

MINUTES
WATER QUALITY FEES BOARD
January 8, 2026
Regular Meeting

- I. **CALL TO ORDER:** David Lowe, Acting Chairman, called the January 8th Meeting of the Water Quality Fees Board (WQFB) to order at 9:01 a.m.

Water Quality Fees Board Members in Attendance: Donna Fogle, Clay Johnson, David Lowe, Bill Sallee, and Audrey Suit.

Staff Members in Attendance: Charlie Martin, P.E., Director, DWQ; Mark Sanders, P.E., Deputy Director, DWQ; Bailee Young, P.E., DWQ; Frank Mabson, DWQ; Denise Bullock, DWQ; Jason Drew, DWQ; Becky Irwin, DWQ; Todd Henning, Law Department and Victoria Glascock, Environmental Services.

Guests in Attendance: Scott Southall, Earthcycle Design, LLC.

- II. **ELECTION OF OFFICER(S):** Mr. Mabson indicated that Mr. Woolwine's term expired and Mr. Vaught requested not to be reappointed to the Board. The Board will need to nominate two members of the WQFB to fill the vacancy for Chairman and Vice Chairman.

Mr. Lowe opened the floor for nominations.

Mr. Sallee nominated David Lowe as the Water Quality Fees Board Chairman. Mr. Lowe opened the floor for other nominations. There was none.

Mr. Lowe nominated Bill Sallee as the Water Quality Fees Board Vice Chairman. Mr. Lowe opened the floor for other nominations. There were none.

Ms. Fogle moved to accept the nominations as slated for Chairman and Vice Chairman. The motion was seconded by Mr. Johnson, and the motion passed unanimously.

- III. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Mr. Lowe asked the WQFB to review the minutes of the October 9, 2025, Water Quality Fees Board Meeting.

Mr. Lowe directed the Boards attention to Page 7, under Other Matters, Item b, he indicated that Mr. Woolwine had served on the WQFB since 2014, not 2016.

Mr. Mabson explained that Mr. Woolwine filled the open vacancy on the Board in 2014, but his two full terms did not begin until 2016. The staff was directed to make the necessary corrections to October 9, 2025, minutes to reflect 2014.

Mr. Sallee moved to accept the minutes as written, incorporating the change made as noted. The motion was seconded by Ms. Suit, and the motion passed unanimously.

- IV. **INCENTIVE GRANT PROGRAM OVERVIEW AND ORIENTATION:** Ms. Young presented an overview and orientation of the Stormwater Quality Projects Incentive Grant Program. She touched on the following slides and gave a brief explanation of each.

The Stormwater Quality Projects Incentive Grant Program came about as a result of the Consent Decree, and the following recommendations were made in April of 2009 by the Task Force that was created.

- Creation of the Water Quality Management Fee (WQMF)
- Development of the Incentive Grant Program
- Sec. 16-408. - Water Quality Fees Board.
 - (1) There is established a water quality fees board to review:
 - (a) Denials by the director of revenue and commissioner of finance in cases where sanitary sewer users have submitted written requests for adjustments to their bills for the sanitary sewer user fee pursuant to section 16-59.
 - (b) Decisions made by the director of water quality and commissioner of environmental quality on applications for adjustments to water quality management fees as provided in subsection 16-407(1).
 - (c) Recommendations of the director of water quality pursuant to section 16-410.
 - (2) The board shall meet quarterly and shall be composed of five (5) citizens appointed by the mayor. No more than two (2) citizen members may reside in the same urban county council district. The terms of the board members shall be four (4) years, which terms shall be staggered so that at least half the membership of the board is eligible for appointment every two (2) years.
 - (3) When considering an appeal of a decision pursuant to section 16-59 or subsection 16-407(1), the board shall review applicants' written requests for adjustment, the written responses from the commissioner of finance or commissioner of

environmental quality, and any other relevant documents. The board's decision as to the appropriate adjustment shall be final.

