

Barr Lake/Milton Reservoir Watershed Association  
BMW Board Meeting  
April 26<sup>th</sup> 2022 9:00 am – 11:00  
Virtual and In Person, Denver Wastewater Management Building  
**Minutes**

**Board Attendance:**

Steve Lundt – Metro  
Curt Bauers – FRICO  
Brad Cox – Denver  
Julie Tinetti – Centennial  
Katie Koplitz – Metro Water Recovery  
Caleb Owen – Thornton

Sarah Reeves – SPCURE  
Erin Sandos – South Platte Renew

**Public Attendance:**

Amy Conklin – BMW Coordinator

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Erin welcomed everyone and they introduced themselves. Those in the room enjoyed burritos.

**Coordinator Replacement** – Curt reported that he has a candidate to recommend today. There has been a list of candidates to work through but all decided that they were too busy to take on the responsibility. Brown and Caldwell could take on the role but there is a lot of overlap with other clients. Sammie Miller is the candidate Curt recommends. She's been the marketing coordinator for Water Education Colorado and at Stantec before that. She has also worked at Denver Botanic Gardens. She has an undergraduate degree in Environmental Studies and a master's degree in GIS. She's looking for part time employment. Curt has interviewed her and thinks she'd be a good fit. She's not a water quality expert but she has water industry connections and a lot of coordinating experience.

Sammie has organized the Colorado Watersheds conference for the last few years. If Brown and Caldwell (B&C) took over the coordinator role there may be real or perceived conflict. B&C would be happy to take on the role but the BMW Board and the SPCURE Board would have to work through the conflict issues. To address conflicts, Sarah would separate herself from whoever was doing the BMW work, except where it makes sense. They are already separate from the contract providing permit review services. Its about partnership from Brown and Caldwell's perspective.

Steve likes having a separate coordinator rather than a firm. Curt talked to both Wright Water and Corona Environmental to see if the firms might be interested and they weren't. Curt recommends having a phone interview with Sammie. If everyone agrees, Sammie would attend the May meeting. Dan DeLaughter suggested Carolyn at Pinyon Consulting. Curt reached out to her but didn't get a response. The interview group could talk to her, too. The next step is to have a formal interview with Sammie and Carolyn, if she's available. B&C would be the fall back choice. **Curt** will reach out to Carolyn and Sammie and try to get a meeting set up.

**Water Quality and Organizational Goals discussion and Watershed Plan Update** – Erin presented the proposed Values and Water Quality Goals. Julie, Erin, Steve, Curt and Sarah met to develop the proposed goals. They decided to streamline the values and goals into just BMW Goals. The purpose was to make it easier for people visiting the website to get a feel for who

BMW is and what we do. They also hoped to make the Goals adaptable to future changing conditions.

## Updated BMW Goals

- As a key watershed association covering a significant portion of the Denver Metro area, collaborate with stakeholders, gain consensus, and provide education and outreach to inform and drive water quality stewardship.
- Drive (promote/support) water quality improvements so that Barr Lake and Milton Reservoir meet applicable water quality standards.
- Utilize a science-based approach to understand the biological systems of the BarrMilton Watershed, measure changes and improvements, and inform planning and decision making.
- Develop and facilitate plans and actions for watershed-scale and in-reservoir projects to drive attainment of water quality standards. Currently, BMW is facilitating the efforts of its members to:
  - Limit sources of phosphorus to meet pH and DO requirements.
  - Limit the sources of nitrogen to meet ammonia requirements.

*LINK watershed plan below here on the website*

The proposal is to provide embedded hyperlinks on the website when plans are mentioned. This is the ‘first reading’ of the proposed changes with a vote to approve them in May.

The next step is to update the Watershed Plan. **Erin and Steve** volunteered to begin the update and request help from other Board members when necessary. The original plan had to follow the 9 step EPA template. The first update to the plan took a long time because it was dramatically shortened and personalized. They hope the next update will be relatively easy. The update will only include things that have changed since the last update.

**Preparation for Regulation 31 hearing** – The Regulation 31 hearing is set for November 14<sup>th</sup>. Leading up to the hearing there are a number of important dates:

- The hearing will be noticed on June 30<sup>th</sup>.
- Pre-hearing statements are due on August 2<sup>nd</sup>.
- Party Status applications are due August 17<sup>th</sup>,
- Responsive prehearing statements are due September 7<sup>th</sup>.
- Rebuttals are due October 5<sup>th</sup>.
- November 14<sup>th</sup> is the hearing.

There was consensus that BMW would want to be a party and would need to file for party status before the August 17<sup>th</sup> deadline. The proposed standards for Total Phosphorus (P) for warm

water lakes is 36 ug/L (reduced from 83 ug/L). The proposed value for Total Nitrogen (TN) is 603 ug/L (reduced from 910 ug/L). The Technical Advisory Committee that Steve served on participated in the process. BMW data helped to develop the proposed standards. The proposed standards probably aren't achievable which will lead to the lakes being put on the 303 d list.

