

Barr Lake/Milton Reservoir Watershed Association  
BMW Board Meeting  
July 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2019 9:00 am – Noon  
Metro Wastewater

**Minutes**

**Board Attendance:**

Dan Delaughter – SPWR Partners  
Curt Bauers – FRICO  
Steve Lundt – Metro  
Donny Roush – Denver PW  
James Boswell – Thornton  
Dominic Baca – BMW Intern

Ashley Rust – United  
Julie Tinetti – Centennial  
Chris Douglass – ECCV  
Katie Koplitz - Metro

**Public Attendance:**

Amy Conklin – BMW Coordinator

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Dan welcomed the group and everyone introduced themselves, while enjoying delicious burritos.

**BMW providing input to Denver’s Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) permit**

–Amy and Dan have been attending meetings with the Colorado Stormwater Council (CSC), the Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) and Denver staff regarding Denver’s MS4 permit. Amy and Dan met with Brad Cox, Donny Roush, with Denver Public Works, and Jon Novick, with Denver Department of Public Health and Environment. The biggest addition to Denver’s MS4 permit is a Phosphorus Control Plan. It requires monitoring every outfall with the potential for outfalls becoming exempt if the loads are low enough. However, there are some problems beginning with the fact that Denver has 1,300 outfalls. Sampling all of them is not a good use of public funds. The permit language is not accurate including referring to outfalls to Barr Lake and Milton Reservoir when there are none. They also assigned the entire MS4 load to each of the outfalls. There is also some concern that what is in the permit will be interpreted as meeting the MS4 TMDL requirements.

The Board discussed revising the draft comments to begin with a suggestion to use the BMW TMDL Implementation Plan (IP) process to address our concerns. The Board also discussed the proposed revisions to the Non-Standard MS4 permit. Non-Standard Permit holders include a wide variety of organizations including Highlands Ranch Metro District that is a sister agency to Centennial Water and Sanitation District. Highlands Ranch Metro District and many of the Non-Standard MS4 permit holders are very concerned about the proposed revisions to their permits because they will be too onerous.

BMW’s concerns can be approached as following the incremental pathway to implementation laid out in Regulations 85 and 31. It seems logical that MS4 requirements would follow a similar path. BMW hopes that all or most of the MS4s could provide an inventory of the BMPs in their areas. A logical sampling plan could be developed over time to measure improvements to water quality as more BMPs are built. The sampling plan and other details about how the MS4 permit holders can develop Phosphorus Control Plans can be included in the BMW TMDL Implementation Plan process.

The IP is vague about addressing stormwater. It seems logical to follow the requirements for Publicly Owned Treatment Works (POTWs) as laid out in Regulations 85 and 31. One of the primary outcomes BMW would want to pursue is increased engagement with the MS4s. In many cases, it would be very helpful to know what they are doing and the inventories some of them have developed will help satisfy that request.

Increasing engagement with MS4s for public outreach and education is another good approach. BMW is paying for the stormwater monitoring station at the Burlington Ditch that should help measure Denver's MS4 improvements upstream. The monitoring requirements are the most problematic to the MS4 permit holders with construction inspection requirements being second. Another concern MS4 permit holders have with the proposed changes include the nutrient requirements. The proposed revisions to Denver's permit has a TMDL section. Water quality issues in segments 14 and 15 are included in the proposed permit when segment 15 is not in Denver.

BMW's comments should focus on the Denver's MS4 permit since it is a big utility and is able to work with the BMW concerns. Most of the non-standard MS4 permit holders as well as many of the Phase 2 MS4 permit holders don't have the capacity to implement many of the proposed requirements included in the Denver's proposed permit. It may be worth considering a pilot monitoring project for the MS4 non-standard and Phase 2 permit holders. Denver is collecting data on the effectiveness of their BMPs and we'll continue to request access to the data.

BMW comments can focus on:

- Denver's inventory of BMPs
- Access to Denver's monitoring data
- Engagement – in revising the Implementation Plan
- Support for a public process to comment on Phosphorus Control plans

Amy and Dan also met with Jean Cordova, Jeremiah Unger, and Josh Giovanni with CDOT. They are using the ERAMS platform developed at CSU to develop a GIS inventory of their BMPs. They are working with Metro staff to develop a GIS layer of their BMPs in the BMW datashed. Their permit is being interpreted to assume that their contribution to the Phosphorus loading into Barr and Milton is *de minimus*.

The Board voted Thumbs up to submit comments on Denver's proposed MS4 permit. **Dan** will work to revise his draft comments and send out to the Board for comments by the end of July. The comments will begin with an overview of the BMW position that concerns can be addressed through the BMW Implementation Plan process. Specific comments will also be included, in case the position is ignored. The comments will apply a concept of phased and staged stormwater monitoring. A suggestion to create opportunities to use a pilot study or to strategically monitor specific BMPs will be included. In general what BMW wants to know from the MS4 permit holders is that they know where their BMPs are, they know how effective they are, and they have some measurements to verify BMP effectiveness.

