



Maryland Water Monitoring Council
Maryland Dept. of Natural Resources
Tawes Building, C-2
580 Taylor Avenue
Annapolis MD 21401
www.marylandwatermonitoring.org

Mark Southerland, Versar, Inc.
Chair

Clark Howells, Baltimore City DPW
Vice-chair

Dan Boward, Maryland DNR
Executive Secretary

Directors

Shelly Baird, Nanticoke Watershed Alliance
Kevin Brittingham, Baltimore County DEPS
Jim Caldwell, Howard County OES
Michele Dobson, Harford County DPW
Mat Pajerowski, USGS
Tim Goodfellow, Fred. Co. Dept. of Planning
Sandy Hertz, Maryland State Highway Admin.
Ellen Lathrop-Davis, Comm. Coll. Balto. Co.
Tom Parham, Maryland DNR
Mike Pieper, KCI Technologies

Charles Poukish, Maryland Dept. of the Environment
Bill Richardson, US. EPA
Ken Staver, Univ. of MD WREC
Matt Stover, Maryland Dept. of the Environment
Chris Swan, Univ. of MD Balto. Co.
Peter Tango, USGS/Chesapeake Bay Program
Chris Victoria, Anne Arundel DPW
Caroline Wicks, EcoCheck
Cathy Wiss, Audubon Naturalist Society

Minutes of the MWMC Board of Director's Meeting Versar, Inc. Columbia, MD February 10, 2014

In attendance: Dan Boward, *Kevin Brittingham, *Jim Caldwell, *Michele Dobson, *Tim Goodfellow, *Sandy Hertz, William Harbold, *Clark Howells, Ron Klauda, *Ellen Lathrop-Davis, *Mat Pajerowski, *Tom Parham, *Mike Pieper, *Charlie Poukish, *Mark Southerland, *Ken Staver, *Chris Swan, Sue Veith, *Chris Victoria, *Caroline Wicks, *Cathy Wiss

Not attending: *Shelly Baird (no alternate), *Bill Richardson (no alternate), *Matt Stover (no alternate), *Peter Tango (no alternate)

*Board member

Meeting convened at 10:05 AM. Chairman **Mark** Southerland welcomed everyone and asked the new Board members to introduce themselves, describe their work, and their interest in the MWMC. The Board also said goodbye to **Sue** Veith – the only outgoing Board member in attendance.

The minutes from the October, 2013 meeting were approved without modification.

2013 Annual Conference Recap

Dan Boward provided statistics on conference attendance, presentations, and finances. About 350 attended the conference and there were 72 total presenters. The conference budget was about \$300 in the red. **Mike** Pieper provided a summary of the Survey Monkey evaluation. As usual, there were several good suggestions for upcoming meeting topics and guest speakers. **Action Item** – there was a suggestion to add “gender” and “age” to future evaluations. There was a suggestion to seek out a student sign language interpreter if one is needed in the future. **Chris** Victoria suggested looking into the registration fee. **Mark** will seek out a celebrity to serve as a plenary speaker at the 2014 meeting and he'll look into organizing a session on Columbia, MD as a model for environmentally-sound development. Everyone agreed that past Board members should be invited to the 2014 meeting. **Caroline** Wicks suggested we arrange for larger rooms at the Maritime Institute.

Committee Reports

Monitoring and Assessment (Ron Klauda)

Committee members organized several sessions at the 2013 Annual Conference and there's a climate change workshop being planned. **Cheri** Miller (USGS) will take the lead on this. A headwater streams workshop is also being planned. The Committee continues to work with county planners on better use of water data in land use decisions. The Committee will meet in March to plan 2014 activities.

Community Outreach and Citizen Stewardship (Caroline Wicks)

The MWMC Facebook page has been updated. **Caroline** suggested that we add questions about Facebook to the Annual Conference evaluation. **Action Item** – **Sue** Veith said she would follow up on establishing a LinkedIn Group for the MWMC.

Information Management (Mat Pajerowski and Tom Parham)

Action Item - **Tom** said he would look into the status of the updated clickable map and report back to the Board in April. **Action Item** – within two weeks, **Tom** will send **Dan** Boward an email requesting sampling points for posting on the map. **Sandy** Hertz suggested we should link the clickable map to the Watershed Registry. **Mat** said that the Committee is looking for a new Chair since he'll be taking on the Chairmanship of a new MWMC Groundwater Committee. **Sandy** Hertz and **Tom** Parham both agreed to serve on the current Information Management Committee but neither committed to the Chair position.

New Groundwater Committee (Mat Pajerowski)

Mat told the Board that he wishes to form a new Groundwater Committee. The Committee's first task may be to examine spatial gaps in monitoring sites and make recommendations for additional sites. A recent groundwater report may be a valuable tool. **Dave** Bolton (MGS) may serve on the Committee.

