

Maryland Water Monitoring Council Maryland Dept. of Natural Resources Tawes Building, C-2 580 Taylor Avenue Annapolis MD 21401 www.marylandwatermonitoring.org Clark Howells, Baltimore City DPW. Chair Sandy Hertz, Maryland State Highway Admin. Vice-chair

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Minutes of the MWMC Board of Director's Meeting Tawes State Office Building October 20, 2015

In attendance: **In attendance**: Dan Boward, *Kevin Brittingham, *Caroline Donovan, *Tim Goodfellow, *Sandy Hertz, *Clark Howells, *Richard Mitchell, *Mat Pajerowski, *Tom Parham, *Mike Pieper, *Charlie Poukish, *Nancy Roth, *Ken Staver, *Matt Stover, Amanda Sullivan (guest),*Peter Tango, *Chris Victoria, Leandra Glumac (alternate for Joel Moore)

<u>Not attending</u>: *Jim Caldwell (no alternate), *Ellen Lathrop-Davis (no alternate), *Joel Moore (alternate – Leandra Glumac), *Diana Muller (no alternate), *Jeff Reagan (no alternate), *Chris Swan (no alternate)

*Board member

The meeting convened at 10:05 AM. Chairman Howells welcomed everyone and asked all in attendance to introduce themselves.

The minutes were approved as submitted.

Workshop Updates

Road Salt (Mat Pajerowski reporting)

Mat and **Chris** Victoria are taking the lead on organizing this workshop that will probably occur in January 2016. The Patuxent Wildlife Center is a likely venue since it is free and convenient. Capacity is about 100. Another option is the Baltimore/Washington Technology Center which costs \$450/day and holds 125 people. There will be a fee for the workshop to cover costs. The workshop will focus on environmental impacts, best practices and the need for monitoring. It may include a panel discussion.

Crowd Sourcing (Tom Parham reporting)

No new news on workshop planning. This workshop will address apps and their availability. **Ken** Staver mentioned a meeting at Washington College that focused on technology and the need for standardization. Lots of discussion followed – Stream Corridor Assessment is a good application for an app. The Alliance for Ches. Bay has a "water reporter" app. **Tom** recommends an email survey asking "what are your needs?" The workshop may be held early summer 2016. No action items identified.

Wildlife and Water Quality (Peter Tango reporting)

This workshop is no longer being planned.

Stream Monitoring Roundtable (Dan Boward reporting)

The Ninth roundtable is being planned for February, 2016. It will likely be held at the USGS Science Center in Catonsville as in previous years. **Andy** Becker (KCI) and **Matt** Stover will help with the planning. The format will be similar to previous roundtables with presentations by agencies, non-profits, and consultants in the morning and early afternoon followed by an examination of a "big map" with many 2016 stream sampling locations. Lively discussion will end the day.

Committee Reports

Information Management (Tom Parham reporting)

There will soon be an update on the reincarnation of the "clickable map". The list (spreadsheet) of watershed groups is updated and this can now be synched with the map. The target to "unveil" the map is January, 2016.

Citizen Science and Environmental Stewardship (Caroline Donovan reporting)

The Committee's name and description have been updated on the MWMC website. The watershed association list has been completed and **Caroline** recommends that this could be updated periodically by a student. The Committee met recently at a local culinary establishment and developed a list of potential workshops: road salt; MDE data acceptance; rapid assessment; benthic macroinvertebrate taxonomy; de-mystifying the Bay model. The Committee contains six people. The Committee is considering writing a "users guide" that will link to the new CBP non-traditional data project. Other possible activities include starting a LinkedIn account and a story by **Dave** Briglio about the MWMC Citizen Sceince Committee in a stormwater magazine. The MWMC Facebook page has 187 likes.

Monitoring and Assessment (Chris Victoria reporting)

The Committee met last time when the weather was warm so another meeting is due. 2015 Committee activities included the January Climate Change and Streams Workshop and the Stream Monitoring Roundtable held in February. A series of technology workshops will likely be started in 2016. The Stream Restoration Monitoring Subcommittee met a few times recently. At the last meeting, **Lee** Currey (MDE) spoke about permitting issues, etc. The Subcommittee is conducting literature searches on the topic and a workshop is planned for sometime during 2016. **Nancy** Roth mentioned that this workshop will address outreach to permittees to reduce confusion related to permits, reviews, designs, etc. **Action Item – Nancy** will report at the next Board meeting on the status of this workshop.