**OCCT Update** – Steve and Dan reported that a draft of the white paper is complete and is available for comment [here](#) and the comment form is available [here](#). The cost analysis is not yet

complete and is proving to be contentious. The paper doesn't include much discussion about the potential impacts to the watershed. EPA has voiced concerns about the lack of discussion of watershed impacts. The biggest contention in the cost estimate is the discrepancy about what the cost of the Denver MS4 permit compliance activities may be. Currently, CDPHE estimates that the cost to Denver to comply with the proposed changes to the MS4 permit will be about \$275,000 while Denver estimates they will be around \$23 million. CDPHE's cost estimates showed \$0 impact to Thornton.

The BMW position is to support Denver Water's request for a variance so they can remove lead service pipes rather than treat their water with Phosphate and to encourage CDPHE to support the variance as well. The goal is comment as much as possible before the July 31<sup>st</sup> deadline. The Leadership Team may extend the deadline when they meet on July 30<sup>th</sup>. Steve is working with CPW staff to try to quantify the costs of delay in improvements to water quality from when Denver Water would add Phosphate to when the POTW's could come online to remove it. It is estimated that the delay will be about 16 years. Steve is also working with Haven Sporting to develop some impacts to them from decreased recreation due to water quality impacts from the delay. The cost estimates don't include any of the costs that non-quantifiable, such as the public health benefits from pH adjustment and service line removal that can be implemented immediately.

If the variance is denied, BMW may want to strengthen their comments on Denver's MS4 permit requirements for monitoring. **Dan** will add language to the proposed comments to that effect. Some of Denver Water's distributors may also have cost impacts from lead line removals, although those costs are not likely to be large.

The EPA comment period is getting delayed also with their decision estimated to be announced in early November. Denver Water has created a feedback form for their lead reduction plan [here](#). Everyone is encouraged to comment on their plan.

**Modeling Effort Update** – Steve reported that he has been working with Kelly DiNatale. The next step is for Kelly's staff look at the data being used to calibrate the model. They'll meet with Integral to try to find discrepancies with the data. FRICO can be involved to track the flows.

Stormwater monitoring data – Steve presented a summary of the data collected so far from Metro through a separate effort, not the GEI data included in the Board packet. Steve coordinates with GEI to make sure Steve's 24-hour sampling doesn't conflict with the storm sampling. GEI should be providing us with a summary report at the end of the year.

There should be a longitudinal study of a slug of water from Chatfield to the Burlington headgate this year. Steve will continue to provide Board with updates to his sampling results.

**Budget Discussion and Coordinator Contract** – Chris summarized the proposed budget for 2019-2020. No increase in membership fees proposed. **Amy** will look into how tracking in kind hours and in-kind contributions, especially Metro's sampling, are being tracked. The Board recommended that the reference to hiring a lobbyist be deleted as we are not likely to be doing

that in the near future. Chris noted that the budget projects more expense than revenue and we are spending down our reserves. At some point it may be appropriate to consider a membership dues increase. The **Board** decided to discuss dues increases again in January. There was a Thumbs up approval of the budget and a hearty thank you to Chris.

The Board also voted Thumbs up on the proposed coordinator budget. **Amy and Dan** will finalize the contract.

**Website Discussion** – Amy reported that work was continuing on migrating the BMW website and she expected it to be complete by the end of August. **Amy** was asked to work with Michelle on getting an appropriate gift for Carol, maybe from the Barr Lake Nature Center.

**I&E Update** –The I&E committee is requesting an additional \$1,116.18 to cover the additional hours for Dominic to overlap with Lauren. The request was approved. Steve reported that BMW donated gift cards to Lake Appreciation Day and took participants on boat rides. There were about 200 volunteers and another 50 or so ‘staff volunteer’s.

Steve also went to a water lantern festival where he handed out ice cream sandwiches. There were about 5,000 people in attendance.

**Updates/Action Items**

- Chair’s Report – Dan reported on the SPROWG project being led by the Basin Routdtables. It is investigating water supply projects along the South Platte River. The Board will follow the project in case there are alternatives that impact Barr Lake and Milton Reservoir. **Amy** will send out information about the project to the Board. **Chris and Dan** will track the project and report to the Board.

- Treasurer’s Report
  - As of the June 30<sup>th</sup>, the balance is \$221,899.96
  - All expenses since the last meeting are within budget and will be recorded as part of the minutes.
  - Members as of July 1<sup>st</sup> deadline are shown in the table to the right.

