

**Barr Lake/Milton Reservoir Watershed Association
Technical Committee Meeting
Thursday, January 25th, 2017 (9:00am – 11:00pm)
Metro Wastewater Reclamation District, Denver**

Draft MINUTES

In attendance:

Steve Lundt – Metro Wastewater
Linda Chynoweth – Aurora
Elaine Hassinger – Tri-County
Jim Doersch - Metro
Kelly DiNatale – United (phone)
Julie Kinsey – EPA

Al Polonsky – Denver Environ Health
Deb Parker – Littleton/Englewood (phone)

Guests:

Amy Conklin - Coordinator

Steve welcomed everyone and started introductions.

Water Quality Update – Steve went over the water quality summaries he prepares every year receiving only positive feedback. He added some new terms that are technical and pique the interest of water professional. Generally, the summaries are designed for the general public. He will be using them to make a presentation to school groups on Phosphorus with Donny Roush,

Modeling 2018/19 – This item was discussed first. Steve introduced the topic by sharing the Board’s discussions regarding the schedule for implementing the TMDL concurrently with Regulations 31 and 85. There will be hearings in front of the Water Quality Control Commission in 2022 on Chlor~~a~~ and in 2027 on nutrients in streams. The question the Board is wrestling with is if site specific standards are needed for the lakes or if the standards proposed by CDPHE are close enough to what’s in the TMDL. The proposed standard for the 2022 hearing for Chlor~~a~~ is 20 ug/L; the TMDL goal is currently set at 25 ug/L. If site specific standards are proposed, a Use Attainability Analysis (UAA) is likely to be required. The type of UAA BMW would likely pursue is one that demonstrates that the **uses are currently being met rather than proposing to change the uses.**

The committee discussed if a control regulation would be preferable to conducting a UAA and proposing site specific standards. If the **water quality** standards proposed by CDPHE are adopted in 2022 and 2027, they would trump any **standards** included in a control regulation unless the **standards** in the control regulation were stricter. There is no incentive to pursue a control regulation and it would be better to pursue site specific standards. **Steve** will send out the timeline of regulatory actions included in the Board packet to the committee.

The committee looked at the schedule of Board meeting topics prepared by Dan DeLaughter. In February, the Board may ask Harvey Harper to call in and review the in-canal treatment options. The committee recommended that Ken Wagner be retained to review sources of loading focusing on if the loads have decreased in recent years and if the distribution of nutrient loading has changed. By April he may be ready to call in to a Board meeting and present his findings.

The committee reviewed the modeling effort and concluded that it would be better to stay with Integral to run the SWAT and WASP models they have developed for the lakes and watershed. It is

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Commented [K2]: Unless existing uses are currently being met at the time of the UAA (which would require several consecutive years worth of data showing the uses being met), then this argument could not be made in a UAA. I think what BMW means is that you would pursue a UAA that would not remove existing/current uses (i.e., you would not ask for a “downgrade”/removal of uses), but one where you are proposing a site specific standard that would meet the existing/current uses.

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Commented [K3]: Note that “standards” are not a term used in control regulations... they contain “controls” and “limits” (but not water quality standards). Don’t mean to nitpick, but don’t want anyone confusing the terms (as they’re very different animals as far as regulations are concerned).

hard to change modelers and often incurs a lot of expense. The committee recommends that Integral be retained to run the model using the last 7 years of data and see how well they perform. If the models are not very predictive of lake conditions, then it might be worth exploring alternative models and firms. That is unlikely. The committee concluded that the remainder of 2018 be spent collecting data for Integral to use. Depending on the timing, Integral could begin the model runs in 2018 or early 2019. It is hoped that much of the data will be easily retrievable from the Data Sharing Network.

The committee also discussed developing a list of modeling scenarios for Integral to run. One scenario to consider is if Denver Water uses phosphate to control corrosion. The additional loading could be estimated and included in the model runs. The model should also reflect the Northern Treatment Plant coming online and the removal of the Burlington Pumps. Steve suggested we ask for Ken Wagner’s input in developing modeling scenarios. Steve will prepare a proposal for Ken and Integral. One concern may be that the models are used for both Barr and Milton but the lakes behave differently. It may be worth considering developing a separate part of the model for Milton. It is hoped that the amount of money included in the draft 5-year budget is too high for the amount of effort that will be needed.

CU-Denver Student Projects – Steve reported on the projects the students in Prof. Briles class will be working on this year. Most of the students are graduate students in science. Steve is working with them on 4 of their 5 projects. The projects include comparing P concentrations in parks and golf courses to lawns; refining and further developing the GIS model last year’s student developed to try to drill down on where and what type of restoration should be attempted along stream reaches in the watershed; working to understand stormwater in general and how infrastructure handles it including working with the stormdrain marking App; and measuring Chlorophyll a in rivers and streams. Steve hopes Al Polonsky can help the students get the resources they may need from Denver. They may be working with GEI to see how the BMW stormwater monitoring station is installed. Their capstone project presentations will be in May on the Auraria campus.

Sediment Trap Study – Steve presented a proposal to use sediment traps in Barr Lake from Steve Klein. The committee concluded that using the traps may be helpful in considering the flocc migration scenarios from in canal treatment. We could collect baseline and longitudinal sediment data. Steve will continue to work with him but we are unlikely to use his services this year.

Storm Water Updates – The pad has been poured and GEI has ordered the equipment. There is an issue with the power box that Steve is working through. He still hopes for the station to be operational in March. Amy will review the GEI invoices to their Scope of Work.



Burlington Ditch Monitoring – Metro did some monitoring in the Burlington Ditch and discovered inputs and dilution from 1st, 2nd and 3rd creeks. They got some data this fall until the ditch went dry. **Steve** will share the results. Their sites are above and below the creeks and the Beebe pipeline.

Haven Sporting – is gearing up for their waterskiing season. Steve will try to get out and present to them.

Items to keep track of going into 2018

Burlington Ditch Monitoring

Haven Sporting

In-Canal Treatment – request Harvey ~~Harper~~ to call in to board in February

MS4 BMP Monitoring

Internal Loading options

Source Control options (P-free Fertilizers)

Biomanipulation

Next Meeting

Tech. Committee: **March 22, 2018**

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