- (4) When considering the recommendation of the director of water quality pursuant to section 16-410, the board shall review the application, supporting information, and the director's recommendation to determine if the project proposed for inclusion in the water quality incentive grant program meets the criteria contained in subsection 16-410(2).
(Ord. No. 73-2009, § 1, 5-14-09; Ord. No. 85-2012, § 10, 7-5-12)

The Water Quality Fees Board is tasked with reviewing:

- Denials by the Director of Revenue and the Commissioner of Finance on requests for sanitary sewer user fee adjustments.
- Decisions by the Director of Water Quality and the Commissioner of Environmental Quality and Public Works for adjustment to water quality management fees.
- Recommendations by the Director of Water Quality for approval or denial of applications for a Stormwater Quality Projects Incentive Grant.

The Water Quality Management Fee generates approximately \$18 million per year. The Stormwater Quality Projects Incentive Grant Program receives a yearly amount of 10% from those funds. Those funds are then distributed among eligible properties that meet the criteria below as stated in Section 16-410.

- Class A Properties:
 - Single Family and Farm Properties
 - Flat Fee of \$5.95 per parcel
- Class B Properties:
 - All Other Parcels/Commercial Properties
 - \$5.95 for each Equivalent Residential Unit (ERU)
 - Each ERU is 2,500 SF of impervious area

The Stormwater Quality Projects Incentive Grant Program is governed by Section 16-410, which reads:

- (1) There is established a stormwater quality projects incentive grant program ("program") to provide funding where urban county monetary participation is justified for the following:
 - (a) Cost-sharing assistance for stormwater projects/programs on residential and commercial /industrial properties with existing stormwater concerns; and
 - (b) Grants for community-based stormwater projects.
- (2) Projects that may qualify for participation in the program include, but are not limited to:
 - (a) Projects to reduce stormwater runoff from the property;
 - (b) Projects to improve water quality; and
 - (c) Projects to provide public or private education related to stormwater quality.
- (3) In determining whether a project/program qualifies for participation in the program by justifying monetary participation by the urban county government, the following factors may be considered:
 - (a) The extent to which the project/program reduces stormwater runoff from the property or improves water quality in an amount in excess applicable urban county government standards;
 - (b) The applicant's record of compliance with the provisions of chapter 16 of the Code of Ordinances.
- (4) To participate in the program an application and information supporting the project/program must be submitted as provided for in a form provided by the division of water quality.
- (5) Eligible applicants may include, but are not limited to, property owners, neighborhood associations, and conservation organizations.
- (6) Applications for participation in the program shall be reviewed by the division of water quality. If additional information is required the applicant will be notified. The director of water quality shall make a recommendation for approval or denial of the application. The recommendation shall be presented to the water quality fees board which shall review the application and recommendation pursuant to subsection 16-408(4).
- (7) All grants under this section are subject to the limitations of funding each fiscal year.
- (8) The program shall be funded annually at a minimum of ten (10) percent of the total revenue generated by the water quality management fee and shall be reviewed as part of the audit provided for in section 16-409.

(Ord. No. 73-2009, § 1, 5-14-09)

Stormwater Quality Projects Incentive Grant Program overview

- Class A Neighborhood
 - Neighborhood, community and homeowner associations who pay the Water Quality Management Fee
 - Max Grant Amount: \$120,000
 - Max Feasibility Only: \$45,000
 - Due in Early May
- Class B Education
 - All non-farm commercial, industrial, institutional, and multi-family (excluding duplexes) parcels
 - Max Grant Amount: \$40,000
 - Due in Early May
- Class B Infrastructure
 - All non-farm commercial, industrial, institutional, and multi-family (excluding duplexes) parcels
 - Max Grant Amount: \$360,000
 - Max Feasibility Only: \$55,000
 - Due in Late July

