

Barr Lake/Milton Reservoir Watershed Association
 BMW Board Retreat
 January 23rd, 2018 9:00 am – Noon
 Metro Wastewater Reclamation District

Minutes

Board Attendance:

Steve Lundt – Metro
 Chris Douglass - ECCV
 Dan Delaughter – L/E WWTP
 Laurie Rink – FRICO (phone)
 Charlene Seedle – South Adams
 Kevin Pustulka– South Adams

Sarah Reeves – SPCURE
 Michelle Seubert - CPW

Public Attendance:

Amy Conklin – BMW Coordinator

Dan welcomed the group and everyone introduced themselves.

Updates/Action Items

General Public to Address Board – no one was in attendance. **Amy** will invite Donny Roush to attend Board meetings.

Chair’s Report - Dan thanked everyone for a good retreat where solid groundwork for the five year plan was made.

Treasurer’s Report - Laurie reported that as of December 8th, 2017, we have a balance of **\$213,503.76**. All expenses since the last meeting are within budget and will be recorded as part of the minutes. Amy is having trouble accessing our account online since Valley Bank was purchased by another bank. **Amy and Dan** will continue working to get Amy access.

January Checks to Sign	
1997 - Amy Conklin, Dec. 2017 Coordination	\$ 1,258.75
1998 - Joy Labadie, website	\$ 150.00
1999 - Applewood Bookkeeping	\$ 20.00

Budget Committee Update – Chris walked the group through the line items in the 2017-18 Fiscal Year (FY) budget in comparison to those in FY 2020/22. The assumptions are that revenue remains steady but that expenses increase on projects related to implementing the TMDL and to prepare BMW for participation in the 2022 Rulemaking hearing. There is a carry over every year until 2022. The budget assumes that \$50 - \$60,000 per year will be spend on TMDL Implementation. If that assumption is realistic, there will need to be additional revenues generated.

The budget committee evaluated different alternatives to raising revenue and showed them at the bottom of the spreadsheet. Membership dues will need to increase this year or next to achieve the desired revenues. The Board concluded that organizations will need another year and a lot of supporting information before dues should be increased. This year we can send out information about the dues increases and the reasons for them. **Amy** will check the by-laws and past practices to determine if increases in membership dues need to be approved by the Stakeholders.

Part of the supporting information will be a list of projects the funds will be spent on and relative priorities of the projects. There may be a need to ‘bank’ some of the funds for future, large scale projects. Over the next six months, the Board will work on the project list and the priorities of those projects.

Sources of revenues include raising membership dues, grants and attracting new members. The most likely revenue source is membership dues increases and special assessments but the other sources will also be pursued. One possibility that can be explored is a water quality park fee for Barr Lake modeled after the one at Cherry Creek. **Michelle** will bring the issue up again to CPW leadership. In addition BMW can continue to track efforts at the state level to help provide funding for implementation of Regulations 85 and 31.

This year’s membership dues invoicing letter can include a discussion of BMWs intent to work synergistically with other organizations in the watershed pursuing projects in preparation for the 2022 rulemaking hearing. So far, there hasn’t been much overlap between work SPCURE is doing and BMW. Both efforts are supportive of each other and inform each other.

BMW will be examining the statewide Chlor a standard proposed for the 2022 rulemaking hearing to determine if it is appropriate for Barr and Milton. Some projects to evaluate site-specific standards will need to be done if the statewide standards are not appropriate. BMW knows the lakes better than anyone else. In considering site-specific standards and Use Attainability Analyses (UAAs) we should be able to sort out the needed projects and their priorities.

The Board concluded that membership dues will not be raised this year but an informational message will be included with the invoices to prepare members for the inevitable increases. All members should start talking with their organizations to begin the conversation about why additional funds are needed. The Board will also carefully review the proposed standards for the 2022 rulemaking hearing and evaluate options for incorporating the standards into the TMDL.

Update on External Influences – McDonald Farm Biosolid land application – Chris reported that East Cherry Creek Valley Water and Sanitation District (ECCV) continues appealing the county staff position to issue a permit for biosolid application. They are also working with McDonald to get them to do some monitoring and working with other farmers in the area.

Segment 14 permits – Dan reported that he will continue to track discharge permits issued in Segment 14. So far, CDPHE is continuing to include compliance schedules in the more recent permits even though we requested there not be compliance schedules and they agreed. In addition, he is concerned that some dischargers will be issued a general permit that they later change to an individual permit. **Dan** will communicate with CDPHE to ensure that they don’t interpret our silence as acquiescence, and so that the current practice doesn’t become the default permit template.

Denver Water Corrosion Control Program – Sarah reported that she is still trying to set up a meeting with EPA to determine their position on using PO4 to protect drinking water pipes from corrosion. CDPHE will issue a decision on Denver Water’s report recommending pH manipulation instead of PO4 application in March. The concern is that CDPHE will choose PO4 application. We want to understand EPA’s position in case CDPHE requires PO4 application. **Steve** will ask Emily Jackson about any avenues for appeal if CDPHE recommends PO4 application. **Sarah** will keep the Board informed of any progress.

