

Barr Lake/Milton Reservoir Watershed Association
BMW Board Meeting
May 25th, 2021 9:00 am – Noon
Zoom

Minutes

Board Attendance:

Steve Lundt – Metro
Sarah Reeves -SPCURE
Erin Jenkins – S. P. Renew
Curt Bauers – FRICO
Brad Cox – Denver
Julie Tinetti – Centennial
Michelle Seubert – CPW
Jennie Fleurant – Intern

Jim Doersch – Metro
Katie Koplitz – Metro
JM Grenbenc – South Adams
Dan DeLaughter – S. P. Renew
James Boswell – Thornton
Chris Douglass - ECCV

Public Attendance:

Amy Conklin – BMW Coordinator

Amy lumbered along and got the virtual meeting started and expressed her elation to be meeting in person after more than a year. Dan welcomed everyone. Dan, Michelle, Amy and Jennie enjoyed some delicious burritos.

Information on Litigation – The Board discussed the ongoing legislation. There were no updates at this time. In the future, if the legislation is going to be an agenda item, Metro would like to be informed in advance. Dan encouraged any Board member who wanted to discuss the legislation to feel free to do so. It will not be a standing agenda item and will be discussed as there are updates to report.

Consultant Update and Hearing prep –At the last meeting, the Board discussed having Brown and Caldwell prepare a task order to determine the scope of work for BMW to embark on a Use Attainability Analysis (UAA) to pursue Site Specific Standards (SSS). The discussion continued with clarifications about the scope being a product that will reflect a range of costs associated with the effort rather than a more standard cost proposal. **Sarah** will continue working with the Brown and Caldwell team to develop the scope and include in the packet for the July 27th Board meeting.

While the costs are one concern, there may also be philosophical differences among Board members about the desirability of pursuing SSS. Each Board member is encouraged to begin discussions within their organizations about support for or opposition to pursuing SSS, in concept. It might be easier to have discussions once the Water Quality Control Division (WQCD) proposes statewide standards for the water quality constituents of concern in the TMDL. If the statewide standards are unattainable for Barr and Milton, the water bodies will be listed on the 303 (d) list. Each member needs to evaluate the impact a listing would have on the beneficial uses for the water. The lakes are already listed for Ammonia and Arsenic.

Since there is a TMDL for pH and Dissolved Oxygen (DO) that includes goals for P and Chlor a, it's unclear how the state will evaluate any new standards in light of the goals already included in the TMDL. **Amy** will extend a personal invitation to Joni Nuttle and the new TMDL Coordinator to ask them to attend the Annual Meeting and BBQ and talk to us about how

TMDLs and standards will be evaluated moving forward. All the water quality constituents are trending in the right direction over the past 15+ years. Some wastewater dischargers may be hesitant to pursue water quality improvements that only impact the lakes because they need to be concerned about the new stream standards as well.

Another concern is the timeline. There will be a hearing in the fall of 2022 that BMW will want to be a party to so we can comment. The standards being set in that hearing will be for Chlorophyll a (Chlor a). The standards being set in 2027 will be for nutrients including total Nitrogen (N) and total Phosphorus (P). Prior to both hearings, the WQCD has convened a Technical Advisory Committee to evaluate the science behind the proposed standards. **Steve Lundt** serves on that committee and will update the Board on the work of the committee at the July 27th Board meeting. The Board has six years until the 2027 hearing. It's important that discussions begin about how best to use that time.

More than just evaluating the attainability of proposed standards for specific water quality constituents, the Board is concerned about the whether or not the uses for the lakes are being protected. If a UAA and SSS are pursued, it's likely more water quality data would need to be collected. It's certain that more information about attainment of the uses would need to be collected. This summer, Jennie is leading an effort to survey boaters on Barr Lake to determine a carrying capacity for the lake. In addition, Heritage Sporting, that leases Milton Reservoir, should have data that reflects the economic benefit of the uses at Milton. Information on the attainment of the uses at the lakes would be a key component of a UAA and SSS effort. Another effort may be to start promoting Barr and Milton for the excellent recreational uses they provide. BMW could consider a campaign to promote the value of the current uses at the lakes.

Implementation Plan Update – **Erin** commented that the discussion about the hearing preparation is part of the IP, since a new section was added on Regulatory issues.

Legislative Effort Update – **Steve** reported that he made a presentation to the South Platte River Urban Waters Partnership (SPRUWP). He reached out to the Colorado Agriculture Council. They focus on legislation but he hopes to set up an informational meeting with them. He will be meeting with Agfinity representatives with **Curt's** help, and will be reaching out to other local fertilizer manufacturers. He and Jennie are continuing the inventory of fertilizer products available in local stores to track the number of products containing P. **Steve** will summarize **Jennie's** data when she's done.

Update on CWA Section 208 Planning Agency Discussion – **Sarah** reported that the minutes from a previous meeting have been sent out. **Julie** will forward them to **Amy** to send out. There should be another meeting happening sometime soon.

