



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

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Executive Secretary

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Richard Mitchell, US EPA
Joel Moore, Towson University
Diana Muller, Chesapeake BaySavers
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; C-1 Conference Room April 17, 2018

In attendance: *Andy Becker (new member), Dan Boward, *Megan Brosh, *Jim Caldwell, Matt Harper (Jai Cole alternate), *Sandy Hertz, *Clark Howells, *Byron Madigan, *Joel Moore, *Diana Muller, *Mat Pajerowski, *Mike Pieper (departing Board member), *Charlie Poukish, *Jeff Reagan, *Nancy Roth, *Bill Stack, *Ken Staver, *Matt Stover, *Mark Trice, *Chris Victoria, *Karen Wiggen, *Michael Williams

Not attending: *Jai Cole (Matt Harper alternate), *Richard Mitchell (no alternate)

*Board member

Board Chair **Sandy** Hertz called the meeting to order at 10:07.

The minutes from the January 16 meeting were accepted with minor edits.

Board Member and Officer Changes

Matt Stover thanked **Sandy** Hertz and **Mat** Pajerowski for accepting the Chair and Vice-Chair positions, respectively. **Action Item – Matt** asked those whose terms are complete in December 2018 (**Matt** Stover – state agency, **Mat** Pajerowski – federal agency, **Clark** Howells – local agency, **Mark** Trice – state agency). **Mike** Pieper (industry) is leaving the Board. **Andy** Becker (KCI, Inc.) offered to replace **Mike**. The Board voted to accept **Andy** as the replacement for **Mike**. There was also a vote on **Andy** replacing **Mike** as the Chair of the Monitoring and Assessment Committee Chair. **Michael** Williams offered to serve as Co-Chair. The Board voted to accept these two new appointments.

Committee Reports

Monitoring and Assessment (Andy Becker reporting)

The 11th Annual Stream Monitoring Roundtable was held at the USGS Water Science Center on February 23, 2018. About 58 people attended and there were 20 presentations by staff from agencies, consulting firms, academic institutions and NGOs. **Mike** Galvin (SavATree) gave a lunchtime presentation on the Baltimore Urban Waters Partnership. **Dan** Boward displayed the roundtable map for the Board to critique. **Andy** said that some overlap in sampling sites was determined during the roundtable. Ken Staver asked what's driving all the monitoring. This was followed by a detailed discussion of programs, analyses, maps, the CHESSIE BIBI, etc.

Andy said the committee is planning a MBSS IBI workshop sometime around October 2018. This will cover – soup-to-nuts – the workings of the IBI. A rough outline has been produced. A Steering Committee will be formed to guide the day's agenda that will include the new MBSSTools R code. **Action Item – Joel** Moore will send **Dan** some links to R information to share with the Board.

Nancy Roth announced that **Bob** Murphy is organizing a workshop on microplastics. **Action Item – Nancy** will email Board with more information.

Citizen Science and Community Involvement (Jeff Reagan reporting)

The Committee put together a Stream Habitat Workshop on April 14 at the Howard County Conservancy in Woodstock. About 70 were in attendance. The event focused on MBSS and EPA protocols. After indoor presentations, the group walked to Davis Branch to practice assessing habitat. Attendees provided many favorable comments on the day.

Diana Muller has ideas for other workshops, including instrumentation and data handling, study design, and QAPPs.

Information Management (Sandy Hertz reporting; the Committee has no current Chair)

Sandy reminded the Board about the Committee's plan to update the MWMC site mapper by adding information on NGOs. Lots of discussion ensued. **Mark** Trice checked the hits on the mapper site. **Joel Moore** suggested that CBT could require site information uploads for any CBT-funded project. There was discussion on the map's usefulness to groups like the CMC or waterkeepers. **Joel** suggested perhaps a CCC intern could work on the project. Everyone thought that the map process could be simplified by having data collectors upload their own data.

Goundwater (Mat Pajeroski reporting)

The Committee met in early January to discuss the USGS water quality county well database development project that includes a survey from well owners. The MWMC intern is assisting with this project. The database will include fields such as data type, frequency of collection, data storage and metadata. County health departments were asked to participate via a Doodle poll. The central database will eventually include information on about 400,000 wells statewide. **Mat** also announced that **Grace** Brush will give a talk at USGS Water Science Center on April 18, 2018.

Student Committee (Joel Moore reporting)

The Committee had a conference call on April 16. Discussion focused on the Annual Conference student networking session and other ideas. There was a suggestion to move the session earlier during the conference or hold it during lunch. Someone recommended a student track throughout the day or something related to careers. There should be more time for networking. Members will be polled for ideas on how to change the session. Other ideas discussed included 1. creating an MWMC jobs page, 2. having a student serve on the Annual Conference Planning Committee, 3. assembling a discussion panel for the 2018 Annual Conference. The USGS MWMC intern is working out well. The Student Committee contains five members.

Annual Conference (Dan Boward reporting)

The Annual Conference Planning Committee met on April 6. The Maritime Institute is holding Friday, December 7 for the conference. The theme will focus on stewardship and citizen involvement. Possible plenary speaker invitees include **Kate** Fritz (ACB), **Will** Baker (CBF), **Bill** Dennison (UMCES), the new UMCES President, **Chris** Trumbauer (AA Co. Council). **Diana** Muller suggested **Nick** DiPasquale as a plenary speaker. Potential themed sessions include stormwater management, trash/microplastics, grassroots engagement, Watershed Stewards Academy, citizen monitoring, forests and water quality, toxicants, urban/green deserts, infrastructure, and environmental reporting. **Action Item – Dan** asked the Board to email him ideas for themed sessions. Another student-professional session is being planned. Fees will stay the same as 2017. KCI, Inc. will again support the student poster award, the giveaway, and the social (possibly at Guinness). **Action Item - Andy** Becker will check with **Mike** Thompson at Biohabitats to see if they can provide some support. **Action Item - Nancy** Roth will join the Planning Committee.

Lunchtime Presentation

Joel Moore gave a presentation titled "*Elevated and increasing major ion concentrations in Maryland urban streams with implications for freshwater biota and drinking water quality*" Lots of discussion followed. **Action Item – Dan** Boward will ask if Joel's presentation can be posted on the MWMC website.

"Hit the Road" July Board meeting

Someone suggested the Eastern Shore Chesapeake Bay Environmental Center. **Mark** Southerland recommended the Howard Co. Conservancy at Mount Pleasant. The Board decided on the latter. The meeting should include a talk about, and a tour of the Davis Branch restoration work. **Action Item – Dan** Boward and **Mark** will make arrangements.

News Roundtable

Because the meeting was running late, there was no news roundtable.

Meeting adjourned at 2:10 PM

Submitted by **Dan** Boward
July 17, 2018