The Board discussed how much of our resources do we want to spend on external issues. The conclusion was to keep being thoughtful about the amount of time spent and evaluate situations as they arise, being mindful of limits on time and energy.

Coordinator Updates

Approval of the November 28th, 2017 Board Retreat Minutes - Thumbs up approval
By-Laws Committee - There was a Thumbs Up approval to change the Reimbursement policy language. **Amy** will finalize the By-laws.

I&E Committee Update – Steve reported that The I & E Committee met on January 2nd. Some action items requiring Board attention include:

- The committee needs direction from the Board on how much we want the website to target the general public versus primarily internal use for the Board. The Board concluded that the website didn’t need any major changes at this point. The Board gave approval to **Michelle** to set up a BMW Facebook page and for **Amy** to set up a BMW Instagram account. The possibility of a photo contest and a ‘#’ brainstorming session were discussed. The Facebook page is up. Be sure to like it:
<https://www.facebook.com/search/top/?q=barr%20lake%20and%20milton%20reservoir%20watershed%20association>
- The committee gave Amy approval to do some initial external outreach with the North Denver Cornerstone Collaborative (NDCC), the Greenway Foundation (TGF) and The South Platte Working Group (SPWG) to explore opportunities to leverage each other’s work. She’ll report on her meetings and use the information to inform her 2018-19 work plan. Steve thinks NDCC should be the highest priority with TGF second. One topic we may want to pursue with the groups is how to quantify load reductions from their proposed and in-construction stormwater controls. Maybe they could target loading sources, using the 42 subbasins in the BMW model. Another effort to consider is visualizing data. There are some tools available but they aren’t well developed.
- Steve is continuing to work with CU Denver Environmental Studies graduate students on their capstone projects. Class kicked off last week. Steve will attend class this week to answer questions and help them with their projects. Measuring Chlor a will be one of their projects. They’ll make a presentation on their projects in May.
- The Poop emoji balloon will be used at the Furry Scurry. Shelley Stanley would like to borrow the balloon as well. **The I&E Committee** will need to develop some protocols for loaning the balloon.

- We have only received one applicant for our intern position. If we don't receive any more and the one applicant doesn't meet our standards, we may not have an intern this year.
- **The I&E Committee** will be working on a BMW calendar.
- Michelle received a grant for building a fishing pier. Construction will start this summer.
- She was also approved for Adams County sponsorship for LAD and will be applying for other grants. **Steve** will send her the BMW letters she needs.

Technical Committee – Steve reported that the committee is meeting this Thursday to discuss the water quality summaries for 2017. The committee will also talk about the modeling effort in 2019 and what needs to be done in 2018 to be ready for the effort. Steve has already received proposals from Integral about doing additional modeling and will contact Ken Wagner about doing a loading assessment and to help advise us about future scenarios to model. The Board direction was to model for changes in the watershed, such as the Northern Treatment Plant coming online and the Burlington Pumps going offline, rather than modeling different scenarios. There may be some scenarios that need to be modeled but that will be done later as part of the projects identified in the 5-year plan. Steve will also ask the committee for their help filling in the timeline file with effluent concentrations at POTWs.

Steve Cline, a colleague from NALMS, proposed to work with Steve Lundt studying sediments in Barr Lake. The Technical Committee will discuss his proposal and make a recommendation. The study could help refine the internal loading estimates and estimates of how effective in-lake treatments might be.

Installation of the stormwater monitoring gauge is proceeding. The BMW line item for operation and maintenance of the gauge will need to include the cost for a new electrical panel. The existing one was destroyed by the homeless population near the site. Homeless activity near the site where the gauge will be installed has declined since the brush around the site was removed. There is not a guarantee they won't return but it's reasonable to hope the new electrical panel will be safe. **Steve** will check with Metro to see if they could insure the equipment in case it is vandalized.

Retreat Timeline and Work Products – Dan led the discussion by reminding the Board that at the November retreat, development of several white papers was identified. Each of the papers is summarized below along with lead drafters and reviewers. Steve and Emily Jackson worked with Metro staff to capture the timeline for the organization into a digital representation. A snapshot of the file is shown below. Feedback on the graphic was to: add a graph to the bottom row depicting historical water quality values and adding a row for other water quality parameters we may want to track such as temperature, ammonia and selenium. The black font in the blue boxes can be hard to read so white font could be used. It would be nice to reduce blank spaces wherever possible and the arrows should be a contrasting color to the gridlines.