MS4 Permit Renewal – **Brad** reported that Denver has reached a settlement with CDPHE regarding their complaint about parts of the new MS4 permit. One of the issues concerned the BMW TMDL; a clarification that the 20% reduction in P loads from stormwater wasn't specific to structural or non-structural BMPs. The 30-day comment period began on May 13th. **Brad** will send out information on the permit to the Board. **Erin and Dan** will review the information and make a recommendation on whether or not BMW should comment.

The Colorado Stormwater Council (CSC) filed a complaint regarding Denver’s MS4 permit regarding the regulation of PFAs. Their complaint alleges that regulating PFAs by issuing a permit violates due process because there should have been a standard setting hearing first. They filed a similar complaint about the newly issued Non-Standard MS4 permit. Brad thinks that some of the Education and Outreach requirements in the new Non-Standard MS4 permit may create some opportunities for BMW to expand messaging about lawn fertilizers.

Banking Update – Chris reported that after further research, FirstBank would not fit the organization’s needs. For the time being, we are going to remain at TBK Bank and continue with hard copy checks. However Chris will look into getting a BMW credit card, as opposed to the existing debit card.

Technical and I&E Committee Updates– Steve reported that the stormwater gage is still in it’s temporary location on Metro property. GEI has been collecting lots of stormwater samples this wet spring. Brad will have GEI make a presentation on stormwater data at the July 29th Technical Committee meeting. Jennie is collecting more boater surveys. She’s also drafted a version of the newsletter that Amy needs to provide edits for.

Michelle reported that Barr Lake State Park is now certified for the Leave No Trace Program. They are the 3rd park in CO and the 12th in the US to attain this prestigious certification. Michelle’s team has been handing out ‘good’ citations to park users behaving well. There is a life size cut out of the Alage Monster coming that will provide park users with photo opportunities. The poop emoji balloon is very popular and getting a lot of use. Dan Drew with Channels 2 and 31 did a story on Barr Lake. Michelle will send a link to Amy to post on the website.

Updates/Action Items

- Chair’s Report – The Chair had nothing to report.
- Treasurer’s Report -As of April 30th, the balance is \$213,656.68.
- All expenses since the last meeting are within budget and will be recorded as part of the minutes.
- Coordinator Updates (Amy C.)
- Approval of Meeting minutes from the March 23rd and April 27th meetings. There was a Thumbs up approval of both meeting minutes.
- Website archiving assistance request – Amy will continue to work on getting assistance managing the website.
- Grants updates – Amy reported that EPA has found a way to provide funds to implement BMW’s messages. It involved Amy becoming a subcontractor to an EPA Prime Contractor. Amy will come back to the Board at the July 27th meeting with more specifics about the arrangement and requests for assistance to ensure that all vendors get paid promptly.

Checks for signature in May		
2170 - Amy Conklin, April Coord	\$ 3,212.00	Coordination
2171 - KUNC radio	\$ 840.00	I&E budget
2172 - KUNC radio	\$ 2,160.00	I&E budget
2173 - GEI	\$ 412.00	stormwater
Checks for Deposit		
Thornton	\$ 12,000.00	Membership dues

Member Name	Amount Received
Adams County	\$ 4,000
Big Dry Creek WA	\$ 100
Burlington	\$ 4,000
Centennial	\$ 12,000
City of Aurora	\$ 1,000
Denver Water	\$ 1,500
FRICO	\$ 12,000
Henrylynn	\$ 2,000
Lochbuie	\$ 500
North Front Range WQPA	\$ 100
S. Adams County W&S	\$ 12,000
Thornton	\$ 12,000
Total	\$ 61,200

- Bike Tour update – The bike tour may be completed by the June 22nd deadline in spite of a month delay in the filming schedule. This years tour will be compiled as an app and a story map. It also serves as the BMW Watershed tour.
- Note list of events below

Next Meetings

- Technical Committee meeting – **July 29th, TBD**
- Board Meeting – **July 27th, 2021, 9 am Virtual**
- I/E Committee Meeting – **July 6th, 2021 10 am to 11:30, maybe at Barr Lake State Park**
- Stakeholder meeting/Virtual Bike Tour – **June 22nd, 2021**

