



Maryland Water Monitoring Council
Maryland Dept. of Natural Resources
Tawes Building, C-2
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Sandy Hertz, Maryland Dept. of Transportation
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Mat Pajerowski, USGS
Vice-chair

Dan Boward, Maryland DNR
Executive Secretary

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Jim Caldwell, Howard County OES
Jai Cole, M-NCPPC
Clark Howells, Baltimore City
Byron Madigan, Carroll Co. BRM
Richard Mitchell, US EPA
Joel Moore, Towson University
Diana Muller, Maritimas
Charles Poukish, MDE

Jeff Reagan, Biohabitats, Inc.
Nancy Roth, Tetra Tech, Inc.
Bill Stack, Center for Watershed Protection
Ken Staver, Univ. of MD WREC
Matt Stover, Maryland Dept. of the Environment
Mark Trice, Maryland DNR
Chris Victoria, Anne Arundel DPW
Karen Wiggen, Charles County Dept. of Planning
Michael Williams, Univ. of MD College Park

Minutes of the MWMC Board of Director's Meeting Tawes State Office Building, Annapolis, MD April 12, 2019

In attendance: **Andy Becker, Dan Boward, *Megan Brosh, Drew Budelis (guest), *Jai Cole, *Clark Howells, Najma Khokhar (guest), *Byron Madigan, *Richard Mitchell *Joel Moore, *Diana Muller, *Mat Pajerowski, *Charlie Poukish, *Nancy Roth, Fred Schenerman (guest), *Bill Stack, *Ken Staver, *Matt Stover, *Mark Trice, *Chris Victoria, *Karen Wiggin, Alexander Yeboah (guest)*

Not attending: **Jim Caldwell (no alternate), *Sandy Hertz (no alternate), *Jeff Reagan (no alternate) *Michael Williams (no alternate)*

*Board member

Board Vice-Chair **Mat** Pajerowski called the meeting to order at 10:12 AM. He asked everyone to introduce themselves. **Mat** described the meeting of MWMC leadership (himself, **Sandy** Hertz, **Matt** Stover and **Dan** Boward) that occurred on March 15 at Sandy's office (MDOT). The meeting focused on the current (and somewhat outdated) MWMC by-laws and participation of Board members. See by-laws discussion below.

The minutes from the January 15, 2019 Board meeting were approved with minor corrections.

News Roundtable

Byron Madigan – Carroll Co. has completed their benthic macroinvertebrate sampling for 2019. Staff are looking into the possibility of Piney Run serving as a freshwater mussel nursery.

Jai Cole – There has been a recent alewife run in Rock Creek. Montgomery Co. DEP is getting a new Phase I MS4 permit with new stream restoration crediting. There's a new TMDL approach for stream restoration that may provide up to eight times more credits than previous permits and is more site-specific. The permit is more focused on streams in poor condition. Jai has received a promotion recently.

Richard Mitchell – 2019 is the second year of the National Rivers and Streams Assessment. Richard is organizing trainings for Region III staff to be held in May. The NRSA index period is June 1 – end of September. A Section 7 USFWS permit is now needed prior to sampling. Section 6 is the state-level permit.

Nancy Roth – CBP is nearing the end of the Healthy Watersheds Project with the Goal Implementation Team to present it's reporting in June. The report will include topics such as climate change and vulnerability.

Clark Howells – Balto. City is launching a public outreach effort related to zebra mussels. The Reservoir Technical Group completed a Baltimore Watershed Agreement with action strategies under review. The Center for Watershed Protection included recommendations. Clark's group has applied for a landscape scale restoration grant to better manage forests.

Andy Becker – KCI's spring MBSS-style sampling is about 85% complete. KCI has hired Olivia Devereaux to assist with projects related to the Phase 6 Bay Model. KCI continues to provide MS4 support for counties.

Matt Stover – The 2018 Integrated Report has been approved by EPA and posted. MDE is working on new guidance on how to implement standards for cold water obligates. A document on the topic will be available for review by the end of April. Matt attended the National Water Quality Conference in Denver two weeks ago. MDE is starting the next triennial review soon. It will contain ammonium criteria, cadmium criteria, and updated human health criteria.

Dan Boward – **Dan** represented MWMC at the annual conference of the Virginia Water Monitoring Council in Richmond on April 10. About 80 folks attended the event. MBSS staff are preparing for the IBI workshop to be held at USGS Catonsville on May 3. MBSS summer training is scheduled for May 28-31 at Howard Community College.

Mat Pajerowski – USGS is exploring ways to have their data used more quickly. Having started as a pilot in the 80s, the NAWQA is ending. Staff are looking into better use of next generation monitoring techniques that are more geographically and temporally intense. There's a push for new methods and more use of remote sensing data. **Jai** recommended that USGS include more general information on the agency's web pages. There may be more continuous water quality monitoring devices installed at gages. Staff are working on stormwater BMP analysis and a stream restoration project in Catoctin Creek that includes partnering with National Park Service on water temperature and groundwater data collection.

