagues and contractors you work with know of the upcoming changes.

Ron S. – AGC is having a meeting in November. Ron will find out the date and invite Kenna B. and CJ W.

Info Items:

Update on ADEC actions and priorities

Kenna B. – MSGP complete, CGP almost complete.

Sam K. – Excavation dewatering updates have been made, MSGP public comment period starts in the next few weeks, CGP to follow, looking to keep periods separate to avoid overlap and confusion.

Current Activities: Construction

Ron S. – Approximately 10 carry-over projects from 2025, tentatively 14 new projects for 2026, both Highways and TSAIA.

Athena M. – Knik bridge project will continue in 2026.

Josh H. – Lots of progress last year, focus will be on problem areas from 2025.

Melinda K. – 17 MOA projects upcoming for 2026. VanLandingham/West Anchorage Snow Disposal site substantially complete and will be used for snow storage this winter, and construction will be finished up after snow melts next spring/summer. Old snow disposal site at Kloep Station/St. Maintenance Northwood will not be used this winter (lease from State was not renewed). Dowling, various traffic calming projects, Jewel Terrace, Forest Park Dr., and ER traffic mitigation projects all substantially complete. 42nd still needs some intersection work. Kudos to all.

Tony W. – Pippel Place & Ski Rd. projects will have Green Infrastructure components (infiltration basins).

Melinda K. – Camrose Dr. storm drain project incorporated large OGS structures and flood alleviation.

Current Activities: Monitoring

Kenna B. – Adding University Lake outfall to monitoring list for 2026. Lake level survey showed that lake levels are down in general. AWR GI opportunities report should be out soon.

Melinda K. – It's not really realistic to expect GI component for all MOA road projects (high groundwater, limited ROW space, etc.)

Current Activities: New Development

Vernon V. – DOT contract for drain cleaning will be out mid-December.

Current Activities: Maintenance

Josh H. – All catch basin and OGS cleaning for 2025 went well and as expected.

Vernon V. – Nothing to report.

Melinda K. – (to Josh H.) Are we still doing cleaning 1/3 by 1/3 by 1/3 by blocks of areas? Is there any need of OGS waste disposal to AWWU?

Josh H. – Yes, ~300 structures will be cleaned by contractor Smith and Sons. All OGS waste is processed at Kloop OGS facility, there is no need for any OGS waste to go AWWU.

Kenna B. – MOA WMS and Survey sections will be updating GIS mapping this winter for both DOT and MOA.

Melinda K. – In the tour of the new snow facility it was mentioned that winter traction sand has a specific size gradation. Is there uniformity between MOA and DOT traction sand specs?

Kayce E. – DOT has been using the same traction sand specs for years, with DOT having majority higher speed roadways it would be tough to use the coarser spec that MOA uses. Traction sand is tested and washed yearly to ensure specs.

Set next meeting date – March 25, 2026, invite forthcoming.

Adjourn: 3:13pm