



**Barr Lake/Milton Reservoir Watershed Association
BMW Board Meeting
January 24th, 2023, 9:00 – 11:30 am
South Platte Renew & Online (hybrid)**

Board Meeting Minutes

Board Attendance:

Steve Lundt – Metro Water Recovery
Sarah Reeves – SPCURE
Erin Sandos – South Platte Renew
Julie Tinetti – Centennial
Caleb Owen – Thornton
Nicole Laurita – South Platte Renew
Erica Klein – BMW Intern

Curt Bauers – FRICO
Chris Newton – ECCV
Kelly DiNatale – United Water & Sanitation
Michelle Suebert - CPW

Public Attendance:

Sami Miller – BMW Coordinator

Introductions and Burritos – Erin led introductions of the group.

Watershed Plan Update/BMW Governing Document Discussion – Erin led follow up discussion from the board retreat over whether BMW wants the watershed plan organized into separate documents or if we should consolidate it all into one document.

- A. At the retreat we discussed the ongoing watershed plan updates; during this conversation, the question was raised as to whether there's a benefit of combining documents (watershed plan & implementation plan). It was also noted that organizing these documents to meet 319 grant requirements might be beneficial in the future. Overall, BMW would like to take time to review work that has been done, and then step back to discuss reorganizing these documents.
- B. The goal of the current watershed plan update includes inputting links in each section to other documents that connect/link to the BMW website. Other goals include streamlining things and eliminating items that might have to be updated annually. BMW would like to make the document shorter, more readable and easier to update each year if needed. Currently it is 37 pages – can we make it shorter than this? Comments within the watershed plan updates currently include language about the P-Free Coalition; updated numbers from 2017 info; and updated goals from 2022.
- C. The group discussed what BMW sees as the goal of the watershed plan (as opposed to the implementation plan). It was suggested we have a (BMW) workgroup look at all current documents and identify the goal of each before moving forward with any reorganization. Regarding meeting future 319 grant requirements, we don't know if any of the original 9 elements of that grant have changed, so the grant being a driving factor may not be relevant anymore. The workgroup will review the documents and set 2-3 meetings to move forward with updates and general plan for possible reorganization.

- D. The discussion of 319 grant money continued with thoughts on requirements, projects, etc. The group discussed the need to receive a decent amount of money to make the effort worth it. BMW would also need to identify an actual project (edge of field monitoring?). As an urban watershed, pursuing this money might drive us towards projects we wouldn't normally do....

Actions:

- **Erin** will do some research into 319 grant requirements to see if we still need a watershed plan for possible future grant money from the EPA.
- **Erin** will coordinate the watershed plan workgroup and get 3 or so meetings on the calendar to discuss and update/develop a plan for this document (Erin, Steve, Sarah, Curt, Julie?); Erin will also share Google doc/Drive folder for working on as a group.

Budget Update & Approval Vote – Moved to Treasurer's report below.

Collaboration with Watershed Groups – Erin led a follow up discussion from the retreat about collaborating with other watershed groups on data dashboards, current efforts/projects, and regulatory relief efforts surrounding the nutrient requirements/hearing in April.

- A. Cherry Creek and Chatfield are the two main groups BMW discussed working with, specifically regarding their data dashboard efforts and their plan for responding and meeting the new nutrient requirements. Kelly Close from Cherry Creek was mentioned as the best contact to reach out to for BMW creating a similar dashboard for data and monitoring. Kelly DiNatale/Chris Newton were also asked to showcase their simpler example for what they've been working on for Oklahoma, possibly at our next meeting? Primary questions for BMW to answer are: How much and who is going to use a data dashboard? What's the demand and is the ROI worth it? How much is it worth to spend on doing it? What's the big benefit? What is the cost to create and maintain? There was a lot of discussion on the cost of creating and maintaining a data dashboard and ensuring that the demand for this kind of effort is there (because it's not cheap). Nicole offered to investigate some options for free open-source software for mapping and surveys.
- B. The Fresh Water Trust was also discussed, and the Board would like to hear a presentation on what this is and what options they offer. We're looking at a possible April board meeting presentation.
- C. The Board discussed hearing what other authorities/organizations are doing regarding regulatory relief. Other groups are tackling similar questions and it would be good to have these kinds of conversations with them as we look to collaborate more (let's not reinvent the wheel if we can help it).
- D. Regulatory & dashboard contacts from other organizations who need to be included in this discussion: Jane Clary, Leonard Rice, Diane Kielty, Kelly Close.

