

Barr Lake/Milton Reservoir Watershed Association
 BMW Board Meeting
 January 25th, 2022 9:00 am – 11:30
 Virtual

Minutes

Board Attendance:

Steve Lundt – Metro
 Sarah Reeves -SPCURE
 Dan DeLaughter – S. P. Renew
 Curt Bauers – FRICO
 Brad Cox – Denver
 Julie Tinetti – Centennial
 Michelle Seubert – CPW
 Chris Douglass – ECCV
 Charlie Plush – Heritage Sporting

Eric Marler – Suncor
 Mark Cubbon – S. Adams Water and San
 Juanantonio Ruiz – Intern
 Paul Tedesco - Thornotn

Public Attendance:

Amy Conklin – BMW Coordinator

Steve welcomed everyone and they introduced themselves.

Suncor Permit – Eric

Marler talked about the draft permit for Suncor out for comment. The comment period closes on Feb. 10th.

Stormwater and wastewater permits are being combined. The new permit has all the same outfalls as the

existing one, however, some of the stormwater outfalls may be changed to industrial discharges. Some of the stormwater goes into the wastewater treatment plant and gets treated. There are currently 9 outfalls under the current stormwater permit, along the perimeter. They discharge infrequently, only when there is heavy snowmelt or precipitation. There is no treatment for Stormwater under current system.



Perfluoroalkyl substances (PFAs) are being added to the list of analytes to be monitored and treated. The proposed permit limits are equal to the narrative standard, or 70 parts per trillion (ppt). Sixty three new compounds were also added to the analyte list based on chemicals Suncor has reported using at their facility. The proposed permit doesn't include a permit limit for Phosphorus (P) and does include one for Total Inorganic Nitrogen (TIN). In addition to an increase in the number of analytes, the proposed permit is also requiring a full inventory and assessment of all pipes on the property. A plan for maintenance and replacement of the pipes is also being required. The proposed permit requires a study about potential impacts to the Burlington Ditch from groundwater seepage and a potential requirement to line the ditch. Existing data shows that there is very little flow currently seeping into the ditch. There is also

language about requiring Suncor to report any spills directly to the public rather than just to CDPHE.

Suncor currently treats for P or Nitrogen (N) but doesn't have a limit or target. Their monthly median value for P in their discharge is currently below 1 mg/L. They have been successful in reducing N values as well.

Brad reported that the Colorado Stormwater Council (CSC) hasn't been following the evolution of the Suncor permit in particular but has been very engaged in with CDPHE regarding the requirements for increases in monitoring requirements. The Suncor permit includes effluent limits for stormwater discharges. The pollutants of concern have increased significantly in the proposed permit.

Suncor is not included in the TMDL as a data point. There isn't a wasteload allocation for Sand Creek either. Any Suncor discharge would go to Milton. The proposed permit addresses the concern about an untreated spill by requiring detection of water levels in onsite stormwater ponds. Suncor worked with Commerce City to build a treatment system. It can treat for PFAs down to the 70 ppt level when the system is running. The current system is temporary with a permanent treatment coming sometime in the future. **Eric** will send Amy information about where to find their comments when they're ready.

Renewal of Brown and Caldwell Contract – The contract with Brown and Caldwell to review permit applications and other tasks will expire before our next Board meeting. The contract was renewed with a unanimous Thumbs Up vote.

BMW Watershed Model – Brad updated the group on discussions with the stormwater community about using the BMW watershed model. At the retreat, the Board discussed how to proceed with BMW's watershed and in lake models. Denver now has permit limits associated with the TMDL. Denver wants to determine a baseline load. They are evaluating if they can use the model to make determine their baseline loads and if other MS4s may want to use the model as well. Holly Piza, Jon Novick, and Jane Clary met with Brad, Erin and Steve. Denver has dry weather monitoring data and there is some stormwater data as well. They looked at how the TMDL loads were calculated. They contacted CDPHE through CSC subcommittee on monitoring. They're trying to understand what CDPHE is looking for and what they're going to use the data for. There is a lot of data already.