Flow chart of application process from start to finish



Year in Review for the Water Quality Fees Board

- January 8th – Programmatic Changes Memo, Revised Scoresheets and Application Documents
- April 9th – Site Tour/General Updates
- July 9th – Deadline for Class A and BE Application Packets to be Delivered
- July 23rd* – Review Grant Determination Forms in Meeting, Address Questions, Adjust Stipulations, and Hear Public Comment
- Chairperson signs Grant Determination Forms
- September 24th – Deadline for Class BI Application Packets to be Delivered
- October 8th* - Review Grant Determination Forms in Meeting, Address Questions, Adjust Stipulations, and Hear Public Comment
- Chairperson signs Grant Determination Forms
- *Quorum is necessary for approval

Each Grant Packet will be delivered 14 days prior to the meeting and will include:

1. Application
2. Grant Determination Form
3. Scoresheet
4. Summary Overview

Stormwater Quality Projects Incentive Grant Program Goals

- Improve Water Quality
- Reduce Stormwater Runoff
- Educate on Water Quality/Stormwater Related Issues
- Address Known Flooding Issue
- Grants cannot be used to meet Regulatory Requirements (e.g. volume/water quality required for new or redevelopment)
- Examples:
 - Class A Neighborhood: Riparian Buffer Enhancement, Stream Cleaning, Tree Canopy Installation, Rain Garden Installation, and Tree Planting
 - Class B Education: Water Quality Education Program Support, Rain Garden Installation, and Sampling Training
 - Class B Infrastructure: Stream Restoration, Constructed Wetlands, Tree Canopy Installation, Permeable Pavers, and Rainwater Harvesting

- Not:
 - Pipe Repair or Modifications
 - Underground Detention Installation
 - Full Price of Permeable Pavers if New Installation (difference in price between new pavers and conventional parking lot)

Stormwater Quality Projects Incentive Grant Program Updates

- 2025 Programmatic Changes Memo
 - Added Research/Monitoring Component
 - Innovation and Experimentation
 - Incentivized Education, Maintenance, or Restoration of Impaired Stream Segments
 - Incentivized BMP Selection based on E. Coli Removal Effectiveness as outlined in the International SW Database
- 2026 Initiatives
 - Online Applications
 - Marketing
 - Office Hours
- Goals
 - Work with Developers to Exceed Stormwater Regulations
 - Opportunity for Programmatic Changes every January
 - Reduce Time Frames between Project Selection and Notices to Proceed

Alyssa McKenzie, 10th District Legislative Aide, presented the Stormwater Quality Projects Incentive Grant Program Updates to the Environmental Quality and Public Works Committee on November 18, 2025.

**LEXINGTON**
10th District

STORMWATER QUALITY INCENTIVE GRANT PROGRAM
Class A Neighborhood | Class B Education | Class B Infrastructure

GOALS

1. Grow Applicant Pool
2. Understand barriers to application & ways to streamline processes
3. Decrease number of change orders
4. Improve stormwater quality

RECOMMENDATIONS

1- ACCESSIBILITY & TECHNICAL SUPPORT (DES, DWQ) - COMPLETED BY JUNE 30, 2026

Online Application Website/Portal - Spring 2026

- Digital application with sample budgets, step-by-step guidance, and easy upload tools

Grant Program Toolkit & Tips - Spring 2026

- Accessible from Stormwater Quality Incentive Grant Program (SQIGP) page on Lexingtonky.gov
 - PDF and Links to the Stormwater Manual, Definitions, Budget recommendations (7-10% buffer), estimated time of application preparation and completion
 - Sample brochures & signage
 - Pictures of past projects & links to curriculum
- A visual timeline that includes dates/deadlines for the application, review, readings by Council, and reimbursement process

Office Hours & BMP Bingo - June 30, 2026

- ~~Dates/Times for potential applicants to meet with the Grants Manager after the Q&A to ask specific questions and ensure proposals are aligned with Stormwater Manual~~
- BMP Bingo - Activity during Q&A or available for participants to understand definitions and water quality improvement metrics

2-STORYTELLING & MARKETING (DES) - COMPLETED BY DECEMBER 2026

Videos - December 2026

- Interviews with past applicants/awardees for social media and displayed on SQIGP homepage