Actions:

- **Steve** will contact Kelly Close about attending a meeting to showcase their dashboard

- **Nicole** will investigate free software that might be helpful for mapping and things like surveys.
- **Erin** will reach out to Jane Clary and Diane Kielty about joining a meeting or two in the future for dashboard and regulatory conversations.

Stakeholder Discussion – At the retreat, the board discussed reconfiguring the stakeholder meeting schedule for 2023.

- A. The Board discussed keeping one “stakeholder” event in summer that includes BBQ, tour and updates (basically combining the major elements of what previously happened at the 3 separate stakeholder meetings). The group hopes this would increase how many people attend from our stakeholder list. The question was posed as to whether we want to piggyback on the confluence at the confluence or the sustaining watersheds conference. It could make sense to combine efforts with Confluence at the Confluence, especially if they are looking to focus more on what other local watershed groups are doing this next year.
- B. The big challenge for stakeholder meetings is attendance and focusing on making sure our stakeholders know they are stakeholders. How do we do this?
- C. There was discussion about revitalizing our list of stakeholders. How can we include landscaping companies and stormwater folks?
- D. Do we want to reach out to the BMW stakeholder list to ask what they want to see in 2023 for stakeholder meetings (a survey)?
- E. The February meeting will be a board meeting with invites to other watershed groups (Cherry Creek/Chatfield). In the meantime, we will aim to include stormwater/landscaping companies in our stakeholder list and possibly send a survey out to ask what they want to see.

Actions:

- **Erin** will reach out to watershed contacts inviting them to the Feb. meeting to hear what they’re up to (copy Sami). Cherry Creek, Chatfield, SPCURE/monitoring committee, Bear Creek (Sarah Reeves, Jane Clary, Diane Kielty, Kelly Close, Russ Clayschulte).
- **Sami** will send stakeholder list out to board for additions of stormwater/landscaping stakeholders.
- **Sami** will develop short survey for stakeholders to ask what their interests are for topics and number of meetings for 2023.

Nutrient Hearing Discussion – The Board discussed BMW’s plan for next steps as we approach the April lakes nutrient criteria rulemaking hearing and discussed a possible rebuttal.

- A. BMW submitted our responsive prehearing statement. It was decided there is no action needed on BMW’s part before the April hearing date.
- B. After going through most of the other statements, there doesn’t seem to be anything specific BMW needs to comment on. Consensus is no rebuttal by the board.
- C. Future hearing dates/items include prehearing conference is March 7; roadmap March 2

Newsletter Discussion – The I&E committee discussed reviving the newsletter this year with a quarterly or 3x/year newsletter.

- A. The board agreed that reinstating the newsletter 3x/year is appropriate. Sami will lead the effort on this using the I&E budgeted money in her contract. She will ask for contributions and content from the board when necessary. We will likely aim for the first newsletter in 2023 to be in April (then August & December).
- B. Topic ideas include: Fall issue – carp removal (Steve); Any issue/Spring? – SPR recent upgrades (Erin); Any issue – FRICO info on water origin and destination (Curt); Spring – water quality update 2022 (Steve); Spring? – hearing summary with final numbers

Actions:

- **All** – send Sami examples of other newsletters and topic ideas
- **Sami** will get tentative schedule with deadlines together and template for newsletters started

I&E Committee Update - The committee reported on the upcoming activities (see calendar below). Next meeting is March 7th but will likely have a new date because Steve will be at CALCP.

