



Maryland Water Monitoring Council
Maryland Dept. of Natural Resources
Tawes Building, C-2
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Clark Howells, Baltimore City DPW.
Chair

Sandy Hertz, Maryland Dept. of Transportation
Vice-chair

Dan Boward, Maryland DNR
Executive Secretary

Directors

Kevin Brittingham, Baltimore County DEPS
Jim Caldwell, Howard County OES
Jai Cole, M-NCPPC
Caroline Donovan, UMCES
Byron Madigan, Carroll County BRM
Richard Mitchell, US EPA
Joel Moore, Towson University
Diana Muller, Chesapeake BaySavers
Mat Pajerowski, USGS

Mike Pieper, KCI Technologies
Charles Poukish, Maryland Dept. of the Environment
Jeff Reagan, Biohabitats, Inc.
Nancy Roth, Tetra Tech, 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 October 17, 2017

In attendance: *Dan Boward, Megan Brosh, Steve Charles, *Jai Cole, *Caroline Donovan, *Clark Howells, *Byron Madigan, *Joel Moore, Andrew Muller, *Mat Pajerowski, *Mike Pieper, *Jeff Reagan, *Ken Staver, *Matt Stover, Sam Stribling, *Mark Trice, *Chris Victoria, *Karen Wiggen, *Michael Williams*

Not attending: **Kevin Brittingham (Megan Brosh alternate), *Jim Caldwell (no alternate), *Sandy Hertz (Steve Charles alternate), *Richard Mitchell (no alternate) *Diana Muller (Andrew Muller alternate), *Charlie Poukish (no alternate), *Nancy Roth (Sam Stribling alternate)*

*Board member

The meeting convened at 10:10 AM. Chairman **Clark** Howells welcomed everyone and asked them to introduce themselves.

The minutes from the July 25, 2017 Board meeting were approved without change.

Committee Reports

Information Management (**Dan** Boward reporting for **Sandy** Hertz)

Dan provided a brief update on the MWMC site mapper and asked all Board members to spread the word on MWMC's request for sampling points to add to the mapper. **Dan** also mentioned that a few internship applications had been submitted for assistance with the mapper.

Citizen Science (**Caroline** Donovan reporting)

MWMC's Facebook page is still active but folks are encouraged to post, like, etc. The Committee needs members. **Andrew** Muller said that **Diana** has a new position and she would like to work on the Committee (perhaps Co-Chair). **Jeff** Reagan said that he's interested in organizing a habitat assessment or stream corridor assessment workshop geared toward volunteers. The workshop could be held at Howard County Conservancy or SERC. It could include methods comparison. No target date has been set. Ken Staver asked how can citizens find out what's needed in terms of monitoring. **Caroline** mentioned that the CMC should be a good contact. CMC does refer new folks to existing programs.

Monitoring and Assessment (**Mike** Pieper reporting)

The Committee has not been active other than the annual conference session on new technologies. **Mike** will mention Chairing the Committee to his colleague at KCI, **Andy** Becker. There was some discussion on what the Committee is charged with and where it's going. **Jai** Cole mentioned a BCG workshop held in Montgomery County. **Sam** Stribling was also involved. She thought perhaps the Committee could hold a similar workshop. **Caroline** recommended that the Committee conduct a survey to determine the direction of the Committee. She also suggested that the Committee help with the habitat assessment workshop that **Jeff** is considering. **Joel** Moore said the Committee could perhaps assist with a stream restoration workshop being planned by **Scott** Stranko of DNR. **Dan** suggested a "nuts and bolts" workshop on both the IBI and BCG. **Chris** Victoria said the workshop should focus on the limitations of the IBI instead of nuts and bolts. **Mike** Pieper said the Committee could produce a "soup to nuts" manual for the IBI that could be unveiled during a workshop that includes QC, improvements to the Index, BCG, etc. **(Action Item)** – **Caroline** will ask **Claire** Buchanan (ICPRB) if she will speak about the Chessie BIBI at the next Board meeting. **(Action Item)** – **Mike** will discuss the proposed workshop and technical document with **Andy** Becker. **(Action Item)** – **Jai** will talk with **Matt** Harper (M-NCPPC) and **Ken** Mack (Mont. Co.) about Committee membership.

Groundwater (**Mat** Pajeroski reporting)

The Committee met last week and it is organizing a session with three talks at the annual conference. A new database on domestic well water quality will be developed to include data on county testing activities, data storage, etc. Seven or 8 students responded to the internship application. He or she will help develop this database by surveying county health departments. Credit is possible. **(Action Item)** – **Mat** will interview and select an intern soon. There's lots of interest in road salt. A second workshop may be valuable but the Committee must get on the same page as MDE. Private applicators are a big issue. **Mike** Williams recommends recruiting outside experts to speak at the workshop.

