



Maryland Water Monitoring Council
Maryland Dept. of Natural Resources
Tawes Building, C-2
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Clark Howells, Baltimore City DPW.
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Diana Muller, MAEOE
Mat Pajerowski, USGS

Mike Pieper, KCI Technologies
Charles Poukish, Maryland Dept. of the Environment
Jeff Reagan, Biohabitats, Inc.
Nancy Roth, Versar, Inc.
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; C-1 Conference Room April 18, 2017

In attendance: Dan Boward, *Jai Cole, Megan Crunkleton, *Caroline Donovan, *Sandy Hertz, *Clark Howells, *Byron Madigan, *Joel Moore, Andrew Muller, *Mat Pajerowski, *Charlie Poukish, *Jeff Reagan, *Nancy Roth, *Ken Staver, *Matt Stover, *Mark Trice, *Chris Victoria, *Karen Wiggen, *Michael Williams

Not attending: *Kevin Brittingham (no alternate), *Jim Caldwell (no alternate), *Richard Mitchell (no alternate) *Diana Muller (Andrew Muller alternate) *Mike Pieper (Megan Crunkleton alternate)

*Board member

The meeting convened at 10:13 AM. Chairman **Clark** Howells welcomed everyone. **Matt** Stover asked new member, **Byron** Madigan, to introduce himself and describe his work.

The minutes from the January 17, 2017 Board meeting were approved as-is.

Committee Reports

Monitoring and Assessment (**Megan** Crunkleton reporting for **Mike** Pieper)

No activity. There was no February meeting as planned.

Citizen Science (**Caroline** Donovan reporting)

No activity since the January 2017 Board meeting but (**Action Item**) the Committee will meet at 2:00 PM today.

Information Management (**Sandy** Hertz reporting)

Sandy met with **Tom** Parham to discuss updating the MWMC Site Mapper. **Action Item** – **Sandy** will follow up on scheduling the update to the map.

Groundwater (Mat Pajerowski reporting)

No activity. **Action Item** – **Mat** will send a Doodle Poll soon to arrange a meeting.

Student Committee (**Caroline** Donovan reporting)

The Committee needs new members. **Matt** Stover, **Jeff** Reagan, **Dan** Boward and **Joel** Moore will join. There was some discussion of engaging interns with MWMC activities and identifying academics at the Annual Conference who could help the Committee. **Mat** Pajerowski offered help via USGS. **Jai** Cole described a MD Stream Restoration Association student career fair that took place at U of MD College Park. M-NCPPC had a booth at the event and she received 20 resumes from prospective hires. It was a very successful event with talks by professionals and lots of networking. It was held on a Saturday during the school year. **Action Item** – **Jai** will send information on the career fair to **Caroline** Donovan for MWMC consideration.

Annual Conference Planning

Dan Boward and members of the Annual Conference Planning Committee presented plans for the December 8, 2017 event. The theme will focus on challenges into the 21st century, including climate change. Conference format will remain the same as previous years. The floorplan for registration, etc. may change. **Kevin** Brittingham will again chair the student poster award. **Jai** suggested a session on MS4 Phase II and a session or talk on stream restoration ecology. **Joel** suggested a session on communication. **Ken** Staver

suggested a session on soil health but **Jeff** said it should start with a primer. **Action Item – Jeff** Reagan will shepherd a session on soil health and water quality.

Jim Caldwell has agreed to give a plenary talk on the Ellicott City floods of 2016. Other possible plenary speakers include **Chris** Trumbauer, **Barbara** Mikulski, an expert on ocean issues or someone from NOAA. **Mat** Pajerowski recommended a plenary talk on storm surges by someone from USGS. **Jeff** suggested we include a rainfall expert such as **Bill** Merkle (SCS). **Jai** suggested we include a short “climate change 101”. **Caroline** said **Don** Boesch will retire soon so he may be willing to speak about the “big picture”.

There was much discussion on registration and vendor fees and scholarships. Fees will go up from 2016. Ideas presented – reduce student fees to “free” and increase regular registration to \$75.

