

Barr Lake/Milton Reservoir Watershed Association
BMW Board Meeting
August 24th, 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. Dan welcomed everyone.

2021-22 Implementation Plan – Steve reported on the status of the user surveys Jennie and volunteers have been collecting. It is a lot of work and may make a perfect task for the next BMW Intern. The next intern would need to train and manage volunteers to conduct the surveys during the boating months. **Jennie** will need to be de-briefed about the strengths and weaknesses of the effort. **The Board** will need to review the survey to be sure we're not missing any important information. **Michelle** will ask the Cherry Creek State Park manager if they did a survey.

The Board discussed asking CDPHE for their input as well. It might be worthwhile to send the survey to the Stakeholders and get their input. The survey could be used at some of the downstream reservoirs as well. **Steve and Michelle** will talk offline more about the scope of the survey effort. For now, the conclusion is to make it a task for the next intern instead of using paid staff, but there may be a need to use paid staff in the future.

Technical Committee Updates – Erin reported on the Technical Committee meeting that included two (2) topics of interest to BMW; Aurora's experience using Alum in Quincy Reservoir and, Denver's analysis of stormwater data from the last 20 years. Aurora obtained a permit to apply alum from CDPHE with very strict monitoring requirements. There were four samples required per acre of lake where alum was applied. The treatment worked with Total Phosphorus (TP) levels being reduced to below 20 ug/L. Aurora believes the treatment may be effective for the next 15 to 30 years. The cost of the application was about \$300,000. Part of the reason Aurora could meet the very expansive testing requirements is that they could analyze the samples in house. If alum were to be applied at Barr Lake, we would have to carefully consider where we dose with alum.

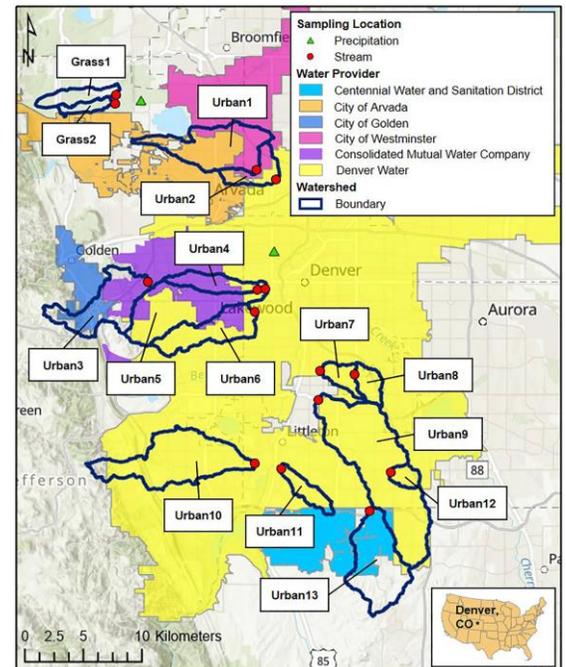
Erin or Amy will ask Aurora what the Aluminum levels were after the dosing. Steve noted that the alum permits he got didn't require much testing but they were for smaller water bodies. Quincy Reservoir had more of an internal loading issue than Barr or Milton. Because residence time in Barr Lake is only 8 months, applications may have to be more frequent than 15 to 30

years. Steve noted that, eventually, the internal loading in Barr will have to be reduced by 75%. It is also possible that another reservoir, such as Bear Creek or Cherry Creek, may try alum application before BMW would consider it. We'll keep watching the issues.

GEI presented an analysis of trends over the last 20 years of stormwater data collection. The Phase 1 MS4 permittees set up a monitoring system in the Denver area as part of their permit requirements. They are; Denver, Lakewood, Aurora and the Mile High Flood District. We are hoping they will start including data from the BMW stormwater gage in future analyses. They have been able to collect data from an average of 5 storms per year. TP is trending down at some sites. Sand Creek had the greatest TP reduction, mostly due to flow decreases.

The Board talked about including the stormwater data in the next calibration of the SWAT model. The model is currently the 2005 version and there have been 2 updates to the model in the meantime. We would want to upgrade to the newest version of the model when the calibration happens. The cost to recalibrate is around \$75,000 to \$100,000. Information on Lawn Irrigation Return Flows (LIRF) could also be included. The latest information from a CSU study of urban waterways is that as much as 80% of the flows in urban streams may be LIRF.

Amy has reached out to the author of the CSU study and she will be presenting at the February 2022 Stakeholder meeting. She sent a link to the article to the Board. Kelly sent the Board an article from the Colorado Sun on the study. **The Board** will include on their retreat agenda an item about when to recalibrate the SWAT model. Dan reminded the group that the wastewater treatment plants are implementing significant reductions to their effluent TP and it may be worth waiting for the impacts for those reductions to be felt before a model recalibration is done.



Coalition Effort Update – Amy reported on the messaging stakeholder meeting held on August 19th. BMW in collaboration with Denver (and hopefully WaterWise and the Colorado Stormwater Council (CSC)) will have a booth at the GreenPro Expo conference in February. Amy will be putting together a budget for how to spend the EPA money on messaging and materials for the booth. There may be an opportunity to collaborate with WaterWise on their www.lovecoloradowater.org website. They may want us to build a water quality page that could also serve the P-Free lawn fertilizer coalition.

Steve reported that Jennie has finished her fertilizer survey and he is working up the results. He also described an effort to stalk people while they buy fertilizer and try to determine what factors drive their choices. He reminded the Board that he would like the logos of all BMW Board members on the coalition materials, if possible. **Julie, Chris and Dan** will follow up to determine if their logos can be used. **Steve** will send a summary of the effort to the Board along

with materials. James explained that getting Thornton's logo may require going through City Council and could be a very prolonged effort. We will bring the item back on the October agenda.