The TMDL requires a 20% reduction in stormwater loads to meet the TMDL plus the continuation of work on reducing Stormwater pollution. The complication is how to show the 20% reduction has been met. Integral, BMW's current modeling firm, noted that Denver could use a simple mass balance equation with their existing data without using a complicated models such as the watershed model. However, the watershed model can incorporate a higher level of complexity than a simple mass balance spreadsheet. There isn't a clear answer and the Board will continue to wrestle with how to proceed. CDPHE is also conflicted about how to calculate loads and will be looking at examples in other cities. The topic is gaining awareness and involvement is increasing.

The Technical Committee is meeting on Thursday. We were going to have Integral come to talk about the model but, Integral is no longer willing or able to continue modeling for BMW. They no longer have the expertise to update the SWAT model. They can make recommendations for other firms. The Board needs to keep thinking about what to do about the model. What role will modeling play in the work of the group in the future? How do we see the modeling helping us move forward implementing the TMDL? Updating the models would be an expensive effort.

Another consideration is incorporating land use changes into load calculations. The key piece is to determine the baseline loads. A watershed model could incorporate land use changes over time. Integral suggested that one approach would be to focus on a smaller sub basin and extrapolate the results to the entire watershed. It may be beneficial to have multiple lines of evidence and use both the mass balance and watershed model. We'll need to be clear on what the questions are before proceeding with a modeling effort. One question would be to assess the impact of stormwater improvements in reducing loads.

It's important to remember that the MS4 load in the TMDL is for the entire basin, not just Denver. We should also remember the important data being collected by the BMW autosampler at the Burlington Headgate. There is also stormwater data that has been collected since 1998. One thing is clear, BMW will be talking about stormwater for a while.

Update on P Free Fertilizer Coalition – Steve reported that the effort is getting a lot of interest and engagement. He and Amy talked with Bill Ruzzo, Cherry Creek Basin Water Quality Authority (CCBWQA) yesterday and are likely to get on their Board's agenda. He read the list of members. A-1 composting has given a verbal commitment. He's talked with Erie and Denver Water. He's going to the Metro Basin Roundtable. He has presented to Colorado Council of Public Health Directors, the Colorado water utility council and will be talking to Colorado Wastewater Utility Council. Bear Creek Watershed Association just joined. He's also talking to Big Dry Creek Watershed Association and Chatfield Watershed Authority. So far there hasn't been any resistance to the coalition.

The Pro Green Expo is next week and BMW will have a booth in collaboration with Denver, the CSC and Colorado Water Wise. We'll be there for about 3 days promoting P Free Fertilizer and stormwater. We will also have a booth at the spring training conference with Colorado Arborists and LandCape Professionals (CALCP). BMW is manning a booth and hoping to present next year at the conference. The web page will be finalized soon for the coalition. Steve showed the group the www.lovecoloradowater.org website.

Postcards are getting printed and distributed at the Expo and hopefully at stores where fertilizer is sold. We're printing stickers to put on the fertilizer bags that should help people apply fertilizer correctly and reduce runoff.

The group thanked Steve for his hard work. All the materials can be used by everyone. They can also be customized with anyone else's logo. Denver has already added their logo and printed

**Green Lawns
Blue Waters
Be P-Free**

- Don't apply fertilizer within 15 feet of water
- Watch the weather, avoid any storms
- Calculate the right amount to apply
- Use phosphorus free fertilizer
- Storm drains are not treated
- Sweep up all fertilizer spills
- Mulch your lawn clippings
- Compost your leaves
- Exposed soils erode
- Get a soil test

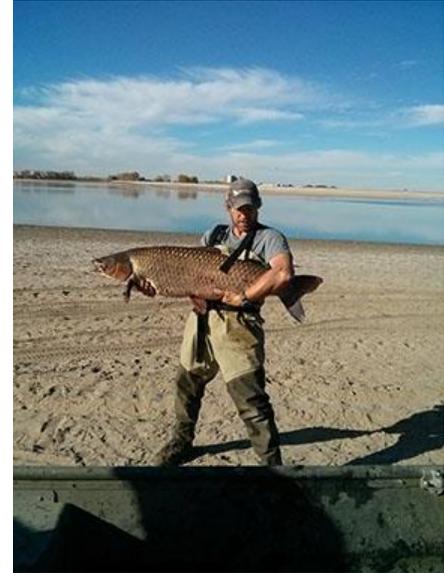
lovecoloradowater.org
barr-milton.org

Buy phosphorus-free fertilizer and keep our water clean.

