

Barr Lake/Milton Reservoir Watershed Association
BMW Board Meeting
May 31st 2022 9:00 am – 11:00
Virtual and In Person, South Platte Renew

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
Chris Newton – ECCV
Katie Koplitz – Metro

Kelly DiNatale – United, ECCV
Jori Nelson – Metro
Michelle Seubert – CPW
Charlie Plush – Heritage Sporting
Dan DeLaughter – South Platte Renew

Public Attendance:

Amy Conklin – BMW Coordinator
Samantha Miller – BMW Coordinator

Erin welcomed everyone and they introduced themselves. Those in the room enjoyed burritos. Erin also welcomed Chris Newton who is the new BMW Board representative for East Cherry Creek Valley Water and Sanitation District (ECCV).

Coordinator Replacement – Curt introduced the new and improved coordinator, Sami Miller. Sami introduced herself and talked about her past experiences. She’s begun transitioning into the role. She has been working with Curt on her contract. Sami and Amy left the room so the Board could discuss Sami’s contract confidentiality.

The Board decided to work on the contract Sami submitted and will execute it as soon as possible. Amy will work until the end of her contract. Sami will have a task order to keep working with Amy as part of her contract. There will need to be a change of address. There is a PO Box in Commerce City that could be used. The contract has been approved pending changes discussed.

Water Quality and Organizational Goals discussion and Watershed Plan Update – Steve reported that he and Erin are working on the Watershed Plan Update. He reminded the group that the original watershed plan was developed based on EPA guidelines. The first update was revised and edited to make the plan more usable. The plan should be ready by the February meeting (or maybe the September meeting). There was a unanimous vote to approve the Water Quality goals with the minor revisions shown below. **Erin** will send the file to **Amy** for posting on the website. The revised goals will be included in the Watershed Plan as well.

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

- The hearing will be noticed on June 30th.
- Pre-hearing statements are due on August 2nd.
- Party Status applications are due August 17th,

- Responsive prehearing statements are due September 7th.
- Rebuttals are due October 5th.
- November 14th is the hearing.

Steve reported that Amanda Jensen with the Water Quality Control Division (WQCD) can attend the July 26th Board meeting. She'll bring Blake and Joni Nuttle to present the proposed standards. Steve wants us to give them specific questions about how the proposed standards will apply to BMW. For example, the first round of proposed standards were pretty close to the goals in the TMDL. The proposed standards are now significantly different than those in the TMDL.

TMDL Goals		Proposed for November 2022 Hearing	
Maximum TP	0.100 mg/L	Maximum TP	0.036 mg/L
Average TP	0.040 – 0.060 mg/L		

Suggested questions include:

- How does the WQCD propose to resolve the differences between the TMDL Goals and the Water Quality Standards?
- How do the new standards correlate to future discharge permits? Nutrient targets to meeting the TMDL have already been incorporated into MS4 (stormwater) permits.
- Could the WQCD prepare a table contrasting the nutrient standards being proposed for the Regulation 31 Hearing to those in the TMDL?
- The WQCD believes their proposed standards will achieve water quality goals. Are they realistically achievable?
- To meet the current TMDL goal of 0.100 mg/L more than 90% of the loading into the lakes will have to be reduced. How much more of the load will need to be reduced to achieve the 0.036 mg/L of Total Phosphorus (TP) standard?
- What would be the best use of BMW's time and resources between the 2022 hearing and the 2027 hearing?

Steve requested that additional questions be emailed to him no later than **July 11th**. He'll send them to Amanda in advance of the July 26th Board meeting.

Erin will send the modeling questions developed by the Technical Committee (TC) to Steve. In its current state, our watershed model isn't calibrated well enough to yield useful results if we wanted to model the amount of loading that would result in 0.036 mg/L of TP standard.

The Board discussed the Stakeholder process to develop the standards being proposed and if it was robust enough. The Stakeholders have been meeting for nearly two (2) years but never directly with the consultant, Tetra Tech. At the next meeting, Tetra Tech should be attending and working with the Stakeholders directly. In the 10-year Water Quality Roadmap, there were goals established for the release of proposed standards with enough time for the Stakeholders to adequately review the proposals. Those goals weren't met during this process so some of the Stakeholders are requesting more time be added to the process for review. The WQCD spent time up front developing an updated, defensible database of water quality data for Colorado lakes. They then repeated a translator analysis they did in 2012. Steve has applied the same method to Barr Lake and Milton Reservoir using our data base. He can present his analysis to

the WQCD and ask for their reaction. The board is in consensus that it supports numeric standards that both protect water quality and are achievable.

Update on P Free Fertilizer Coalition – Steve reported that the coalition is a member of Water 22 and they have been helpful meeting with Coors Field and Mile High. Both organizations want to help with messaging because they both have MS4 permits. They have meeting facilities at Mile High they can donate to water groups for meetings. They like the idea of restroom signage. Kenny Chesney’s upcoming concert is themed for water conservation and recycling. They are hoping to use other events, like concerts, to promote water issues. They have a lot of social media they may be willing to let us use. Their heads greens keeper will contact Steve about fertilizer use and they will do a PSA through Water 22. Brad has been helpful working with the facilities. They’re going to mark storm drains around the facilities.

