

Barr Lake/Milton Reservoir Watershed Association
BMW Board Meeting
July 27th, 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
Katie Koplitz – Metro

JM Grenbenc – South Adams
Dan DeLaughter – S. P. Renew
James Boswell – Thornton
Chris Douglass – ECCV
Kelly DiNatale - United

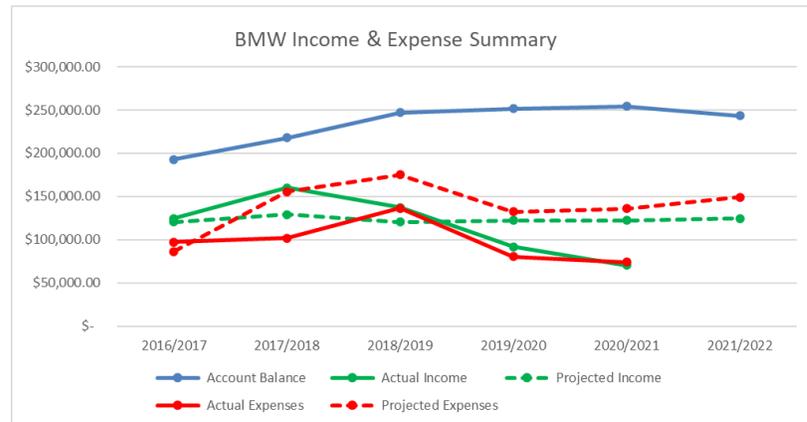
Public Attendance:

Amy Conklin – BMW Coordinator

Amy lumbered along and got the virtual meeting started and expressed her elation to be meeting in person. Dan welcomed everyone. Michelle, Amy and Steve enjoyed some delicious burritos.

2021-22 BMW Budget – Chris walked the Board through the budget. He analyzed historic revenues and expenses and tracked the account balance over the last 5 years. Some of the

challenges in tracking the revenues is that membership dues often come in after the July 31st end to the BMW fiscal year. While our projected expenses are often above the projected revenues, actual expenses are usually lower than actual revenue, with the net profit accumulating in the account balance now over \$200,000. Some of the areas where expenses have been less than projected are in the



Coordinator's budget. At this point, Chris is not suggesting any changes to that line item. There was a Thumbs Up vote to approve the 2021/22 budget.

Consultant Update and Hearing prep –Sarah went through the 5 tasks identified in the Brown & Caldwell Planning Level Cost Estimate for a Use Attainability Analysis (UAA). BMW has been working on Tasks 1 through 3 since it's inception. However, a UAA may require additional data collection and the BMW model needs to be reviewed. The hardest task is Task 5 which includes engaging with other stakeholders and the Water Quality Control Division (WQCD). In the past, the WQCD has not often been interested in partnering with UAA or Site Specific Standards (SSS). If BMW decides to proceed with a UAA and SSS, it would be good to include the WQCD. At this point, it's too soon to engage them.

Task	Cost			Factors Affecting Cost Range
	Low	Mid-Range	High	
1- Historical WQ/Use Support	\$30,000	\$50,000	\$75,000	Number of water quality parameters to be addressed (e.g., only pH versus full suite of eutrophication-related variables).
2- Fill Data Gaps	\$0	\$50,000	\$150,000	Nature of data gaps and studies to address them.
3- Modeling Analysis	\$25,000	\$80,000	\$250,000	Complexity of modeling analysis (e.g., interpolation of existing modeling results vs. screening-level model application vs. development of multiple detailed implementation model scenarios). Need for model updates/recalibration prior to application.
4- UAA Report	\$30,000	\$50,000	\$75,000	Number of water quality parameters to be addressed; level of complexity of tasks 1-3 to be incorporated. Degree of revision prompted by regulatory review.
5-Reg./Stakeholder Interactions	\$25,000	\$40,000	\$75,000	Level of stakeholder engagement and regulatory acceptance.
TOTAL	\$110,000	\$260,000	\$625,000	

Concern was expressed about BMW's ability to continue their long tradition of collaboration and consensus through a UAA. Often the needs of the upstream dischargers are in conflict with the needs of the downstream users. BMW rose to the challenge to develop the TMDL and it was a tremendous effort with upstream dischargers and downstream users retaining separate experts and BMW acting as a neutral third party. The TMDL process was science driven and worked well.

Steve reminded the group that BMW has collected a lot of data on our warm, plains reservoirs that collect runoff from an urban area with 2.5 million people. What we may need more data on are the uses of the lakes. Some of the areas where BMW data could be increased are:

- Consistent user surveys. **Amy** will talk to Michelle about the cost of hiring some CPW staff whose tasks would include conducting park users surveys. The questions on the survey will need to be vetted to ensure they capture data useful for a UAA. In addition, the days the algal sign and blue-green algal bloom warnings are used should be tracked.
- Modeling. The Technical Committee will lead the review of the current model and make recommendations on how to proceed. Some things they will consider include:
 - The P loading Steve calculates doesn't match the inlet loads FRICO collects or translate into in-lake concentrations. The model has never been really good at predicting P loading. There may be other models to consider.
 - As part of the OCCT process, BMW's model was identified as assuming more agricultural uses than currently exist in the water shed and urbanization continues.
 - Algal populations have changed over the years with diatoms' biomass now greater than green algae.
 - Over the next few years, upstream dischargers will be reducing the P in their effluent from around 3 mg/L to around 1 mg/L. Measuring changes from the load reductions could be important.
- MS4 permittees are now being required to collect data. BMW should work with them to try to ensure that the data collected could be used in the model.