Brochures & Signage - June 30, 2026

- Awardees have access to educational materials and resources, signage templates

Website - June 30, 2026

- Add storytelling and marketing tools, Grant Toolkit, Application, and Reporting tools to SQIGP webpage

3-REPORTING PROCESS (DES, DWQ) - COMPLETED BY DECEMBER 2026

Online Reporting Process - December 2026

- Create online reporting process & platform with digital uploads of receipts and invoices
- Visuals and instructions to fill out the report

Annual Feedback from Applicants - December 2026

- Grants Manager meets with awardees at the end of the grant cycle for feedback about program, project, and gauge likelihood of applying in the future

Timeline Communication - December 2026

- Communication with awardees about timeframe for feedback in the reporting process and disbursement of checks

Stormwater Quality Projects Incentive Grant Program Funding Overview

STORMWATER QUALITY PROJECTS INCENTIVE GRANT PROGRAM STATS FROM FY11- PRESENT						Total Funds Remaining (After Awards Were Decided)
	Fiscal Year (Grant Cycle)	¹ FY Revenue Allocation	Total Amount Awarded	Total Applications Received	Total Applications Awarded	
1	2011	\$ -	1,476,478.29	31	29	
2	2012	\$ -	1,197,565.20	36	22	
3	2013	\$ -	1,200,000.50	27	11	
4	2014	\$ -	1,200,000.00	18	12	
5	2015	\$ 1,200,000.00	1,200,000.00	22	13	
6	2016	\$ 1,200,000.00	1,251,137.00	23	16	
7	2017	\$ 1,350,000.00	1,694,878.03	19	19	
8	2018	\$ 1,350,000.00	1,742,945.11	25	19	
9	2019	\$ 1,390,000.00	1,446,334.73	26	19	
10	2020	\$ 1,400,000.00	1,618,337.16	20	17	
11	2021	\$ 1,450,000.00	1,007,889.45	21	18	
12	2022	\$ 1,520,000.00	1,874,006.80	17	14	
13	2023	\$ 1,545,000.00	2,433,615.39	25	19	
14	2024	\$ 1,615,000.00	1,444,857.54	19	15	
15	2025	\$ 1,673,910.00	2,055,252.95	22	14	
16	2026	\$ 1,775,318.00	967,102.87	17	13	\$1,898,416.60
			\$ 23,810,401.02	368	270	

Examples of Class A Neighborhood:

- **FY11 Gardens of Hartland Homeowners Association Rain Garden Project**
 - Problem was flooding
 - Project Plan Elements consisted of designing and constructing a rain garden.
- **FY14 Southern Heights Neighborhood Association Rain Gardens Project**
 - Problem was the road flooding along Hiltonia Park
 - Project Plan Elements consisted of installing six (6) rain gardens along Hiltonia Park within the street right-of-way and collect stormwater runoff from the streets and residences.

Examples of Class B Infrastructure:

- **FY14 Sanford Levy Permeable Pavers and Bioretention Project**
 - The purpose of the project was to reduce the impervious area, reduce the storm water runoff and improve the water quality by leaving the site.
 - Project Plan Elements consisted of retrofitted the existing parking lot with permeable pavers (approximately 18,400 SF), rain gardens (approximately 7,000 SF), and an open bottom chamber underground detention system (approximately 15,508 CF of detention volume).
- **FY20 North Lexington Holdings II, LLC –900 Block Stormwater Retrofit Project**
 - The organization was looking to mitigate issues with flooding along the north limestone which was noted in the 2012 NoLi Sustainability Plan.
 - Project Plan Elements consisted of removing approximately 5,100 SF of impervious surfaces across the site; retrofitted the existing parking lot with pervious pavers (approximately 2,000 SF); installed native landscapes, planted swales, and a “Water Path” (raised planters to collect stormwater to serve as an interactive educational tool) feature.