Student Committee (**Caroline** Donovan reporting)

Joel Moore is the current Co-chair but will take over the Chair position once **Caroline** leaves the Board. **Caroline** mentioned the intern applications for the two positions (USGS and DOT/DNR). **Dot** Lundberg is taking the lead on organizing the Student-Professional Networking Session at the upcoming annual conference. Only one mentor is needed for the session. **Joel** asks for a volunteer to co-chair the committee. **(Action Item)** - **Mike** Pieper said he would ask his colleagues at KCI about co-chairing.

Lunchtime Presentation

Michael Norton (Chesapeake Conservancy; CC) gave a talk about an online watershed/land use evaluation tool being developed by his organization. He discussed the history of CC, the scale of the tool, web products (with case studies), and downloadable data. The tool can be used to, among other things, identify areas in need of stream buffer plantings.

Annual Conference (**Dan** Boward reporting)

Dan thanked the planning committee for all their work throughout the year – **Clark** Howells, **Mark** Trice, **Kevin** Brittingham, **Mike** Pieper, **Angel** Valdez, **Andy** Becker, and **Charlie** Poukish. There were 238 registrants, 8 students, 39 non-profits, 11 vendors, 14 talk abstracts, and 4 poster abstracts. KCI and Biohabitats will continue their financial support (student posters and social). **Tom** Wazniak (YSI) will provide \$500 to support student scholarships. **(Action Item)** - **Dan** will email Board asking for volunteers to moderate sessions. The contract with the Maritime Institute caps registration at about 600.

Incoming and Outgoing Board members (**Matt** Stover – Nominating Committee Chair)

Kevin Brittingham (Local Govt.) and **Caroline** Donovan (At-Large) will be leaving the Board. **(Action Item)** – Board members were asked to email **Matt** ASAP with recommendations on replacements. **(Action Item)** – **Matt** will email Board re: voting on two-term members continuing service into a third term. **Matt** reminded everyone that the Board needs members who can donate time to MWMC activities. **Jai** Cole asked if the Board would benefit from folks with certain areas of expertise. **Matt** mentioned planners. **Clark** mentioned drinking water folks and students. **Clark** will continue on the Board but will be stepping down as Chair. **(Action Item)** – **Matt** will email Board re: recommendations for new Chair and Vice-Chair.

News Roundtable

Mike Pieper said KCI is working on NPDES and MS4 annual reports, restoration projects and monitoring reports.

Ken Staver mentioned the status of the Phase 6 Bay Model.

Karen Wiggen is working on MS4 permits. She said MDE is asking – via a poll - if counties are interested in pooled monitoring.

Sam Stribling is doing lots of data quality work with SFS (adding diatoms and freshwater mussel QC).

Jai Cole continues on MS4 work. Phase 2 is delayed. M-NCPPC works with MDE on this.

Mark Trice said NERS is hiring a research coordinator. DNR is managing a new Mallows Bay buoy with fish telemetry. His group seeks to rectify DNR anoxia data disparity with VIMS data.

Mike Williams is giving talks at SERF in Rhode Island and Pox Con. and he's headed to Brazil to consult on stream restoration projects.

Joel Moore is giving a talk at a geochemistry conference. He's managing continuous monitoring at urban restoration projects and he's taking a sabbatical in 2018 and 2019 to focus on chlorides in big streams vs. small streams.

Steve Charles - no news

Andrew Muller has begun a new project with continuous monitors in the Bay with casting to low data areas. **Diana** Muller has accepted a new position at Chesapeake BaySavers.

Dan Boward mentioned the recent discovery of large numbers of New Zealand Mud Snails in a tributary to the Gunpowder River and DNR's management of black fly spraying in the Potomac River near Harpers Ferry.

Byron Madigan continues to work on MS4 reports, restoration projects, sand filters and a CBT grant application to improve Carroll Co. streambank stability.

Matt Stover is looking into stream temperature issues as related to use classes, cold water designations and water temperature.

Caroline Donovan said the Ches. Monitoring Cooperative is conducting lots of training sessions with help from UMCES (in late 2017 and early 2018).

Megan Brosh is working on Balto. County's annual NPDES report and planning for the 2018 State of the Watersheds Conference as part of their outreach efforts.

Jeff Reagan is working on reports and a Spa Creek restoration project.

Clark Howells is applying for a USFS grant to study forest regeneration, deer and stiltgrass.

Mat Pajerowski has recently completed a report on estimated baseflow. Staff are testing a digital photo device to examine streambanks. The 2015 Water Use Report is out soon.

Chris Victoria is planning 2018 field work and reporting on Year 1 of Round 3 AA County stream monitoring.

The Board meeting concluded at 2:10 PM.

Submitted by **Dan** Boward
January 16, 2018