Don't feed the algae: Too much nitrogen and phosphorus grow scummy algae in our lakes. Do your part and help keep Colorado's water clean by using phosphorus-free lawn fertilizers. [Learn more](#) →

some out. The materials are bi-lingual. Steve wants to monitor the use of coalition member logos. People need to contact Steve before they use any one else's logo. The website will act as the clearing house where questions will be sent.

I&E Committee Update - Amy, Steve, Donny Roush and Michelle interviewed intern candidates at MSU. We hired Juanantonio Ruiz for the spring and summer semesters. We hired Erica Klein for the fall semester. Juanantonio introduced himself. He'll be doing some fieldwork with Steve later in February. He's been working with Michelle to organize a carp tournament. He'll also be working on the Boating survey, capacity study when the lake opens.



The carp tournament will be in place of using the carp net. It will also have a stronger educational component. BMW will provide prize money. June 12th is the tentative date for the tournament. Juanantonio will finalize the boat capacity study. Charlie, Steve, Amy and Juanantonio will be meeting to discuss adding Milton to the boating survey.

The park has sign up genius account that can collect money and may be able to be used for registration at the Carp Tournament. **Amy** will ask website slinger about that. **Juanantonio** will work on a flyer for advertising the carp tournament. South Adams County Water and Sanitation District will help with the advertising. **Michelle** will send Amy the updated event list at the park. Lake Appreciation Day will be in July. Public Lands Day will be in Sept. CPW will be celebrating its 125th year anniversary with events throughout the year.

We could consider adding a bounty for carp. Participants could get a \$15 reward or something for every carp they deposit at a place. The I&E Committee will discuss the option further. The next I&E meeting will be March 1. Steve shared the T shirt color on for the algae monster that will be distributed at the Expo and other events. **Michelle** will be buying t shirts.

ADA Policy for website – Amy has become aware of the requirement to add captions to all the photos and other relevant materials posted on the website as part of legislation associated with the Americans with Disabilities Act. **Steve and Brad** will check to see if Denver or Metro already has policies.

South Platte River Advisory Youth Council (SPRAY) request – Our colleagues at El Laboratorio have continued their work with youth in our watershed. They requested our help with tasks identified in their final report. Erin sent a survey to the Board to measure their interest. BMW has committed to helping them with some of their efforts. They have a complication with any activity funded by their 319 grant not being in conflict with MS4 boundaries. Steve will help with P Free Fertilizer advertising. Groundwork Denver may be able to help the group with rain barrels. Amy has reached out to Paul Hellmund to discuss the

possibility of the group organizing a bike tour in the area where they'll be working. Water Education Colorado will be conducting bike tours in the area, too, as part of Water 22.

The Board discussed sponsoring Water 22 and voted Thumbs up to sponsor at the \$2,500 level. Amy will follow up with Jayla.

Technical Committee Meeting – The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday but only if Erin is feeling better. The committee will talk about modeling as well as inventorying monitoring the members are doing.

10:55 – 11:30 – Updates/Action Items

- Chair’s Report – There was no report
- Treasurer’s Report -As of December 31st, 2021 the balance is \$283,698.70.

- All expenses since the last meeting are within budget and will be recorded as part of the minutes.
- Discussion of Colorado Monitoring Framework Dues. \$5,402.84 due Jan. 8th, 2022. Sarah

Checks for Signature in January		
2201 - Brown and Caldwell	\$ 870.00	consulting
2202 - Carp Solutions, LLC	\$ 300.00	carp, Technical Budget
2203 - Amy Conklin	\$ 2,988.91	Dec. 2021 Coord. Svcs
2204 - Studio 4130	\$ 220.00	Website Mntnce
2205 - Applewood Bookkeeping	\$ 60.00	Invoice 704

Reeves described the benefits to BMW of getting representation and input into CMF’s efforts. They are currently working on instream nutrient values that are very relevant. In the past they have focused on the agricultural community and implementation of BMPs and measurement of their effectiveness. BMW’s big benefit is that being a member of CMF comparable to collective bargaining. We have a larger voice than just being a regional organization. Maybe BMW could present the P Free Fertilizer coalition at the next in person meeting. There was a unanimous, Thumbs Up approval to continue CMF membership.