- A. The I&E Committee did a quick review at their Jan. meeting and are sending updates needed to Sami to track/complete.
- B. There are several events happening in 2023 and in the Spring, including recruiting new Barr Lake volunteers by Michelle who Steve will help train.
- C. Of note, the carp fishing tournament will happen again at Barr Lake (bumping it earlier to June 3 this year); there will be cash prizes for shore and boat winners again.
- D. Lake Appreciation Day is July 15.
- E. Steve and Erica will be doing boat surveys again, asking about water quality, recreation, enjoyment, hoping to capture if the use is being met.
 - a. It was asked if we have compiled any of the data from these surveys yet? We haven't written up any summaries from the survey from 2021; Erica only has the results from boating survey in 2022; there is a goal to be better about surveys and summaries in 2023.
- F. Carp removal will happen at the end of summer (Aug-Oct).
- G. Steve is reaching out to landscaping companies and teaming up with Donny at arborist convention to talk about pH and how it affects watershed.
 - a. Steve met with the head of marketing for Rocky Mtn Ace Hardware stores, and they will put our P-Free marketing info in the stores this spring.
- H. See other I&E events on the calendar below.

Technical Committee Meeting – The next meeting is Jan 26th (then March 30th).

- A. The focus of the January meeting will be Denver's contract with GEI to help quantify their contribution to MS4 waste load allocation. The requirement in their permit is to coordinate with BMW to make sure assumptions used in analysis for quantifying that load agree with our TMDL implementation plan; Craig Wolf will join to talk about those assumptions.

- B. The TC committee will also plan to discuss the data in the DSN and plans for new dashboard.

Updates/Action Items

Chair's Report (Erin) –

- A. Does BMW approve of renewing our CMF membership for ~\$5k? CMF nutrient task force can take on how to apply some of the flexibilities available to us for nutrients through regulation; other issues that might not be of interest to BMW, but there are several items that are of interest; staying part of that voice is in our best interest.
- B. The Board gave thumbs approval to renew the CMF membership (Sarah Reeves abstained).

Treasurer's Report (Michelle) – As of Jan 17th the balance is \$334,741.01

- C. All expenses since the last meeting are within budget and will be recorded as part of the minutes.
- D. Michelle presented the 2023 FY budget – BMW confirmed that we're not raising member dues; we're not applying for bike tour grant; Michelle went through and confirmed and edited various line items within budget – next meeting we'll have balance to see where we're at with budget.
- E. Erin Sandos motioned to approve the 2023 budget by the BMW Board. The budget was approved (by thumbs up vote) by the entirety of those present.

Checks for signature in January 2023	Amount	Notes
2252 - Sami Miller	\$ 1,540.00	Dec. Coord. Svcs.
2253 - Brown & Caldwell	\$ 665.00	Project Management (Sept - Dec)
2254 - Applewood Bookkeeping	\$ 60.00	Bookkeeping
2255 - GEI	\$ 679.00	Stormwater monitoring
2256 - Brown & Caldwell CMF	\$ 5,402.84	Membership Dues 2023 (Discuss @ 1/24/23 board mtg before filling out check)

Coordinator Updates (Sami) –

- F. Review & approval of Nov. 29 board retreat meeting minutes – the Board approved the Nov. 29 Board retreat minutes.
- G. The Board approved the bookkeeper price increase to \$75/quarter (\$75 invoice quarterly, from \$60).
- H. The Board approved signing up for an official BMW-owned Dropbox account. It will be \$16.58/month.
- I. ADA compliance for website update (Kevin B. is running some reports) – Kevin sent the ADA website report, and the BMW website is in pretty good shape for this. There are some alt. text needs and link colors needing changed, which is included in the website updates tracker that Sami is compiling.
- J. Firm research for bylaws update is in progress; Sami is waiting to hear back from BHFS.
- K. Sami is compiling master list of website updates needed and is about halfway through a website review. The I&E committee has sent Sami some updates that she has included in her master tracker. Sami requested the Board to send any edits needed to her and

she'll track them. Work will be divided between Sami, Kevin and text updates from Steve and Erin. It's a work in progress!