Kevin discovered that our social cannot be held at Heavy Seas on December 8. **Mark** Trice suggested Charm City Meadworks. **Action Item – Mark** Trice will inquire about capacity at Meadworks. **Action Item – Dan** will ask the MITAGS staff about holding the conference on December 7 instead of December 8.

Workshops

2017 Stream Monitoring Roundtable

Dan Boward reported on the February 10, 2017 event at USGS Water Science Center in Catonsville. Fifty-three people attended and there were 23 brief presentations on stream monitoring programs. **Tom** Jordan (SERC) gave a lunchtime presentation on 40 years of monitoring in Anne Arundel County streams. An interactive, online map of 2017 monitoring sites was created by **Becky** Lang and **Matt** Stover (MDE) and **Andy** Becker (KCI). The map will remain on the MWMC website.

Second Data to Decisions Workshop

Matt Stover said there would be a second Data to Decisions Workshop in early June of 2017. There will be a planning meeting on April 21st at Biohabitats in Baltimore. The second workshop will be held on the eastern shore – perhaps at Wye Research and Education Center.

Lunchtime Presentation

Charlie Poukish gave a talk on the 2016 Gunpowder River algae bloom and fish kill.

2017 July 25 “Away” Board Meeting

Potential venues discussed – Appalachian Lab., Chesapeake Biological Lab., Jug Bay Visitor Center, Otter Point Creek Anita Leight Center, Wye Research and Education Center, and MNCPPC’s Rockwood Park. **Action Item - Jai** Cole agreed to help plan the meeting at Rockwood Park and recruit speakers. **Action Item – Michael** Williams said he would contact a speaker from DC DOEE.

News Roundtable

Andrew Muller – No news.

Byron Madigan – No news.

Caroline Donovan – The Ches. Monitoring Cooperative is moving to the training phase soon. The UMCES Ches. Bay report card will be released the first week of May. There will be a supporting “onboarding” webinar.

Jeff Reagan – Biohabitats has recently completed 97 miles of stream channel assessment in Montgomery County. During the surveys, crews discovered 8 dead box turtles. They likely died from rhinovirus.

Megan Crunkleton – No news.

Joel Moore – Joel is giving a talk on urban streams, salt and groundwater with Ken Belt at the SFS meeting in Raleigh. **Action Item – Joel** will send a link to his related paper to the Board. **Joel** is working on a new paper on the urban-rural gradient and ions.

Matt Stover – The next Triennial Review of water quality standards will be out for public review in mid-May. It will include new bacteria criteria for beaches. It will not include changes to chloride and ammonia criteria.

Clark Howells – No news.

Dan Boward – MBSS summer training will be held at Hood College May 30 – June 2. **Dan** and his colleague **Kyle** Hodgson participated in a charrette to improve the macroinvertebrates.org website. The event was held at the Stroud Water Research Center in Avondale, Pa on May 12-13.

Sandy Hertz – MDOT is looking into combining work across transportation agencies, and forming partnerships with consultants to address TMDL challenges more effectively. **Sandy** is giving a talk on the Water Resources Registry in Sacramento.

Michael Williams – **Michael** has a recent paper on climate change mitigation in Estuaries and Coasts. He is now stationed at UMCP. He’s working on new projects on the eastern shore and on the UMCP campus.

Charlie Poukish – No news.

Mark Trice – There's good news for SAV in the MD portion of the Ches. Bay.

Chris Victoria – Anne Arundel County has targeted several stream sites to acquire pre-restoration data that will assist engineers. KCI Technologies is conducting the County's Round 3 stream sampling.

Nancy Roth – Versar is working on watershed plans in Virginia and the Upper Patapsco in Baltimore County.

Mat Pajerowski – USGS' con mon station in Baltimore's Inner Harbor is now online. Staff are conducting geomorphological studies in Catoctin Creek prior to restoration projects.

Ken Staver – Wye continues routine sampling. The Ag College is planning its future that considers a reduction in the number of Maryland farmers. Several environmental groups are asking that cover crop funds be spent in other ways.

Jai Cole – Jai is on the Planning Committee for the Mid Atlantic Stream Restoration Conference to be held in September.

The Board meeting concluded at 2:08 PM.

Submitted by **Dan** Boward
July 25, 2017