OCCT Presentation Update – Steve, Dan, Amy, Ron Falco and Nicole Poncelet Johnson met to go over plans for the OCCT presentation in October as part of the Watersheds Conference. Amy followed up with the conference organizers and determined that speakers don't need to register for the conference as long as they don't attend any events. Amy described her desire for animations to explain the complex nature of the issues around OCCT. The Board didn't want to do animations for a presentation that may only be used once. The Board decided to add having different animations done, that could be used for multiple efforts such as the P Free Fertilizer Coalition, to the Board retreat agenda.

Update on CWA Section 208 Planning Agency Discussion – James reported that so far the effort regarding 208 planning in the Denver metro region hasn't yielded any results. The Board discussed the need for a 208, wastewater, planning agency in the region. The purpose of the agency is to guide wastewater treatment capacity growth and currently there isn't a plan for that. CDPHE is required by law to do the planning when there isn't any other agency and they haven't been. So a regional perspective is missing. The issue appears to be funding and no organization is willing to accept the financial burden since DRCOG stopped being the agency in about 2005.

One consequence of the lack of regional planning is the lift station that was proposed next to Barr Lake and within the wildlife sanctuary not getting BMW review. Tri-County Health Department is currently evaluating lift station applications and insisting they be referred to BMW but we have no standing in the process, per se.

Amy read an email that came in during the meeting from Ronda Sandquist on behalf of one of her clients who needed a lift station approval and Tri-County Health was insisting BMW review it. Amy did not plan that! The Board discussed how to proceed with input from JM that the lift station would go to South Adams County Water and Sanitation District. The district had reviewed the lift station and it would be built to their specifications. He thought the lift station was outside the BMW datashed and the flow wouldn't make it to the South Platte River if there was a lift station failure. The Board directed Amy to refer the matter to Brown and Caldwell and direct to spend about an hour reviewing the application and provide us with a summary of any issues. Amy can also reach out to JM's contact, Dawn Fretti, Adams County Water Quality Association, for additional information, if required.

MS4 Permit Renewal – Brad reported that the Non-Standard MS4 permit is out for public comment. There is a table in the permit that identifies entities in the BMW datashed that discharge to waters of the state. Those entities will be required to do monitoring as part of the TMDL. Erin will review the permit and propose any comments, if appropriate, before the September 10th deadline. Brad didn't think there was anything we would want to comment on. One of the lawsuits between CDPHE and the CSC is still pending in Denver District Court. Brad will report on any developments in the legal action.

I&E Committee Update - Steve reported that he had made a presentation to some stormwater permittees and they want him to return in September. The topic was how to implement the

TMDL through MS4 permits. The TMDL currently requires a 20% reduction in TP loads from stormwater which needs to be measured. BMW is committed to being a partner with the MS4s in monitoring and validating load reductions. LIRF is not part of stormwater and is not regulated under MS4 permits. **Brad, Amy and Steve** will discuss how to engage with MS4s, especially those with TMDL requirements. There are currently 24 MS4 permittees in the datashed. **Amy** will confer with **Brad** to get contact information for them and invite them to the Annual meeting and all stakeholder meetings.

The Board

The Annual meeting will include:

- **Steve** – talking about water quality as much as he is allowed and the P Free Fertilizer coalition
- **Dan** – talking about BMW accomplishments over the past year. **Amy** will draft some talking points.
- **Chris** – will make a Treasurers report
- **Amy** – recruited Capitol Representatives to talk about getting BMW support for the effort to do stream restoration in the South Platte through Denver

Michelle reported that September 25th is National Public Lands Day at the park from 9 to noon. **Michelle** will send Amy information to share with the stakeholders. The 25th is also Bike your Park day.

Updates/Action Items

Checks for signature August 2021		
2182 - GEI invoice 3094497	\$ 561.00	Stormwater monitoring
2183 - Amy Conklin, July Coord	\$ 4,963.21	Coordination
2184 - Brown and Caldwell	\$ 1,075.00	Consultant

- Chair’s Report – Dan talked about Officer and At-Large member openings on the Board. **Steve** will reach out to Heritage Sporting to see if they might be interested in being an At-Large member. **Amy** will follow up with Juliana Archuleta to see if she might be interested. All the Board officers intend to continue in their positions except for the Chair position. Erin has expressed interest in becoming the new Chair. Officer selection can occur informally at the Annual meeting and be recorded at the October Board meeting or an official vote can occur in October. At-Large member selection will occur at the Annual meeting.
- Treasurer’s Report -Chris reported that the finances are all doing well. Our bank account is now over \$300,000
- Coordinator Updates (Amy C.)
 - Approval of Meeting minutes from the July 27th meetings – There was a Thumbs Up approval of the meeting minutes
 - Website assistance request – **Amy** will work with Kevin Bauman who will work directly for the Board doing website updates.
 - Grants updates – BMW did not receive another Urban Waters Grant. 😞
 - Preliminary preparation for Annual Retreat – November 30th – **Amy** start preparing a list of items for the retreat to share at the October meeting.
 - Note list of events below

Sarah Reeves requested that BMW be a co-host for the Confluence at the Confluence on December 14th, virtually. There was a Thumbs up approval for BMW to be a co-host of the conference.

Next Meetings

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- 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 10th, 2021 10 am to 11:30, maybe at Barr Lake State Park**
- Technical Committee meeting – **September 23rd, TBD**
- Annual Meeting and BBQ – **September 28th, 2021, Barr Lake State Park**
- OCCT Presentation – **October 5th, 1:00 – 2:30** Watersheds Conference, Avon, CO
- Board Meeting – **October 26th, 2021, 9 am Virtual and 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
 - ~~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
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?