The group acknowledged that during hearings, there is stress among members because of conflicting positions on different topics being debated. The key is open communication. Amy reminded the group that the organization's Business Operating Procedures include

a section on Membership Participation which codifies how members will behave in all organization discussions, especially those fraught with potential conflict.

**II. Membership Participation**

All members who attend any meetings of the Association shall, and by their participation do hereby agree, to: a) engage in thoughtful and thorough discussions and deliberations; b) advocate for the interests of his or her organization; c) share relevant information with other Association members; d) keep the Association's membership informed about his or her relevant perspectives; e) advocate within his or her organization for support of the Association's work; f) work to identify any prospective and potential alternatives, options or resolutions; g) openly engage in, discuss and evaluate all alternatives, options or resolutions identified by any member of the Association; h) refrain from impugning any other member of the Association or undermining the Association's recommendations, reports or final decisions; i) work to secure necessary approvals within his or her organization for permission (within legal and ethical limits) to negotiate agreements or decisions of the Association through Substantial Consensus; j) explicitly inform the Association's membership when any limits of his or her authority have been reached; and k) elevate any issues within his or her organization as a means of addressing such limitations.

Julie Tinetti reported on the Lake Nutrient Criteria Town Hall on May 2<sup>nd</sup> from 2 to 3:30 pm. The meeting will provide a broader group of stakeholders the opportunity to learn more about the proposed Lakes Nutrients criteria and ask questions. Anyone interested can register [here](#). Steve will reach out to Joni Nuttle, Blake, Aimee Konowal and Amanda Jensen to ask if any CDPHE staff could present to the BMW Board. He'll ask what their availability is. If they can't come to a scheduled BMW meeting, we could try a stand along Zoom meeting.

**Update on P Free Fertilizer Coalition** – Steve reported that the coalition has 2 new members; The Cherry Creek Basin Water Quality Authority and Chatfield Watershed Authority. He is meeting with Rockies and Coors Field courtesy of Water 22. Charlie Blackman is doing a Public Service Announcement for Water 22. Steve wrote a concept paper on efforts they could do that would also comply with their stormwater permit. Some ideas are to put up signs, print a message on the tarp they roll out, maybe have a game with a theme of Colorado water. The Broncos may also be interested in participating in similar efforts, highlighting P free fertilizers and water conservation. He hopes that maybe we can add something about how people are located in the BMW watershed. He submitted an abstract for next year's spring training conference for the Colorado Arborists Association. He wants to finalize curriculum for a class for landscaping professionals on watershed protection.

Amy reported that she has some money left in the budget that paid for the Algae Monster billboard. She's working with CPR to buy \$1,000 more of radio ads. Steve suggested that yard signs might be another type of outreach worth



pursuing. **Brad** will ask about yard sign restrictions in Denver and Amy will price out some yard signs.

The BMW intern, Juanantonio, will be completing an inventory of P concentrations in lawn fertilizers being sold in the metro area. He'll also continue on work to organize a Carp Tournament on June 12<sup>th</sup>. He's also working on the boating survey to try to determine the optimal number of boats on Barr Lake. Later in the summer, the internship will transition to Erica Klein.

**Amy and Steve** need to work on the website to update the list of logos for the coalition, begin a list of landscaping companies committed to using P free lawn fertilizer, and a list of ACE hardware store locations.

Caleb suggested that CLRMA consider holding a poster contest for kids around using P free lawn fertilizers. Steve will look into it. Someone should write a book about the algae monster based on the children's book [Fish Out of Water](#).

**I&E Committee Update** - Steve reported that the next meeting would be a Zoom meeting on May 2<sup>nd</sup>. We made a connection with the new Art Park in River North (RINO). We are hoping to partner with them and some of their events. They're doing monthly bike rides where Steve and Donny Roush will show up and talk about water quality and aquatic life.

The Carp Tournament on June 12<sup>th</sup> will be open to 25 boats of fishers and 25 fishers from shore. First place for the boat with the most fish will be \$1,000. First place from shore will be \$500. There will also be categories for under 12, largest carp and smallest carp. Paul Winkle, CPW, will bring his scale and act as judge. We'll compare the amount of carp harvested during the tournament compared to harvesting with the net.

**Technical Committee Meeting** –Erin reported that we renewed the stormwater monitoring contract with GEI. The lab was switched lab to Colorado Analytical since Metro is no longer accepting samples. Steve deleted metals from the analyte list. It will save some money. The focus is on nutrients. The sampler should be moved back to the river this summer. Steve is working with Metro engineers. BMW may have to pay for the electrical hook up and maybe some electricity. The stormwater budget line item will need to be increased for next year.

