



Maryland Water Monitoring Council
Maryland Dept. of Natural Resources
Tawes Building, C-2
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Sandy Hertz, Maryland Dept. of Transportation
Chair

Mat Pajerowski, USGS
Vice-chair

Dan Boward, Maryland DNR
Executive Secretary

Directors

Megan Brosh, Baltimore County DEPS
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, Chesapeake BaySavers
Mike Pieper, KCI Technologies
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 January 16, 2018

In attendance: *Dan Boward, *Megan Brosh (new member), *Jim Caldwell, Matt Cashman (guest speaker), *Jai Cole, Caroline Donovan, *Sandy Hertz, *Richard Mitchell, *Joel Moore, *Diana Muller, *Mat Pajerowski, *Mike Pieper, *Charlie Poukish, *Jeff Reagan, *Nancy Roth, *Bill Stack (new member), *Ken Staver, *Matt Stover, *Mark Trice, *Chris Victoria, *Karen Wiggen*

Not attending: **Clark Howells (no alternate), *Byron Madigan (no alternate), *Michael Williams (no alternate)*

*Board member

The meeting convened at 10:17 AM. Matt Stover asked everyone to introduce themselves.

The minutes from the October 17, 2017 Board meeting were approved without change.

Board Membership Changes

Kevin Brittingham and **Caroline** Donovan are leaving the Board. **Matt** Stover asked new members **Megan** Brosh and **Bill** Stack to tell the Board about their experience. **Megan** works with Balto. Co. DEPS in the Watershed Monitoring Section. She manages the illicit discharge work. **Bill** has recently cut back his hours at Center for Watershed Protection. He's the Deputy Director of Programs and he previously worked with the City of Baltimore.

Matt listed those on the Board whose terms will end in December of 2018 – **Matt** Stover, **Mike** Pieper, **Mat** Pajerowski, **Clark** Howells and **Mark** Trice. **Action Item** – **Matt** will poll these members to determine their interest in continuing on the Board for another term. **Matt** distributed paper ballots to all members present asking for anonymous votes for **Sandy** Hertz (Chair) and **Mat** Pajerowski (Vice-Chair). **Action Item** – **Matt** will ask for help from the Board in evaluating future nominations.

Annual Conference Report

Dan Boward presented, via Power Point, statistics from the 2017 and past annual conferences. He also provided budget data for calendar year 2017. The Council currently has a "balance" of about \$31,000 available for workshops, etc. **Dan** encouraged members to think of worthwhile activities that could be supported by these funds. There was a good deal of discussion on the student-professional networking session and options to change the format. Some members recommended having the conference in November to make it more attractive to students. Another suggestion was to sponsor a student gathering separate from the annual conference.

Mike Pieper presented a summary of the Survey Monkey 2017 conference evaluation. About 250 registrants completed at least some part of the survey. Much discussion centered on future venues if the conference attendance continues to grow and topics for future conferences.

Committee Reports

Monitoring and Assessment (Mike Pieper reporting)

Mike had nothing to report. **Dan** asked about progress on a workshop and possible document on the MBSS IBIs that were discussed at the October, 2017 Board meeting. **Action Item** - **Mike** said that the Committee could complete these sometime in 2018.

Citizen Science and Community Stewardship (Diane Muller and Jeff Reagan reporting)

Diane and **Jeff** are now Co-Chairs. **Action Item** - The Committee will have a conference call and/or happy hour meeting soon. **Action Item** – the Committee will plan a stream habitat assessment workshop for early spring of 2018 focused on MBSS methods. **Diane** and **Jeff** will share the management of the MWMC Facebook page.

Information Management and Communication (Sandy Hertz reporting)

Sandy asked for either a Co-chair or a new Chair for the Committee. There were no volunteers. She said 6 applications for the intern position were received and the Committee (and **Tom** Parham) had made a preliminary selection. **Action Item** – Someone on the Committee will reach back out to the candidate and see if he is still interested. **Sandy** mentioned that the selected intern would be helping with the Mapper and coordinating with the watershed groups to get them on the map. She also indicated that the Committee would be asking the selected intern to prepare and present a poster or something similar at next year's annual conference.