Chris reported that he will be working for the City of Boulder and will be leaving on the 4th of February. ECCV will still be involved and he’s working on identifying his successor. There will be a transition with the next treasurer. The accounts are in good shape and the signatories are up to date, until he leaves. Michelle volunteered to succeed Chris as Treasurer. There was a thumbs up vote to make her the treasurer. **Chris** will reach out to Michelle. Chris will be the Utilities Engineering Manager in Boulder working on stormwater, wastewater and drinking water capitol projects. The group thanked Chris profusely for his many years of service.

Coordinator Updates (Amy C.)

- Approval of Meeting minutes from the November 30th, 2021 Board Retreat – There was a Thumbs up approval of the meeting minutes.
- Thornton – successor for James. Paul Tedesco reported that he was working to find someone to represent Thornton on BMW and would be attending himself for a few months.
- Note list of events below
- Stakeholders – The Board discussed the upcoming Stakeholders meeting on February 22nd. There will be a presentation from Dr. Aditi Bhaskar on the amount of urban stream flow coming from Lawn Irrigation Return Flows. We will also have a Water Quality

Update from Steve, a presentation on the P Free Fertilizer Coalition and general BMW updates.

Steve reported that there will be a meeting on the 10-Year Water Quality Roadmap on Feb. 26th. CLRMA will also be talking about the standards being proposed in November. CDPHE is starting to write the scientific support document for the prehearing statement. It will be a summary of Chlor a , TN and P in lakes in Colorado. BMW will likely get party status for hearing in November. No proposed standards have been released yet. They have been focusing on getting a good database on which to base the standards. Questions to be considered as part of the hearing include the length growing season. The proposed standards should be released soon.

Steve and Charlie reported that Milton is beginning to fill. It should be at full pool by around mid-February.

Next Meetings

- Technical Committee meeting – **January 27th, 2022, virtual**
- Stakeholder Meeting – **February 22nd, 2022, Barr Lake State Park or virtual (probably virtual)**
- I/E Committee Meeting – **March 1st, 2022 10 am to 11:30 at Barr Lake State Park**
- Board Meeting – **March 22nd, 2022, 9 am, South Platte Renew and virtual**

BMW 2022 Schedule

Keep meetings hybrid format – at SP renew w virtual option. Erin will be virtual host

January –

~~4th I&E Meeting~~

~~25th Board Meeting – Suncor permit~~

27th Technical Committee Meeting – model update discussion

February –

2 – 4 Pro Green Expo

22nd Stakeholder Meeting – Urban waterway flow sources presentation

March –

1st Information and Education Committee Meeting

22nd Board Meeting – USGS gage presentation and decision

24th Technical Committee Meeting

April – 26th Board Meeting – Water Quality (and Organization?) Goals discussion

May –

3rd Information and Education Committee Meeting

24th Board Meeting – Goals decision

26th Technical Committee Meeting

June -

28th Stakeholder Meeting/Watershed Tour – at Milton, on the water.

July –

5th Information and Education Committee Meeting

9th Barr Lake Appreciation Day

26th Board Meeting – Insurance discussion, Coordinator 1st reading

28th Technical Committee Meeting

August – 23rd Board Meeting – 2022 hearing prep, New Coordinator on Board?

September –

6th Information and Education Committee Meeting

27th Annual Meeting and BBQ

22nd Technical Committee Meeting

October – 25th Board Meeting – 2022 Hearing prep

November –

1st Information and Education Committee Meeting

November 29th Potential Board meeting/retreat – New Coordinator?

Standing(-ish) Agenda Items

- P Free Lawn Fertilizer coalition
- I&E Committee
- TC Committee – stormwater monitoring gage
- Chair, Treasurer, and Coordinator reports
- Modeling effort/watersheds coordination
- IP Projects
- Permit tracking – Brown and Caldwell
- Grant updates
- 2022 Hearing preparation
- Coordinator subcommittee