<b>April Expenses</b>		
4/4/19 - DLX for business - SL	\$ 135.67	Need clarification from Steve
4/8/19 Costco	\$ 9.36	Pretty sure this is water for a run, I&E
4/16/19 - Starbucks	\$ 25.00	I&E Starbucks cards for volunteers
4/30/19 Shirtcamp	\$ 1,672.65	I & E T shirts
2068 - Integral Consulting	\$ 3,377.06	Technical
2070 - Amy Conklin, March Coordinator	\$ 4,174.68	Coordinator
2071 - Carp Solutions	\$ 7,720.00	Technical
2075 - Joy Labadie, Website	\$ 120.00	website
	\$ 17,234.42	
<b>May Checks to Sign</b>		
2076 - GEI	\$ 2,035.88	Stormwater monitoring
2077 - Applewood Bookkeeping	\$ 60.00	Bookkeeping
2078 - Amy Conklin	\$ 2,737.59	April Coord
2079 - Amy Conklin	\$ 1,192.50	Bike Tour #1
	\$ 6,025.97	

- Coordinator Updates (Amy C.)
  - Approval of the May 28<sup>th</sup>, 2019 Meeting Minutes – Thumbs up approval
  - BMW hard drive – external hard drive in Amy’s brief case for anyone wanting to download files.

- Metro Data – BMW has begun receiving data generated from the stormwater monitoring station. It is included in the packet.
- Water Conference concept – Amy will be working on a business plan to share with organizations who may be interested in supporting it.

Member Name	Amount
Big Dry Creek WA	\$ 100
Friends of Barr Lake	\$ 100
North Front Range WQPA	\$ 100
SPLASH	\$ 100
Xcel	\$ 100
DIA	\$ 500
Lochbuie	\$ 500
City of Aurora	\$ 1,000
DPW	\$ 1,750
Adams County	\$ 4,000
Burlington (2 yrs)	\$ 4,000
Denver Water	\$ 4,000
SPCURE	\$ 4,000
Centennial	\$ 12,000
ECCV	\$ 12,000
FRICO	\$ 12,000
Metro	\$ 12,000
S. Adams County W&S	\$ 12,000
S. Platte Water Renewal P	\$ 12,000
Thornton	\$ 12,000
United	\$ 12,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 116,250</b>

### Next Meetings

- Board Meeting – **August 27<sup>th</sup>, 9 am Metro**
- I/E Committee Meeting – **September 10<sup>th</sup>, 2019 10 am to 11:30, Barr Lake Nature Center**
- Stakeholder Meeting – **September 24<sup>th</sup>, 2019 9:30 am, Barr Lake State Park, Annual Meeting and BBQ**
- Technical Committee meeting – **September 26<sup>th</sup>, 9 am Metro**

## BMW I/E Events for 2019

Date	Event	Activity	Name and contact
7/25-28	Arapahoe County Fair	Booth, t-shirts, Poop emoji balloon	Amy, Sam, SPLASH (?)
8/2/19	Adams County Fair	Booth, T-shirts	Michelle, Steve
August	Western Welcome Week	SPLASH booth	Amy
August	Commerce City Neighborhood Fest	Booth, T-shirt	Michelle
August 31	CSU National Western Center River Festival	Poop Balloon and banner, booth to hand out bags, judging student projects	Donny, Dom, Lauren, Amy?
9/14/19	Birding Festival	Barr Lake State Park	Michelle
9/21/19	Bark in the Park	Barr Lake State Park	Michelle
9/28/19	National Public Lands Day/Shoreline Clean up	Barr Lake State Park	Michelle

10/12/19	Harvest Festival	Barr Lake State Park	Michelle
10/26/19	Halloween Trail	Barr Lake State Park	Michelle
November	CO Watershed Assembly	Conference	Amy?
November	Cherry Creek Stewardship Partners	Conference	Amy?

### BMW Board 2019 'Schedule'

- *April 23, 2019 –*
  - *Invite DW to present their loading calculations and mitigation plan*
  - *Invite Meg Parish, CDPHE, to help in presenting TP mitigation plan*
  - *Invite WQCD staff, Aimee Konowal and Joni Nuttle, among others. Discuss concentration translator. Provide summary in advance.*
- *May 28, 2019 –*
  - *Presentation on ECCV about the DW aquifer*
- ~~June 25, 2019 – **meet at Barr Lake**, take tour around the lake, stopping along the way for;~~
  - ~~Water quality presentations~~
  - ~~Presentations on where in canal treatment might be installed~~
  - ~~Other improvements at the lake (yay! Michelle)~~
  - ~~See eagles.~~
- *July 23, 2019 – Metro presentation on their P recovery process*
- *August 27, 2019 – **meet at SPWRP***
  - *Centennial presentation on improvements to comply with Regulation 85*
  - *Preparation for Annual meeting and BBQ*
- *September 24, 2019 – **meet at Barr Lake, try to engage more stakeholders***
- *October 22, 2019 – Prepare for Annual Retreat and use as place holder for things that don't follow the schedule. Go over IP Committee's outline?*