

Barr Lake/Milton Reservoir Watershed Association
Technical Committee Meeting
Thursday September 22nd, 2022 (9:00am – 10:00am)
Virtual

MINUTES

In attendance:

Brad Cox – Denver
Bethany Green – Aurora
Jim Dorsch – Metro
Erin Sandos – S. Platte Renew (SPR)
Chris Newton – ECCV
Steve Lundt – Metro

Guests:

Samantha Miller - Coordinator
Wanda DeVargas – E470/SPLASH
Lisa Knerr – Arapahoe County/SPLASH

Microsoft Teams meeting

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Approve July Meeting Minutes – The July minutes were approved without discussion or changes. Thumbs up all around.

SPLASH Monitoring Partnership – BMW met with SPLASH members to follow up on the discussion from a recent board meeting about partnership. SPLASH discussed the monitoring requirements for their MS4 permit. Nonstandard permit holders are waiting on their permit renewals with the state, which requires them to monitor/participate in the TMDL. Several entities are required to do this monitoring: schools, Rockies, RTD, Red Rocks, etc. A lot of these groups don't have monitoring experience, but they have an exclusion if they work collaboratively with an entity that's already doing monitoring. They want to be a part of a greater effort and would like to come up with a workplan that outlines what they have to do, including budget and compliance deadline for their permit. Their deadline for implementation is November 2025 with reporting starting March 2026. There was a lot of discussion over the interpretation of the requirements (dry weather discharge, low/no outfall or flow).

BMW explained how this organization focuses our monitoring only in our own watershed/water bodies (reservoirs); we do a data request every five years or so and put it into our watershed model. We rely on our stakeholders to do their own monitoring. BMW expressed interest in still trying to help and collaborate. We can have a discussion about who monitors what so that we can tag team and coordinate all the monitoring effort, so it makes the most sense and is efficient. BMW also has an autosampler in the South Platte River as well.

The idea of SPCURE was thrown out as a coordinated effort for monitoring on a routine schedule. Entities go out and sample specific sets.

There was also discussion over a dry weather vs. wet weather monitoring program; need confirmation from CDPHE's expectations over this permit bullet point.

Discussion was had about how to show a 20% reduction, as directed by the TMDL. BMW threw out some ideas about how to show the progress. BMW has worked a lot through I&E and outreach to show the reduction to satisfy the CDPHE requirements. Discussion continued over showing the 20% reduction vs. just focusing solely on monitoring. Can they spend money on stream restoration, street sweeping, P-Free campaign to show the reduction? Does it just have to be monitoring of Phosphorous?

The concept of comparing to 2003-2004 to now was suggested. Going back through past projects and showing what SPLASH has accomplished in the past 19 years could show some progress towards their requirements. Would CDPHE allow E470/SPLASH to show what they've done since 2003-2004 that would have had a good/substantial impact since then?

In conclusion, BMW focuses on reservoir monitoring of our watershed and relies on stakeholders to do outside reservoir. BMW suggest they check in with SPCURE for a coordinated monitoring collaboration. They need to check in with CDPHE to clarify the permit bullet points and requirements. E470 would like to continue partnership and become a member of BMW.

As a side note, E470 will include P-Free info in their September newsletter to check off their outreach requirement in the permit (as well as for Cherry Creek).

Actions:

- **Steve** will send Wanda all P-Free marketing materials for their outreach of P-Free.
- **Sami** will send Wanda/E470 membership info.
- **Brad** will send a list to BMW of phase 2 permittees.

Lift Station Review – The review has been sent to Brown & Caldwell, and they have no concerns. Not much to touch on for this item. Erin will forward to the board for email approval for the site application. The question was posed for how much we spend on each review with Brown & Caldwell. It was suggested we check on the budget and look into what makes the most sense for the future.

Erin reached out to the 208 agency (Adams County Water Quality Association) to get clarity around whether we're required to do these reviews. Or do they already do them? We like being in the loop and getting notice, but we should evaluate the purpose and budget. Should we spend money reviewing them? There have been five reviews in the past few years. BMW is waiting on a response back from Adams County Water Quality Association.

Erin will send doodle poll for our committee goals discussion, which will be scheduled for a separate meeting. We typically don't have another meeting before end of year, but would like to

have FRICO present for that discussion. This follow up meeting will be good one to end the year on and identify future goals for this committee.

Actions:

- Erin will send out doodle poll/something to gauge availability for one last 2022 meeting that will focus on goals for committee.

FOR NEXT MEETING:

Technical Committee Goals & Priorities Discussion –

In-canal Treatment (2024-2028)

- Implement ERD pilot treatment project proposal (\$100,000 - \$150,000)
 - o Contracts, MOUs, and permits
 - o Budget, design, concept
 - o Finalize permits, agreements, project deliverables
 - o 12-month start up schedule, operate for 3 years
 - o Final report, monthly status reports, presentations for the state
- Finalize Permits
- Develop partnerships and agreements with participants
- Full scale treatment and management of system
- Similar schedule for Platte Valley Canal and Beebe Draw

Point Sources

- Updates from WWTPs
- Calculate new loads
- Estimate stormwater reductions from street sweeping, recent projects, and load estimates from sampling
- Storm water modeling (SWMM or others)

Non-point Sources

- Upstream vs downstream Platte Valley Canal flows
- Update land use, change from ag to suburban
- BMP with land within 1-2 miles of ditches (no till, contour planting, manure management, lagoon management, soil management, fertilizer practices, and others)
- Assist with programs with landowners to reduce or avoid water quality impacts to ditches
- In-stream erosion
- Model runoff loads based on recent changes in irrigation styles

In-Reservoir

- Quantify internal loading amounts by year or season

- Short list of options: nutrient inactivation, biomanipulation, Aeration/Oxygenation, artificial circulation, dredging, partitioning to capture pollutants, Dilution/Flushing, and Rules/Regulations.
- Implement or further consider recommendations from Wagner Report (July 2016)

Monitoring

- Summary/ trends for inflow and outflow TN and TP data for Barr and Milton
- Autosampler Platte Valley Canal for weekly base flows
- Annual P load estimates based on autosamplers
- Monitor P loads from tributaries
- Monitoring of United/ECCV storage reservoirs at 124th
- Alkalinity changes over time and relationship with pH changes

Modeling

- Re-calibration of model
- Compare to 2019 – 2023 dataset
- Model urban sub-watershed looking at LIRF, lawn impacts, street sweeping, and stormwater
- Model agricultural sub-watershed looking at return flows, P loads, CAFO load

Reservoir Management Studies

- Use Attainability Analysis
- P loads 20019 – 2023

Next Meeting

Tech. Committee: TBD; one last meeting for 2022 to discuss goals