Bill Stack – Center for Watershed Protection organized a national conference in Charleston on resilience and climate change adaptation in coastal communities. Staff assist with the Urban Stormwater Workgroup that encourages shifting paradigms from the stream itself to the watershed.

Joel Moore – Joel is working with CBP on its Urban Stormwater Workgroup's effort to evaluate floodplain reconnection. The New Jersey Water Council is studying chlorides. There was a recent meeting at COG focused on salt/chlorides. **Joel's** sabbatical work on chlorides with USGS has linked > 10% impervious surface with more exceedances of chloride criteria using high frequency data.

Alex Yeboah – no report.

Diana Muller – There will soon be a National Academy of Sciences Climate Change conference in Washington DC. US Navy staff and **Tom Wazniak** are putting on a small workshop on water quality instrument care. **Andrew Muller** and **Diana** are holding workshops for LGBTQ and minority communities. **Action Item** – **Jai** will send **Diana** and the rest of the Board information about work she's doing to address racial and social equity with M-NCPPC.

Megan Brosh – Balto. Co. DEPS is seeking new technologies for IDDE work. **Action Item - Megan** asked the Board for ideas on outside funding sources for her IDDE work.

Karen Wiggen – Charles Co. is reviewing its Phase 3 WIP that includes 20% reductions in the MS4 permit. Counties are having conference calls with MDE. Staff are addressing Patuxent River tributary sediment TMDLs in mostly Tier II streams.

Chris Victoria – **Chris** and staff are doing things and "some of it is cool".

Fred Schenerman – There have been some updates to water quality standards and there's a MS4 workshop coming soon.

Charlie Poukish – There was a recent Atlantic Menhaden kill in the Bay and tidal tributaries. Between 30 and 300 dead fish were reported. The reason is unclear. It was not caused by discarded crab bait. Perhaps it was a stranding. Several dead fish were reported from Terrapin Park.

Drew Budelis – Versar's field work is progressing. Versar is seeking a mid-level marine ecologist and a benthic taxonomist.

Lunchtime Presentation – **Mat Pajerowski** gave a presentation titled **Availability of Water Quality Data from Domestic Wells: Results of a Maryland Survey**. The presentation focused on data about the data from the well surveys. Challenges such as different reporting formats, the lack of locational information, quality control and sampler qualifications were highlighted. USGS may proceed with the development of a standard database but a funding source is unknown.

By-laws Updates

Following on recommended changes to the by-laws from the leadership meeting of March 15 (**Sandy Hertz**, **Mat Pajerowski**, **Matt Stover** and **Dan Boward**), the Board reviewed proposed changes to the by-laws Word document in track changes one edit at a time. **Action Item - Dan** Boward will make the recommended changes and send to **Sandy**, **Mat** and **Matt** for first review and then to the entire Board for final review.

Board Membership (Matt Stover reporting)

Matt reminded the seven members that their terms will be expiring at the end of 2019. They are **Ken Staver**, **Chris Victoria**, **Charlie Poukish**, **Jai Cole**, **Michael Williams**, **Bryon Madigan**, and **Karen Wiggen**. **Action Item** - these folks will get back to **Matt** by the end of June regarding their continuance on the Board.

July "Away" Meeting

Dan Boward provided a list of locations of the past several away meetings. Candidates discussed for July, 2019 were Horn Point Lab, CBL in Solomons, NorthBay Adventure Camp in Cecil Co., Hood College, Jug Bay, Otter Point, and Wye Center. The latter was the Board's first choice. **Action Item - Ken** Staver will look into conference room availability, guest speakers and field trip options.

Committee Reports

Goundwater (Mat Pajerowski reporting)

The Committee completed the domestic well survey. No further activity is planned.

Monitoring and Assessment (Andy Becker reporting)

The annual Stream Monitoring Roundtable was held on February 22. No further activity is planned.

Community Outreach and Citizen Stewardship (Karen Wiggen reporting)

Mark Trice reported on the MWMC Facebook page. There has been a big increase in shares since he took over its management. No further Committee activity is planned other than **Mark's** continued updating of the Facebook page.

Student (Joel Moore reporting)

Joel sent a poll to the 2018 Annual Conference student session student participants. Seven of the 12 respondents said they wanted more time during the small group discussion. Another session is scheduled for the 2019 Annual Conference. **Mat** Pajerowski reminded the Board that the USGS student intern who assisted with the well survey received credit for her work. **Mat** suggested that the Committee look into starting the intern process again and he recommended that the process be started early.

2019 Annual Conference Planning (Dan Boward and Planning Committee reporting)

December 6 is the tentative date for the 2019 conference. Venue will be determined after bids are received by DNR. The Planning Committee continue to look for a venue for the social. Possible session themes are climate change and adaptation, microplastics, fish kills, trash, salt, aquatic invasives, HABs, freshwater mussels, and pooled monitoring. **Nick** DiPasquale has agreed to speak during the plenary session. **John** Griffin will also be invited.

Action Item - Mat Pajerowski reminded the committee Chairs to develop ideas for possible 2019 workshops.

Meeting adjourned at 2:00 PM

Submitted by **Dan** Boward
July 16, 2019