Additional Resources

- Map: <https://experience.arcgis.com/experience/1e70428d40b742a7a227020160a1aa3b/>
- Website: <https://www.lexingtonky.gov/government/departments-programs/environmental-quality-public-works/water-quality/stormwater-quality-projects-incentive-grant-program>
- Archived Videos: <https://www.lexingtonky.gov/government/departments-programs/lex-tv/videos-public-meetings>

Comments and questions: Mr. Lowe appreciated the time and effort Council District 10, Dave Seigny, and his staff placed in reviewing the Stormwater Quality Projects Incentive Grant Program and making their recommendation to the Committee.

VI. COMMENTS/SUGGESTIONS FROM RESIDENTS ABOUT INCENTIVE GRANT PROGRAM

Mr. Mabson indicated that normally this would give audience members the chance to discuss any programmatic changes and FY26 Application, but at this time the staff would like to open the floor for comments from the audience.

There were no comments or suggestions made from the audience.

VII. INCENTIVE GRANT QUARTERLY STATUS UPDATES

Mr. Mabson presented an overview of the Stormwater Quality Projects Incentive Grant Program. He touched on the following slides and gave a brief explanation of each.

PROJECT DASHBOARD

<i>ACTIVE PROJECTS LISTS</i>																	
Fiscal Year (FY):	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	¹ 2026	Total(s):
Active Projects:	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	2	6	8	14	11	43
Completed Projects:	29	21	10	11	9	14	19	16	16	13	16	10	9	5	0	0	198
Canceled	0	1	1	1	4	2	0	3	3	3	1	2	4	2	0	0	27
Total(s):	29	22	11	12	13	16	19	19	19	17	18	14	19	15	14	11	268

Figure 1 – Project Dashboard showing list of Active & Completed projects as of 31-Dec-2025.

¹The total projects shown for FY 2026 are subject to change as more of the Grant Award Agreements (GAA) are executed OR canceled awards. There is only one (1) outstanding FY 2026 GAA (The Sanctuary Lexington, LLC) remaining to be returned signed. Also, Seedleaf, Inc. had to delay the project and has decided to cancel its FY 2026 award but intends to reapply for a FY 2027 Class A grant in 2026.

APPLICATIONS & AWARDS HISTORY

	FISCAL YEAR (GRANT CYCLES)	TOTAL AWARDS AMOUNT	TOTAL APPLICATIONS RECEIVED	TOTAL GRANTS AWARDED
1	2011	\$ 1,476,478.29	31	29
2	2012	\$ 1,197,565.20	36	22
3	2013	\$ 1,200,000.50	27	11
4	2014	\$ 1,200,000.00	18	12
5	2015	\$ 1,200,000.00	22	13
6	2016	\$ 1,251,137.00	23	16
7	2017	\$ 1,694,878.03	19	19
8	2018	\$ 1,742,945.11	25	19
9	2019	\$ 1,446,334.73	26	19
10	2020	\$ 1,618,337.16	20	17
11	2021	\$ 1,007,889.45	21	18
12	2022	\$ 1,874,006.80	17	14
13	2023	\$ 2,433,615.39	25	19
14	2024	\$ 1,444,857.54	19	15
15	2025	\$ 2,055,252.95	22	14
16	2026	\$ 928,225.37	17	13
	Totals:	¹\$23,771,523.52	368	270

Figure 2 – Project Dashboard showing list of Active & Completed projects as of 03-Jan-2026