For now, BMW will continue to focus on the first three (3) tasks of a UAA with an eye towards the last two (2) tasks. Any UAA effort could be completed in phases and there is still time for BMW to continue to wrestle with different options. Even if standards are promulgated in 2027 that are stringent enough for BMW to continue to appear on the 303 (d) list, there will be multiple years to implement the standards. The Technical Committee will continue to work on modeling questions and report back to the Board.

Implementation Plan Update – This standing agenda item is being moved to the Technical Committee agenda. **Erin** will report back to the board as the committee’s work proceeds.

Coalition Effort Update – Steve reported on the progress building the coalition. There are now 10 members including the Colorado Stormwater Council, Adams County, the City and County of Denver and the regional ACE Hardware Association. He requested that Board members check with their respective organizations to determine if we can add their logo to the materials. The (arbitrary) deadline is **August 15th**. Steve has developed some documents for stakeholders to use. He and Amy are going to present to the SPLASH group in August. They will ask for SPLASH to use the coalition’s materials in their outreach campaigns. In the spring, BMW can partner with the CSC to have a booth at the Green Pro Expo and the CALCP expo to reach landscapers. The first coalition meeting is August 19th. **Amy** will submit a mini grant application to build a website devoted to the coalition.

Update on CWA Section 208 Planning Agency Discussion – Sarah was not available to report on this topic and can report next month

MS4 Permit Renewal – Brad updated the Board on Denver’s MS4 permit which is now complete. Denver will be measuring the performance of structural and non-structural stormwater features. The CSC filed complaints about Denver’s permit and the Non-standard permit not allowing for due process. Both complaints have been dismissed. The Phase 2 MS4 permit had been administratively extended and will likely have similar TMDL requirements to Denver’s when it’s issued. The Non-Standard permittees are working on written agreements with Standard permittees, where appropriate. GEI will be making a presentation at the Technical Committee about Denver’s 20+ years of stormwater data. Brad thinks that the new stormwater monitoring requirements in MS4 permits may provide data good enough to be included in the BMW watershed model.

Technical and I&E Committee Updates– Michelle reported that Lake Appreciation Day was Saturday July 10th with about 120 volunteers. The water was high slowing down shoreline clean up so that will be a focus for National Public Lands Day on September 25th.

Steve reported that GEI had been able to collect stormwater data in May. He’s hoping they can catch a few more storms this summer. It would be good to know the number of dry days between stormwater events. Steve is using the stormwater gage for weekly baseflow measurements. USGS is trying to gather support for installation of a ‘super gage’ they propose to install in the same spot the BMW gage will be placed when construction at the National Western is complete. BMW can consider if they want to contribute to the ‘super gage’ in the future.

Amy reported that the OCCT presentation for the October watersheds conference is coming together and the presenters will meet virtually Thursday afternoon. She is proposing consideration of using animations. Amy will submit the final report and reimbursement request for the Bike Tour mini grant. She will also submit a mini grant proposal for a website for the P Free Lawn Fertilizer Coalition effort. Amy submitted an award application to NALMS for the outreach work BMW does.

Updates/Action Items

- Chair's Report – Dan reported that he was interviewed for a research project that is trying to identify what makes a good watershed group.
- Treasurer's Report -As of June 30th, the balance is \$261,180.63.
 - 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 May 25th meetings – There was a Thumbs Up approval
 - Website assistance request – Amy is proposing to hire a website administrator as part of the next contract. The Board needs to provide direction whether they want webslinger management under the Coordinator's contract (as a subcontractor) or a contract directly with the Board. The Board will discuss Amy's contract and how to proceed with the website in August.
 - Grants updates – Amy bought \$1,000 of radio ads with the EPA money and hopes to be able to spend the rest of the money with the stakeholders that will convene on August 19th.
 - Bike Tour update – The tour video is complete and the reimbursement request will be submitted today. An in person event is planned for August 31st but is considered separate from the bike tour.
 - Note list of events below

Checks for Signature July 2021		
2176 - OWOW	\$ 2,125.00	Summer 2021 internship
2177 - Water Education CO	\$ 1,500.00	BMW Bike Tour contribution
2178 - Carp Solutions, LLC	\$ 4,500.00	Carp net rental, Tech budget
2179 - Amy Conklin, Bike Tour	\$ 4,920.00	Bike tour, grant reimbursable
2180 - Amy Conklin, June Coordination	\$ 3,511.13	Coordinator
2181 - Bookkeeper	\$ 60.00	bookkeeping
Checks for Deposit in July 2021		
United	\$ 12,000.00	Membership Dues

Amy will work with **James** to send out a notice about the At-Large Board members 30 days prior to the Stakeholder meeting on September 28th.

Next Meetings

- Technical Committee meeting – **July 29th, TBD**
- Board Meeting – **August 24th, 2021, 9 am Virtual and Barr Lake State Park**
- In Person Event bike tour activity – **August 31st, Happy Hour ride, beginning at 4 near Wes Brown Water Treatment facility and ending at Blue Moon Brewery (honoring educators)**
- I/E Committee Meeting – **September 7th, 2021 10 am to 11:30, maybe at Barr Lake State Park**
- Annual Meeting and BBQ – **September 28th, 2021, Barr Lake State Park**

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

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- ~~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 and 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 and in person at Barr Lake
 - **Amy** – Grant updates, Bike tour and watershed tour updates, 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, 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
7/30/21	Adams County Fair	Booth, T-shirts	Michelle and others?
8/6/21	Brighton Camp Out	Booth, T-shirts	Michelle and others?
August	Commerce City Neighborhood Fest	Booth, T-shirt	Michelle
8/31/21	In Person Bike tour to honor educators	Bike ride	Amy, Steve, bike tour team
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?