- L. The 2023 board meeting calendar was reviewed together with dates & upcoming topics. See calendar below for tentative board meeting topics and dates. Subject to change!

Actions:

- **Sarah** will forward invite to all member CMF meeting and the CMF summary.
- **Michelle** will check in with Sami about member dues received to update budget for next board meeting and present a balance for where we stand with the budget.
- **Sami** will sign up for an official BMW Dropbox account (and submit monthly/yearly cost as an ODC reimbursement).

Next Meetings

- **TC meeting – January 26th, 9-11am (virtual); March 30th, time TBD**
- **Stakeholder (now BOARD meeting) meeting – February 28th, time/location TBD**
- **I&E meeting – March 7th (possible date change due to CALCP)**

Standing(-ish) Agenda Items

- P-Free Lawn Fertilizer coalition
- I&E Committee
- TC Committee
- Chair, Treasurer, and Coordinator reports
- Modeling effort/watersheds coordination
- 2023 Hearing preparation

BMW 2023 Board Calendar

**Meeting dates and topics may change*

Date	Meeting/Event	Topic / Notes
JANUARY		
3	I&E meeting	
24	Board meeting	Watershed Plan Watershed group collaboration prep Stakeholder meeting discussion
26	TC meeting	
FEBRUARY		
28	Stakeholder Meeting	TBD - Water Quality update from Steve?
MARCH		
7	I&E meeting	
28	Board meeting	Chris Newton - example dashboards for ECCV Revisit 208 planning discussion Corporate docs update and ADA update
30	TC meeting	Ken Wagner - review of model assumptions, and discussion of areas to improve/expand Cherry Creek Authority/Kelly Close (LRE) dashboarding efforts
APRIL		
25	Board meeting	Cherry Creek/Chatfield considerations in becoming an Authority Fresh Water Trust trading programs
MAY		
2	I&E meeting	
23	Board meeting	Newsletter Reaching out to landscapers Partnership with nonstandard permittees Metro (Reinna) discuss marketing the ideas of P-free fertilizer
25	TC meeting	Dashboard Plan
JUNE		
27	Stakeholder Meeting	Possible tour of CSU hydro building & GEI present on autosampler?
JULY		
4	I&E meeting	4th of July - find new date!
25	Board meeting	
27	TC meeting	Drafta data dashboard for review
AUGUST		
22	Board meeting	
SEPTEMBER		
5	I&E meeting	Tuesday after Labor Day
26	Annual Stakeholder Meeting & BBQ	
28	TC meeting	
OCTOBER		
24	Board meeting	
NOVEMBER		
7	I&E meeting	
28	Annual Board Retreat	
30	TC meeting	
DECEMBER		
	TBD - meetings as needed	

BMW I/E Events for 2023

**Schedule of events, times & locations may change!*

Date	Event/Activity	Location	Name and contact
March 25	Volunteer Training	Barr Lake	Michelle, Erica
April 8	Raptor Run	Barr Lake	Michelle
April 22	Earth Day	Denver Botanic Gardens	Erica, Donny
May 6	Furry Scurry	Wash Park	Erica, Donny, Steve?
May 20	CO Public Lands Day	Barr Lake	*Volunteer event TBD
June 3	Carp Tournament	Barr Lake	Steve, Michelle, Erica
June 28	Bike to Work Day	TBD	Steve, Justin
July 15	Lakes Appreciation Day	Barr Lake	Michelle, Steve
September 24	National Public Lands Day	Barr Lake	Michelle, Steve
October 9	Indigenous Peoples Festival	Barr Lake	*Event TBD
October 28	Halloween Trail	Barr Lake	Michelle, Steve?
October	CO Watersheds Conference	Avon, CO	
November	Cherry Creek Stewardship Partners Conference	Denver, CO	
TBD Events			Sunset Tours (led by Steve on pontoon); Volunteer Open House at Barr Lake (date TBD)