Groundwater (Mat Pajerowski reporting)

See Road Salt workwhop above. Action Item – the Committee will meet to move forward on the Road Salt Workshop planning. Action Item – Clark Howells will recommend a speaker for the Road Salt Workshop.

Student Committee (Caroline Donovan reporting)

The MWMC voted in October to move forward and formalize the Student Committee. Action Item – Dan Boward will provide a sign-up sheet for potential Committee members at the annual conference in November. Clark suggested that the Board could give students information on whom to contact for their projects. Ken Staver suggested that there could be too many students seeking MWMC assistance.

Lunchtime presentation

DNR's **Amanda** Sullivan spoke about the agency's Explore and Restore Maryland Streams program. Her talk included development of the stream assessment educational tool, additional resources available to teachers, vehicles for schools to report their findings, how the program enhances the Environmental Literacy Standards, STEM integration, and program statistics.

2015 Annual MWMC Conference

Dan Boward and the Planning Committee provided an overview of the November 13 conference, including current registration, plenary and special session speakers, and oral presentations and posters. **Sandy** Hertz, **Caroline** Donovan, **Clark** Howells, and **Richard** Mitchell offered to moderate sessions. **Mike** Pieper offered to once again summarize the Survey Monkey post-conference survey.

Sandy Hertz let a discussion of the 2015 Carl Weber Award. There have been five nominations submitted. **Cathy** Weber has suggested that a new award be given for those outstanding individuals who are new on the "scene" of water monitoring in Maryland. The Board decided to begin giving this award in 2016 and an announcement will be made at the 2015 conference plenary session. **Action Item** – The Weber Award Committee will develop this new award in time for the 2016 conference.

Board Member Changes

The following Board members 3-year terms have been completed: **Mat** Pajerowski, **Matt** Stover, **Peter** Tango, **Clark** Howells, **Tom** Parham, and **Mike** Pieper. **Mat**, **Matt** and **Clark** wish to remain on the Board but **Peter**, **Tom**, and **Mike** wish to consider staying or leaving the Board. A Nominating Committee was formed with **Matt** Stover (Chair), **Chris** Victoria, **Mat** Pajerowski, **Clark** Howells, and **Sandy** Hertz. **Action Item** – The Nominating Committee will communicate with **Peter**, **Tom**, and **Mike** and determine if replacements are needed starting in 2016. **Matt** will let **Dan** know (by mid-December) what actions are needed for Secretary Belton's approval of any new Board members.

News Items

Tim Goodfellow – Frederick Co. is updating the Monocacy River Management Plan. The last one was done in 1990.

Ken Staver – There's a new Dean at the University of MD Ag College. The new Phosphorus Tool (Version 6) includes phosphorus credits.

Peter Tango – A CBP workgroup is re-evaluating changes to monitoring networks in the context of new technologies.

Nancy Roth – Versar is working on Small Watershed Action Plans with an effort to increase school involvement. Versar is also working with consultants examining and prioritizing restoration opportunities.

Kevin Brittingham – Baltimore County's NPDES report is due soon. Implementation plans are in progress. Soil monitoring plans (N, P, sediment) are being developed. The County has recently completed 500 bacteria sample analysis.

Charlie Poukish - There was a recent latex spill in the town of Luke.

Clark Howells – There was a recent celebration of 100 years of the Montebello Filtration Plant. **Clark** is working with Hazen and Sawyer to model reservoir levels.

Dan Boward – MBSS trainings are being planned for 2016. **Dan** presented on government use of citizen data at the recent Mid-Atlantic Volunteer Monitoring Conference in Winchester, VA.

Sandy Hertz – SHA is working on its new NPDES permit that includes additional BMPs and stream restoration projects.

Matt Stover - MDE is moving forward with the development of chloride criteria.

Leandra Glumac – Leandra is seeking a job.

Caroline Donovan – The latest Chesapeake Bay Report Card has been released. There's an RFP out for a database provider for the new Baywide volunteer monitoring effort.

Tom Parham – Deep Creek Lake hydrilla beds are in decline. There's a new Deep Creek Lake tributary sediment study underway.

Mat Pajerowski – USGS is developing a monitoring program that includes rapid deployment of stage, wind and wave data to better predict flooding. Mat's group is also developing interpretive signs for the Baltimore Inner Harbor water wheel.

Chris Victoria – Anne Arundel County is redesigning their County-wide monitoring program (due December 2015). Sampling will commence in 2017. To date, two five-year rounds have been completed. New reporting will include trend analyses.

Mike Pieper – KCI is assisting counties in the completion of their MS4 reports. KCI is also helping SHA with salt management planning.

Submitted by **Dan** Boward January 13, 2016