RECENTLY COMPLETED/CANCELED PROJECTS

Fiscal Year	Organization	Type (A, BE BI)	Description	Completed/Cancelled	Closed Date	Grant Manager(s)
1 2021	Hickman Creek Conservancy, Inc.	A	Feasibility Study to analyze current and potential stormwater BMPs, and develop costs & design options at 3437 Belvoir Drive	Completed	19-Dec-2025	Erik Merlino
2 2023	Friends of the Parks in Fayette County KY, Inc. (Dogwood Park)	A	Removal of invasives, restoring and broadening riparian buffers at the spring and along the stream; and coordination with Kentucky River Watershed Watch to test stormwater quality at key locations in Dogwood Park, and stormwater education in the form of permanent signage and two (2) community events.	Completed	22-Dec-2025	Doug Baldwin
3 2023	Huber Real Estate #1	BI	Installation of bioretention in existing sinkhole footprint; revegetate overflow swale; install curb and gutter along the adjacent parking lot to limit sheet flow and erosion along the bank of the swale; install fencing around the existing sinkhole, and stormwater education.	Completed	8-Dec-2025	Doug Baldwin
4 2025	1000 Delaware, LLC	BI	Feasibility to identify landscape and stormwater BMPs to address water quality issues using criteria like the Sustainable SITES Initiative, LEED Rating System, and other comprehensive rating systems for sustainable landscapes, as well as select Best Management Practices (BMPs) for the property located at 1000 Delaware Avenue	Completed	10-Nov-2025	Bailee Young
5 2026	Seedleaf, Inc.	BI	1) Removal of invasive weeds (i.e. bush honeysuckle, wintercreeper, etc.) with a forestry grinder on +/-2.25 acres. 2) Research, trial tests, monitoring and demonstrations of organic-certified herbicides within the +/-2.25 acres. 3) Plantings – host a volunteer stream clean up and agroforestry/food forest stream buffer planting events. 4) Stormwater Education – host a seminar on the topic of agroforestry/food forest riparian buffers.	Cancelled	25-Aug-2025	N/A

EXPIRED/EXPIRING GRANTS

	GRANTEE	FISCAL YEAR	AWARD AMOUNT	GRANTE EXPIRATION DATE	GRANT MANAGER
1	Lexington Center Corporation	FY22 Class BI	\$299,874.00	30-Oct-25	Doug Baldwin
2	Fayette County Public Schools	FY23 Class BI	\$360,000.00	31-Dec-25	Erik Merlino
3	Waterford II Homeowners Association, Inc.	FY23 Class A	\$40,000.00	31-Mar-26	Erik Merlino
4	Windswept Ventures	FY23 Class BI	\$316,564.80	31-Jan-26	Craig Morgan
5	Bluegrass Greensource, Inc.	FY24 Class BE	\$40,000.00	28-Feb-25	Frank Mabson
6	Bread & Roses, LLC	FY24 Class BI	\$31,850.00	31-Jul-25	Doug Baldwin
7	Friends of Wolf Run, Inc.	FY24 Class A	\$53,020.00	31-Dec-25	Frank Mabson
8	Mediocre Creative, LLC	FY24 Class BI	\$12,500.00	31-May-25	Amad Al-Humadi
9	Waterford II Homeowners Association, Inc.	FY 2024 Class A	\$120,000.00	31-Aug-25	Erik Merlino

Figure 4— Screenshot of the "Grant Expirations List" for expired / expiring grants as of 31-Dec-2025

STORMWATER QUALITY PROJECTS STATUS UPDATES

GRANTEE	TARGET WATERSHED	GRANT YEAR	GRANT AMOUNT AWARDED	GRANT AMOUNT SPENT TO DATE	COUNCIL DISTRICT	GRANT AMOUNT UNSPENT	% SPENT	CONTRACT EXECUTION DATE	CONTRACT LENGTH (MONTHS)	CONTRACT END DATE	PURCHASE ORDER NUMBER	STATUS	COMMENTS	DWG GRANT MANAGER	% COMPLETED
Class A Neighborhood															
Waterford II Homeowners Association, Inc. Engineering design to replace the silted-in and failing amenity pond with a natural stream ecosystem. Stream restoration, riparian buffer, and floodplain vegetation areas, AND stormwater education.	West Hickman	2023	\$40,000.00	\$28,000.00	4	\$12,000.00	70.0%	23 Mar 2025	12	31 Mar 2026	LF00197070	Ongoing	2025-12-31 EM I've asked for an update. Should have final plans very soon.	Erik Merlino	70.0%
Friends of Wolf Run, Inc. Managing Riparian Buffers along Wolf Run and its Tributaries.	Wolf Run	2024	\$53,020.00	\$13,464.56	3, 10, 11	\$39,555.44	25.4%	24 Jan 2024	18	1 Dec 2025	LF00204770	Ongoing	2025-12-17 EM I emailed Ken Cooke for an update on 12/25 and he provided the following information: "FY 24 Grant is essentially complete except for the extension requested for stream buffer invasive control in the Furlong Drive area (Right descending bank) We are awaiting the contractor to complete work and bill us. He received an extension till December 31."	Frank Mabson	25.0%
Waterford II Homeowners Association, Inc. Replacing the silted-in and failing amenity pond with a natural stream ecosystem. Education signage.	West Hickman	2024	\$120,000.00		4	\$120,000.00		20 Feb 2024	18	31 Aug 2025	LF00205302	Ongoing	2025-12-31 EM I've asked for an update. Should have final plans very soon.	Erik Merlino	