### **Updates/Action Items**

Chair's Report –

- There was a Thumbs up approval for BMW to pay for membership in Metro DNA pending Amy getting more information on the benefits of membership.
  - Erin reported that she signed the site application for Fox Ridge site application.
  - **Erin** will send Katie copy of the BMW comments on the last MS4 permit and discuss with Dan. If BMW wants to comment on the Industrial MS4 permit, there will need to be an email vote.
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- Treasurer's Report -As of March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2022 the balance is \$259,175.10.

- **Michelle** will be working on the budget for May with a vote in July. She'll be sure to increase the line item for stormwater monitoring.
- All but 2 membership dues invoices have been sent. Please let Amy or Michelle know if there are any questions or issues.
- All expenses since the last meeting are within budget and will be recorded as part of the minutes. **Amy** will check with Metro DNA on benefits of membership before sending the check.
- Coordinator Updates (Amy C.)
- Review of the finalized March 22<sup>nd</sup> meeting minutes – There was a Thumbs up vote to confirm them being final.
- Note list of I&E events below

Checks for Signature in April		
2211 - GEI	\$ 5,019.25	stormwater monitoring
2212 Amy Conklin	\$ 3,477.50	Coordinating
2213 Studio 4130	\$ 440.00	website maintenance
2214 Metro DNA	\$ 100.00	memberships

**Next Meetings**

- I/E Committee Meeting – **May 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2022 10 am to 11:30 virtual**
- Technical Committee meeting – **May 26<sup>th</sup>, 2022, virtual**
- Board Meeting – **May 31<sup>st</sup>, 2022, 9 am, S. Platte Renew and virtual**
- Stakeholder Meeting – **June 28<sup>th</sup>, 2022, Heritage Sporting Club, in person, on Milton Reservoir**

**BMW Board Topic 2022 Schedule**

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

**January –**

- ~~4<sup>th</sup> I&E Meeting~~
- ~~25<sup>th</sup> Board Meeting – Suncor permit~~
- ~~27<sup>th</sup> Technical Committee Meeting – model update discussion~~

**February –**

- ~~2–4 Pro Green Expo~~
- ~~22<sup>nd</sup> Stakeholder Meeting – Urban waterway flow sources presentation~~

**March –**

- ~~1<sup>st</sup> Information and Education Committee Meeting~~
- ~~22<sup>nd</sup> Board Meeting – USGS gage presentation and decision (withdrawn)~~
- ~~24<sup>th</sup> Technical Committee Meeting~~

**April –**

- ~~5<sup>th</sup> Information and Education Committee Meeting~~
- ~~26<sup>th</sup> Board Meeting – Water Quality (and Organization?) Goals discussion~~

**May –**

- ~~2<sup>nd</sup> Information and Education Committee Meeting~~
- ~~24<sup>th</sup> Board Meeting – Goals decision~~
- ~~26<sup>th</sup> Technical Committee Meeting~~

**June -**

- ~~28<sup>th</sup> Stakeholder Meeting/Watershed Tour – at Milton, on the water.~~

**July –**

- 5<sup>th</sup> Information and Education Committee Meeting
- 9<sup>th</sup> Barr Lake Appreciation Day
- 26<sup>th</sup> Board Meeting – Insurance discussion, Coordinator 1<sup>st</sup> reading
- 28<sup>th</sup> Technical Committee Meeting

**August –** 23<sup>rd</sup> Board Meeting – 2022 hearing prep, New Coordinator on Board?

**September –**

- 6<sup>th</sup> Information and Education Committee Meeting
- 27<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting and BBQ
- 22<sup>nd</sup> Technical Committee Meeting

**October –** 25<sup>th</sup> Board Meeting – 2022 Hearing prep

**November –**

- 1<sup>st</sup> Information and Education Committee Meeting
- November 29<sup>th</sup> 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

## BMW I/E Events for 2022

Date	Event	Activity	Name and contact
5/4/22	Childrens' Water Festival, Fort Morgan	T shirt making and booth	Michelle, Juanantonio
5/7/22	Furry Scurry	In person event at Wash Park	Donny, Juanantonio
5/7/22	Spring Fishing Clinic	Barr Lake State Park	Michelle
6/12/22	Carp Fishing Tournament	Barr Lake State Park	Juanantonio, Steve, Michelle
6/20/22	Bike to Work Day	TBD	Steve Lundt, Scott Williamson

7/9/22	Lake Appreciation Day	Barr Lake State Park	Michelle, Steve, Amy, Juanantonio
7/9/22	River Festival	TBD	<a href="https://www.thegreenwayfoundation.org/events.html">https://www.thegreenwayfoundation.org/events.html</a>
7/28-31/22	Arapahoe County Fair	Booth, t-shirts, Poop emoji balloon	BMW to assist SPLASH?
9/18/22	National Public Lands Day	Barr Lake State Park	Michelle
9/24/22	Annual Lantern Festival	Barr Lake State Park	Michelle
10/29/22	Halloween Trail	Barr Lake State Park	Michelle
November	CO Watershed Assembly	Conference	New Coordinator?
November	Cherry Creek Stewardship Partners	Conference	New Coordinator?