BMW Board 2021 Schedule

- January 26, 2021 – Virtual – Board Retreat part 3
 - ~~Steve~~ Update on Legislative issue, modeling update
 - ~~Amy~~ Grant Update – TNC, 319, Urban Waters
 - ~~Erin/Amy~~ Implementation Plan summary for Feb. Stakeholder meeting
 - ~~Chris~~ Banking update
 - ~~Erin/Dan~~ update on hiring consultant to track permit activity
 - ~~All~~ review of Phase II MS4 permit renewal
- February 23, 2021 – Stakeholder meeting – Virtual or Barr Lake Nature Center – Invite WQCD and other watersheds to update them on IP
 - ~~Implementation Plan Update~~ ~~Erin~~ will present to Stakeholders with the one page summary
 - ~~P Free Fertilizer coalition/legislative effort update~~ ~~Steve~~ will present a one page handout on the issue and ask for Stakeholder support.
 - ~~Bike Tour update~~ ~~Amy~~ will update the Stakeholders on the status of the 2021 Bike Tour and talk about apps we may work on to enhance the tour.
 - ~~Statewide Water Education Plan presentation~~ ~~Scott Williamson, WECO~~, will present the plan.
 - Boat Capacity survey – ~~Jennie~~ will give an update
 - ~~Clean River Design Challenge~~ ~~Devon Buckles and Lauren Berent~~ will present the status of the program
 - ~~Grant update~~ ~~Amy~~ will report on the status of the grants BMW applied for
- March 23, 2021 – Virtual
 - ~~IP Committee~~ priority efforts list, UAA, MS4 and NPS, Cost benefit analysis, data tool, Alkalinity analysis, DO compliance, NPS data collection
 - ~~Draft comments on Phase II MS4 permit renewal~~
 - ~~Steve~~ Legislative update, I & E Plan
 - ~~Amy~~ Grant update, Time Looper App update, bike tour plan
 - Boat Capacity survey – ~~Jennie~~ will give an update
 - ~~All~~ Develop a plan to reach out to all the stakeholders we missed about the IP update, our new list of priorities, and whatever other efforts are being implemented including coalition building
- April 27, 2020 – Virtual
 - ~~Steve~~ Stormwater monitoring gage update, I&E update, Legislative effort update, Technical Committee update
 - ~~IP Committee~~ Progress on priorities
 - ~~Amy~~ Grants update, Bike tour update (Time Looper App?)
 - ~~All~~ Coalition building, Phase II MS4 permit comments

- May 25, 2021 – Virtual or maybe outside at Barr Lake
 - **Chris** – Budget discussion for 2021-22 with funding plan for prioritized efforts
 - ~~IP Committee~~ update on progress start to identify level of funding required for 2023 hearing
 - ~~Amy~~ updates on Bike tour, grants, time Looper app
- June 22, 2021 – Virtual - Bike tour and Watershed tour maybe through an App. Prizes for people who take the tours. Good times.
- July 27, 2021 – Meet virtually or maybe in person at Barr Lake
 - **Steve** – water quality update, stormwater monitoring gage update, legislative and modeling update
 - **IP Committee** – Update on progress, 2023 hearing scope
 - **Chris** – Budget presentation and approval
 - **Amy** – Bike Tour and Watershed tour report, grant updates
 - **All** – discussion of coalition building successes and next steps
- August 24, 2021 – Meet virtually or in person at Barr Lake
 - **Amy** – Grant updates, Bike tour and watershed tour updates, Time Looper app updates, Preparation for Annual meeting and BBQ
 - **Michelle** – Park update
 - **IP Committee** – priority effort update
 - **All** – Coalition building
- September 28, 2021 – meet at Barr Lake, try to engage more stakeholders
 - **Dan** – BMW year in review – what we got done, how we’re progressing, plans for the future
 - **Steve** – water quality presentation, modeling updates, stormwater monitoring gage moving updates,
 - **Amy** – update on grants, bike and watershed tours, time looper app
 - **Erik Wardle** – Progress on agricultural BMPs (?) or Paul Winkle on the fishery and As impacts, other?
 - **James** – election of At-Large and policy review
 - **Michelle** – report on park
- October 26, 2021 – Virtual or in person at a location TBD
 - **Dan or someone** – Election of Board Officers
 - Other topics we didn’t get to
- November 30, 2021 – Board Retreat

Standing Agenda items:

- Legislative/coalition building effort
- IP priority project updates
- Stormwater monitoring gage updates
- Permit tracking consultant efforts
- Grant updates – if appropriate
- 2022 Hearing preparation
- Committee Reports – I&E, Technical
- Chair, Treasurer and Coordinator Reports
- BURRITOS!

BMW I/E Events for 2021

Date	Event	Activity	Name and contact
6/22/22	Virtual Urban Water Cycle Bike Tour	Bike Tour along Platte River	Steve, Amy, Donny, Mackenzie, Jordan, Juliana, Curt, James
7/10/21	Lake Appreciation Day	Barr Lake State Park	Michelle, Steve, Amy, Sam
7/23/21	Arapahoe County Fair	Booth, t-shirts, Poop emoji balloon	BMW to assist SPLASH
8/?/21	Adams County Fair	Booth, T-shirts	Michelle, Steve
August	Commerce City Neighborhood Fest	Booth, T-shirt	Michelle
9/11/21	Birding Festival/Raptor Run	Barr Lake State Park	Michelle, BMW water?
9/25/21	Bark in the Park	Barr Lake State Park	Michelle/BMW dog bags
9/25/21	National Public Lands Day	Barr Lake State Park	Michelle
9/29/21	Reception on the River	TBD	Greenway Foundation
10/9/21	Harvest Festival	Barr Lake State Park	Michelle
10/30/21	Halloween Trail	Barr Lake State Park	Michelle
November	CO Watershed Assembly	Conference	Amy?
November	Cherry Creek Stewardship Partners	Conference	Amy?