Groundwater (Mat Pajeroski reporting)

The selected intern has begun working on a new database on domestic well water quality to include data on county testing activities, data storage, etc. The intern will help develop this database by surveying county health departments. Credit is possible.

Student Committee (Caroline Donovan and Joel Moore reporting)

Joel Moore is replacing **Caroline** as the Chair. The Committee had a productive fall. **Action Item** - **Joel** will contact the people who signed up at the Annual Conference to discuss Committee membership. There will be a conference call in February. Work will commence on the 2018 annual conference student-professional networking session.

Lunchtime Presentation

Matt Cashman (USGS) gave a talk titled, "Structure for Motion Surveying and Unmanned Aerial Systems: A New Resolution of Environmental Data". He defined Structure for Motion, described the uncertainty involved and went into detail on case studies of ground-based vs. unmanned drone-based Structure for Motion studies. Topics also included limitations, current sources of spatial data, airborne LIDAR, terrestrial LIDAR, photogrammetry, and the use of SFM to identify erosion hotspots. His talk generated lots of Q and A on topics such as flight restrictions, muddy water and visibility, and data storage.

News Roundtable

Richard Mitchell – EPA is training field crews for National Aquatic Resource Surveys.

Joel Moore – **Joel** is on sabbatical next year. He's working on a project with USGS that includes statewide chloride data. The University of MD Extension Service is also developing road salt educational materials for homeowners. **Action Item** – He'll send a flier to **Dan** for distribution to the Board.

Ken Staver – the Univ. of MD College of Agriculture is working on a new strategic plan. **Ken** and staff are modeling cover crop effectiveness. There's an upcoming meeting on the revised Chesapeake Bay Model at the National Conservation Training Center.

Nancy Roth – Staff are working with the Bay Program on Healthy Watersheds that includes tracking and assessing state partners.

Jai Cole – Staff are working on a fish and invertebrate web page. COG is sponsoring a streams workshop in February.

Karen Wiggen – Charles Co. has five watershed plans out for public comment.

Mark Trice – DNR has installed new nutrient sensors downstream of Conowingo Dam. Two new monitoring efforts have commenced – Mallows Bay and the Lower Chesapeake Bay.

Mike Pieper – KCI staff are working on MS4 permit reports. Staff will be sampling about 150 sites for clients.

Jim Caldwell – Staff are evaluating the next round of permits. Staff met with members of the environmental community to explain progress being made in MS4 permits.

Charlie Poukish – no news

Mat Pajeroski – Staff are looking at BMP effectiveness and stream restoration. In another study, staff have learned that fluorinated compounds in soil and groundwater are persistent at the ppt level.

Dan Boward – DNR is working with MDE and Garrett Co. government to develop a plan for monitoring Hoyes Run before and during a water withdrawal project.

Sandy Hertz – MDOT is waiting for five Phase II permits. Sandy is also planning social events to be held during the May, 2018 Green Port Conference in Baltimore.

Bill Stack – CWP will hold the 3rd Annual National Watershed and Stormwater Conference on April 10, 2018. The conference will include both face to face and web-based content via local hubs. The Baltimore hub will focus on the mid-point assessment and the new Phase 6 Model with an "ask an expert" component on stream restoration. **Action Item** – **Bill** will send **Dan** a flier on the conference to post on the MWMC Facebook page.

Megan Brosh – Staff are analyzing data for 2-year milestones on Bay TMDLs. Staff are gearing up for 2018 sampling.

Diana Muller – **Diana** is serving on the STAC Conference Steering Committee.

Jeff Reagan – Biohabitats staff are working on stream restoration reports.

Chris Victoria – AA Co. staff are conducting geomorphic assessments. 2018 will include Year 2 of Round 3 stream sampling by KCI. The County has a new cooperative agreement with the USGS examining legacy sediments.

Caroline Donovan – CMC has two upcoming data interpretation workshops – January 30 and 31 and the Audubon Naturalists Society facility and advanced workshops on February 7 and 8. CMC is seeking funding to expand the Bay report card by adding the CHESSE BIBI.

The Board meeting concluded at 1:51 PM.

Submitted by **Dan Boward**

April 17, 2018