Figure 5— Screenshot of Page 1 of the "Incentive Grant Status Update" showing Class A status as of 03-Jan-2026

Comments and questions: Mr. Sallee said there appears to be about a 10 percent reduction in application submittals and asked if the reduction is applicant driven. Mr. Mabson replied that most are from economic challenges, but for some it is staffing issues/changes, leadership changes, cost-share/funding problems and so forth.

Mr. Lowe said that with the decline in application over the years, it seems that there is a recession impact. Mr. Martin replied that the staff is trying to figure out why the applications have been dropping over the years. Is it something the staff is doing or if it is something that can be modified to encourage more applications to be submitted.

Mr. Sallee noted that Scott Southall has been present at most of the WQFB meetings and asked him if the status update helps him with their grants. Scott Southall commented that they stay in contact with the Grant Manager, Mr. Mabson and Ms. Young throughout the process.

Mr. Sallee said that if the Board decides to not review each of the grants individually that would not be a problem because of the good communication between the staff and him. Mr. Southall agreed.

Mr. Mabson said that one of the delays for Class A Neighborhood grants is the time between neighborhood board meetings to receive an update on their progress. These boards typically have a high turnover ratio, and new officers sometimes come in with different priorities than their predecessors.

Mr. Southall said that neighborhood association board member terms vary so it is not unheard of to have a change in leadership from the time the proposal is submitted to project completion.

Mr. Lowe said that the turnover could be harmful to an active grant. Mr. Southall agreed.

Mr. Lowe asked if it was typical for a project manager to be assigned to a grant or if neighborhood association board members serve that role. Mr. Southall explained that there may be a project manager assigned, but the delay is typically caused by familiarizing new members about the grant and making sure that they have necessary documents signed and submitted to the grant manager.

Mr. Lowe understood that neighborhood association terms are yearly and the grant process can take up to three (3) years to complete. It would be beneficial to appoint a project manager to be with the project from start to finish. Mr. Southall commented that they do have those conversations upfront with the neighborhood association.

VIII. **OTHER MATTERS**

Board Comments – Mr. Sallee explained that he worked for the Lexington-Fayette Urban County Government for over 30 years and it has been a pleasure serving on the Water Quality Fees Board for something that is this important. He expressed his gratitude and how impressed he was with the staff and the Stormwater Quality Projects Incentive Grant Program.

Mr. Lowe thanked the staff for presenting the Orientation to the Board members.

Staff Comments – Ms. Young informed the Board about the 2026 Bluegrass Watershed Summit that will be held Saturday, April 11, 2026. She indicated that the Summit will have informative sessions and interactive workshops on improving water quality and watershed management, as well as promoting the Stormwater Quality Projects Incentive Grant Program.

Mr. Lowe recommended the Board attends the 2026 Bluegrass Watershed Summit.

Audience Comments – There was none.

IX. **ADJOURNMENT** - Mr. Lowe asked LFUCG staff if there were any other matters to address. There were none.

Mr. Johnson moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Mr. Sallee, and the motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 9:33 a.m.