Indicators (Charlie Poukish)

Charlie provided a brief history of the Committee. He recommended that **Matt** Stover update the Board on Committee progress during the April Board meeting. The Committee intends to finish the Indicators Database that **Matt** has been working on. There have been no recent Committee meetings nor are any planned. The discussion went to the 2014 MWMC Annual Conference. **Caroline** Wicks suggested a "Communication" session. **Chris** Swan said we could try to get **Tim** Wheeler (Balto. Sun) to attend. **Ken** Staver asked "who are we not reaching?"

Lunchtime presentation

William Harbold (MDNR/MANTA) presented a project overview and results from monitoring in the Patapsco River related to several dam removal projects. His talk was a summary of five presentations given at the 2013 MWMC Annual Conference. His talk generated lots of discussion on topics such as sediment loads, benthic macroinvertebrate responses, and wetland permits. William's Power Point file will be posted on the MWMC website.

Workshops

Climate Change (Ron Klauda organizing)

The Committee will host a Climate Change workshop probably in fall, 2014. **Ron** recapped the Committee's Climate Change activities to date. He mentioned the start of EPA's Regional Monitoring Network activities. The network will include 5 MBSS sites.

Headwater Streams (Mark Southerland organizing)

The workshop will probably be held in 2014 but perhaps in 2015. It will likely include indoor talks in the morning followed by field trips in the afternoon.

Workshop for Planners (Mark Southerland organizing)

Mark recapped progress to date – the questionnaire, MACO Conference presentation, follow-up correspondence. He mentioned that a Planners meeting in Newark, De in October 2014 may be a good venue for MWMC to present.

Stream Monitoring Roundtable (Dan Boward organizing)

Dan reminded everyone that the 7th Roundtable was approaching (February 27). It will be held at the USGS Water Science Center and about 50 folks are expected to attend.

Other Misc. Workshop Ideas

Ken Staver suggested that MWMC could sponsor a workshop on agriculture and water quality. Habitat could be the focus as well as the impacts of agriculture on watershed restoration. **Jim** Caldwell said there are several large lot residential issues that are not being addressed.

News Items

Ron Klauda - There's an upcoming STAC-sponsored workshop on stream restoration that will include discussion on how to increase stream functional lift.

Mat Pajerowski - The new Groundwater Committee could examine groundwater issues in the Anacostia Watershed.

Tom Parham – The Potomac River Fisheries Commission will meet with watermen at the end of February to discuss problem areas such as WWTPs.

Ellen Lathrop-Davis – no news presented.

Kevin Brittingham – Dec. 23 is Balto. County's deadline to write their updated MS4 Implementation Plan. Kevin and staff are working on a Brook Trout assessment for the County.

Clark Howells – A report generated by the USGS for the Reservoir Technical Advisory Group has been reviewed. A final report will be released in 2 months. The report will provide better tools for tracking trends in Baltimore's reservoirs.

Cathy Wiss – working with an environmental club at a school in Poolesville. **Cathy** is teaching classes in benthic macroinvertebrate ID. The Center for Watershed Protection is working on elicit discharge detection in Mont. Co. There was recent testimony on Ten Mile Creek in front of the Mont. Co. Council. **Action Item** – **Dan** Boward will give **Cathy** the MWMC Student Poster Award flier.

Jim Caldwell – The County is developing an app with Chesapeake Commons to use for physical parameters much like the MD DNR SCA. The app is titled the Howard County Stream Mapper.

Mike Pieper – KCI is 1) designing projects for PG County looking for restoration and wetland work; 2) supporting MD SHA for TMDL work for the next 11 years; 3) working with Charles Co. on local restoration plans; 4) Anne Arundel Co. on Cowhide Branch; and 5) Anacostia Watershed Society on LID at a local middle school.

Chris Victoria – Anne Arundel County has a new MS4 Permit.

Sandy Hertz – SHA allocated \$70 million for design and implementation in 2014. The Watershed Resources Registry work contains about \$75 k to promote WRR across the US. SHA works with Rich Starr (USFWS) on a functional lift project.

Caroline Wicks – attending the National monitoring Conference in April. EcoCheck will present the results of a Behavior Change survey to the volunteer monitoring groups they work with through MTAC.

Ken Staver – no news presented.

Charlie Poukish – MDE has several biological monitoring projects for the year - 1) Casselman acid mine mitigation, monitoring to demonstrate improvement; 2) Antietam Creek- biological monitoring in conjunction with an EPA approved TMDL implementation project; 3) Monitoring Tier II (antidegradation) sites to confirm biological community status for regulatory purposes.

Tim Goodfellow – is looking forward to discussing, via MWMC, integrating land use planning decisions and water/environmental data.

Dan Boward – MBSS is gearing up to start Round 4 of the Survey by repeat sampling at several sites previously sampled.

Mark Southerland – Versar is working with Loudon Co., Va on MS4 issues and watershed plans and with the MD Science Center's Polluted Runoff Exhibit (with **Jim Caldwell**).

Meeting adjourned at 2:08 PM

Submitted by **Dan Boward**
April 15, 2014