Cherry Creek Basin Water Quality Authority is a new member and has given us their logo. We already have Chatfield Watershed Authority’s logo. We don’t have all the BMW members’ logos. We have around 30 organizations. We have bi-lingual postcards to hand out and the Poop emoji Balloon has been used at numerous events. **Amy, Sami and Steve** will work to update the website with the additional logos.

I&E Committee Update - Steve reported that the new intern, Erica Klein, has started. She’ll go through the summer and into the fall. She’s gone out sampling with Steve and has done some research on lawn fertilizers for sale. They found the first ever bag that highlighted No Phosphorus. She’s taking over the boat surveying and we hope to get more surveys done. **Amy and Sami** will make sure Erica is aware of the Stakeholder meeting on June 28th.

The Carp tournament is scheduled for June 12th and about 30 people have signed up. Steve has \$2,100 in cash prizes. Steve took the checkbook so he can write checks for the tournament winners. Lake Appreciation Day is July 9th. It’s the big BMW event at Barr Lake. The lake levels should be down pretty low.

Technical Committee Meeting –Steve reported that the TC met last Thursday. The TC discussed better understanding the loads coming from First, Second and Third Creeks. If we have to get down to the proposed TP load levels, the loads from the creeks could become more important. Steve will start sampling at First Creek, getting grab samples, twice a month as part of his sampling schedule. The loads are driven by stormwater.

Steve will be meeting with Kelly regarding sampling at cells of water owned by United that get to Barr Lake via the BB pipeline. There’s about 6,000 AF of water in the cells. The water quality needs to be assessed. Eric Wardel with CSU has developed a system to build an auto sampler very inexpensively. Maybe we could put some in the watershed along the canals to try to identify agricultural hot spots.

The committee also discussed internal loading. Eventually some treatment will be needed to reduce internal loading. Carp removal should be helping a little. In canal alum treatment with the floc migrating into the lake, should also help reduce internal loading. TP is down to 140 ug/L at Barr, the lowest he’s seen in 20 years.

There are a lot of things regarding in canal and in lake treatment that need to be discussed before an implementation plan can be developed. The BMW auto sampler is still on Metro property.

Denver will be sampling stormwater outfalls. They hired GEI to do the sampling. The permit calls for five (5) sampling locations. The results can be used to better refine the watershed model. Steve is sending out the water quality summaries for review.

Updates/Action Items

- Chair’s Report – The Chair had nothing to report.
- Treasurer’s Report -As of April 30th, 2022 the balance is \$291,197.60. Michelle reported that she is working with Chris Douglass to develop a budget and should have one available next month. **Steve and Erin** will develop budgets for I&E and TC. We’ll have to pay for sample analysis, electrical and auto sampler re-location. The sampler has to be moved in case the ditch is turned off. All expenses since the last meeting are within budget and will be recorded as part of the minutes.

Checks for signature in May		
2215 - Amy Conklin	\$ 3,306.77	April Coordination
2216- GEI	\$ 1,896.50	Stormwater, invoice 3110424
2217 - Brown and Caldwell, permit review	\$ 2,131.25	Invoice 21442243

- Coordinator Updates (Amy C.)
 - There was a unanimous Thumbs up vote to approve the April 26th BMW Board meeting minutes. **Amy** will post the finalized minutes to the website.
 - Review of Watershed Tour Plans – The Board discussed the tour of Milton Reservoir planned for June 28th. It was concluded that the tour will start at 10 am at the Boat Dock on the northeast side of Milton. There will be about an hour of presentations. **Erin** will provide a brief update on what the Board has been working on in 2022. **Michelle** will provide a brief Treasurer’s report. **Kelly and Curt** will talk about where the water in Milton comes from and where it goes. **Steve** will talk about water quality in the lake with one of his internationally famous handouts. **Amy, Sami and Michelle** will work on getting lunch squared away, sending out invitations and nagging people for RSVPs. **Steve** will bring two boats. **Michelle** will bring her patrol boat. **Charlie** will bring Heritage’s pontoon boat. Between the 4 boats, we can take as many as 20 people on the tour. There will be porta potties and picnic tables at the boat dock. The meeting will be dependent on weather. Stay tuned.
 - Discussion of ADA policy for website – **Amy and Sami** will continue to work on ensuring that BMW has a policy and it’s implemented.
 - Note list of I&E events below

Next Meetings

- I/E Committee Meeting – **June 7th, 2022 10 am to 11:30 at Barr Lake State Park and/or virtual**
- Stakeholder Meeting – **June 28th, 2022, Heritage Sporting Club, in person, on Milton Reservoir**
- Board Meeting – **July 26th, 2022, 9 am, TBD and virtual**
- Technical Committee meeting – **July 28th, 2022, TBD and virtual**

BMW Board Topic 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 (withdrawn)~~
~~24th Technical Committee Meeting~~

April –

~~5th Information and Education Committee Meeting~~
~~26th Board Meeting – Water Quality (and Organization?) Goals discussion~~

May –

~~3rd Information and Education Committee Meeting~~
~~31st Board Meeting – Goals decision, Coordinator~~
~~26th Technical Committee Meeting~~

June -

7th Information and Education Committee Meeting
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

BMW I/E Events for 2022

Date	Event	Activity	Name and contact
6/12/22	Carp Fishing Tournament	Barr Lake State Park	Erica, 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, Erica
7/9/22	River Festival	TBD	https://www.thegreenwayfoundation.org/events.html
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?