Barr Milton Watershed Association – Action Plan			
Updated January 16, 2017			
	2018	2019	2020
TMDL Implementation		<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; width: fit-content; margin: auto;"> <u>Modeling 2013 TP</u> L/E: 0.1 mg/L Metro: 0.1 mg/L Aurora: 0.2 mg/L Smaller: 1.0 mg/L </div>	
Regulatory	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; width: fit-content; margin: auto;">303(d) - AAH</div>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; width: fit-content; margin: auto;">303(d) - RMH</div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; width: fit-content; margin: auto; margin-top: 10px;">Reg 38 - IFH</div>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; width: fit-content; margin: auto;">303(d) - AAH</div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; width: fit-content; margin: auto; margin-top: 10px;">Reg 38 - RMH</div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; width: fit-content; margin: auto; margin-top: 10px;">Reg 31 – IFH Chl-a = 20 ug/L</div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; width: fit-content; margin: auto; margin-top: 10px;"> <u>AAH</u> Reg 31-38 - N&P standards on high priority lakes & reservoirs Reg 32-38 - Chl-a rivers, streams, lakes, reservoirs Reg 85 - Non-point sources </div>

The white paper assignments are shown below. To stay on schedule, **all leads** were requested to complete and share an outline of their white paper before Feb. 20th so they can be included in the February Board packet. The outlines and the body of the papers will be worked on as a group by the Board at the February meeting.

- White Paper on Phased TMDL approach – compile relevant info from TMDL, Implementation Plan, EPA memos, etc.

Lead = **Dan**, reviewers/contributors = Emily, Sarah, Laurie Dan has prepared a draft outline that will be discussed in February.

- Technical Memo on Uncertainty (documentation of work that has been done to reduce uncertainty for our phased TMDL, overview discussion of work plan going forward, and confirmation that we are still on the right track.

Lead = **Steve**, reviewers/contributors = Laurie

- White Paper on UAA – Identify potential options for 2027 hearing (UAA/site-specific standards/do nothing), identify the data/study gaps that we have to fill for the options that we would want to pursue and schedules to obtain that data

Lead = **Sarah**, reviewers/contributors = Dan, Steve, Laurie, Emily

- White Paper on External Influences (Discussion of watershed influences that impact water quality – newly issued permits, Denver Water corrosion control, biosolids, etc)

Lead = Emily, reviewers/contributors = Dan, others? The Board discussed that Emily will not be available to assist much with this white paper so **Chris** will become the back-up lead.

The old groups, POTW, MS4, NPS, Pollutant Trading, and UAA, will be replaced by the new white paper groups.

The Board discussed the timeline Dan prepared for accomplishing the tasks identified during the retreat. Below is the snapshot of end of year goals.

Month	Model Refinement/Standards Development	In-Canal Treatment	Stormwater Monitoring Station	POTW Options Analysis	Legislation (P Ban, Watershed Funding Sources)	Other Stormwater Efforts	Other NPS Efforts	External Influences	Public Interest
End of Year Goals	Final White Papers, Updated Validation Runs w/ Data through 2017 and recommendations for next steps, Develop Plan for updating Sampling and Analysis Plan	Keep the discussion going - evaluate in parallel with POTW discussions	Collect year's worth of data, identify reporting mechanism, ensure that results will feed into modeling and load analysis	Education re: POTW options, inform sampling and analysis plan	Increase Revenue potential, increase watershed management clout (if desired)	Identify ways to track reductions more closely in realtime, inform future modeling and priorities	Identify ways to track reductions more closely in realtime, inform future modeling and priorities	Identify current threats to the watershed, buy-in from membership re: BMW role, improve relations w/ CDPHE to stay informed and influence, be prepared in case something major comes up	Keep general membership engaged, Have FUN!

Dan explained that the timeline was still draft and open for discussion. The Board decided that the February meeting would be a working session where they would break into small groups and work on the white papers. The Board moved the Stakeholder meeting from February 27th to March 19th. **Steve** will check to see if the Northern Treatment Plant could be the venue with a tour of the facility afterward. He will also arrange for a Metro presenter to talk about the treatment work going on at the plant. **Amy** will alert the Stakeholders to the change and see if the Homelessness presenters could attend the June watershed tour along the NDCC instead. **Amy** will send out the revised timeline after **Dan** sends it to her. Dan will also continue

reaching out to the Dixie Drain project in Boise, ID, where an agricultural ditch is being used to treat effluent. Along with Harvey Harper talking about in canal treatment proposals for Barr Lake, they could be informative speakers in contemplating projects for the 5-year plan.

It was suggested that BMW reach out to the Stormwater Council and share with them the results from the stormwater monitoring station. Jon Novik could be approached about joining the presentation and talking about the data Denver is collecting on site specific projects and their effectiveness in treating stormwater.

Emily Jackson has been appointed Metro's interim General Counsel and may not be able to attend many meetings but will either be back or will be replaced. The group wished Emily much success and will miss her.

Next Meetings

- Technical Committee meeting – **January 25th, 2017, 9 am, Metro**
- I/E Committee Meeting – **March 6th, 2018 9am, Barr Lake Nature Center**
- Stakeholder Meeting – changed to **March 19th at the Northern Treatment Plant**
- BMW Board Meeting – **April 24th, 9 am, Metro**

BMW I/E Events for 2017 - coming soon