

Barr Lake/Milton Reservoir Watershed Association
Technical Committee Meeting
Thursday, September 28th, 2017 (9:00am – 11:00pm)
Metro Wastewater Reclamation District, Denver

Draft MINUTES

In attendance:

Steve Lundt – Metro Wastewater
Linda Chynoweth – Aurora
James Boswell - Thornton
Erica Wenzel – BMW Intern
Laurie Rink – FRICO (phone)

Jim Doersch - Metro

Guests:

Amy Conklin - Coordinator

Steve welcomed everyone and started introductions.

- 1. Water Quality Update** – Steve went over the water quality data for Barr and Milton. Total Phosphorus (TP) is above the goal in both reservoirs as is Chlorophyll a (Chlor-a). Steve noted that water quality in the lakes is very dependent on water quantity. Most of the time, the fuller the lakes, the better the water quality. However, sometimes the inflows can bring in additional pollutants. The Total Nitrogen (TN) value is close to the standard. As our understanding of the relationship of the water chemistry constituents to the Chlor-a evolves, it may be more important to keep the N:P ratio above 15:1 than just focus on TP. Neither Barr nor Milton met the Dissolved Oxygen (DO) standard this year. Both had exceedances in April where the DO level dropped below 5 mg/L. The most recent measurement shows the DO at Barr at 2 mg/L almost from top to bottom. Whatever type of algae is making the lake brown now, is decomposing and driving down DO levels. Hopefully cooler weather with rain and wind will help increase DO.

The group discussed the different water quality goals/standards of Regulations 85, 31 and the TMDL. A concern may be that the Water Quality Control Division (WQCD) is moving away from using the TMDL as the basis for discharge permit limits and turning instead to the standards in Regulations 85 and 31. There is a great deal of complexity implementing the regulations and the TMDL. Luckily, the goals in the TMDL are likely to be met by the standards in the regulations. At this point, only Centennial has had their TMDL wasteload allocation incorporated into their permit renewal. Having a strong watershed group will help encourage the WQCD to include wasteload allocations in more permits.

- 2. Denver Water Corrosion Prevention Program** – Denver Water submitted their report selecting pH adjustment as the preferred option for corrosion prevention. CDPHE will review their report and let them know what option they need to implement. The implementation will need to start in early 2018. BMW, Metro and Littleton/Englewood all submitted reports calculating the additional costs and impacts from using phosphate to control corrosion. Other dischargers in the BMW watershed are beginning to perform their own Corrosion Prevention program evaluations. BMW will continue to monitor their results.

- 3. Storm Water Updates** – Steve has been continuing to work with Metro staff on construction and Right of Way issues. If the issues can be resolved and Metro can install the stormwater monitoring station, the cost will be reduced from \$6,000 to \$4,000. The preferred choice for the location of the station is upstream from Northside Park, on the west side of the river. Metro has a site on the east side of the river that can work but isn't as convenient as the west side. **Steve** will continue developing a work plan with the goal of having the station installed by the end of March 2018. Steve will update the Board on his progress at their October 24th meeting. It was noted that it is important to have the details written in a contract outlining the commitments of others, especially in regards to funding. FRICO will need to provide access to flow data which will trigger when the station's sampler is activated. **Steve** will send the draft work plan to the Technical Committee for their review.

Denver Environmental Health is beginning to install temporary monitoring stations for their Best Management Projects (BMPs). They want to show improvements to water quality from some of the projects they're installing. The North Denver Cornerstone Collaborative had an open house to solicit citizen input on the redevelopment of Northside Park. The improvements at Globeville landing are close to complete. Denver Water will be moving their laboratory to the new Western Stockshow Complex when it is complete.

4. Items to keep track of going into 2018

1. *Burlington Ditch Monitoring* – Metro has begun a monitoring program in the Burlington Ditch looking for spikes in P in the ditches. **Steve** will keep the group informed. Steve will be sampling monthly along the Burlington at the bridge crossing for N and P.
2. *Haven Sporting aeration ideas* – They're using just small bubblers that are unlikely to have water quality impacts. Mostly they want open water in front of duck blinds to attract water fowl. Haven is interested partnering with BMW to improve water quality.
3. *Monitoring -*
4. *In-Canal Treatment*
5. *POTW options/upgrades*
6. *MS4 options*
7. *Internal Loading options*
8. *Source Control options (P-free Fertilizers)*
9. *Biomanipulation – Fish Screen Idea*

5. Next Meeting

1. Tech. Committee: **Steve** will keep the group informed about if we might have a meeting on Nov. 30th. Otherwise, the next meeting will be in January 2018.