



Barr Lake/Milton Reservoir Watershed Association
BMW Board Meeting
August 22, 2023, 9:00 am to 11:30 am
Virtual ONLY

Board Meeting Minutes

Board Attendance:

Erin Sandos – South Platte Renew
Brad Cox – City/County of Denver
Caleb Owen – City of Thornton
Julie Tinetti – Centennial Water & Sanitation
Chris Newton – ECCV
Kelly DiNatale – United Water & Sanitation
Curt Bauers – FRICO
Gary Smith - SACWSD

Michelle Seubert – CPW

Sarah Reeves – SPCURE

Derek Sowell – Heritage Sporting Club

Public Attendance:

Sami Miller – BMW Coordinator
Tanner Chapin - USGS
Megan Bell - USGS

Introductions – Introductions were skipped as there were no guests initially on the call.

Continuous Monitoring Contract Update – Erin updated the Board on the status of the contract with CO Lake & Pond and plans for implementing the AquaTrolls.

- A. BMW has signed the contract and added language protecting the organization from liability from vandalism. The equipment has been ordered, but there is a 15-day lead time until shipping, so install is slightly delayed. The ETA for install is Sept. 12.

Actions:

- Sami will reach out to Kevin, the website contractor, about adding this data to the BMW website and what that can look like in the future.

2022-2023 Budget Recap – Michelle postponed the budget update for the Board for the 2022-2023 fiscal year.

Actions:

- Michelle will send the updated spreadsheet for a budget recap Wednesday after the board meeting.

Annual Stakeholder BBQ Planning – Sami led discussion on plans for the Sept. 26 annual stakeholder BBQ.

- A. Barr Lake is the typical location for the Sept. meeting, or the Bird Conservancy of the Rockies facility works too because it's on the property.
- B. We'd like to tour the new buoys on the water if possible. We can use the pontoon boat at Barr Lake, which holds 10 people; the plan is also to use kayaks if desired/needed. 5280 Paddle Sports rent paddle boards and we could also check with them but would need to ask Michelle.
- C. The at-large member vote will take place.
- D. Guest speakers still need to be sourced. Possibilities were discussed:

Actions:

- **Erin** will reach out to CDPHE about speaking at the meeting (copy Sami). Perhaps they can cover the nutrients hearing, or Amy and Joni could discuss the assessments they are working on in order to provide a more statewide view.
- **Gary** will ask his manager if he's interested in speaking about their success with PFAS. Also, possible topic is the softening plant.
- **Steve** will reach out to Metro engineers to give an update on the P treatment.
- **Erin** will reach out to SPR about their recent P treatment efforts.
- **Curt** will reach out to see if anyone can speak about the dredging operation at Milton.
- **Steve** will see if someone at USGS can speak about the LaGrangian study.

USGS LaGrangian Study – Steve updated the Board on communications with USGS and possible options for BMW to support this study.

- A. In the past, this study was a grab sample study based on travel times. The main visual that resulted was a map showing when P entered and exited river. Reports were created, twice.
- B. This project aims to sample the same water from top to bottom/around the clock.
- C. One option for supporting is a cooperative agreement with an entity that has taxing authority. There would be multiple parties involved that meet that criteria and could qualify for congressional matching funds. CMF Urban Waters funds could provide 50% matching funds.
- D. Another option is called a Technical Assistance agreement with BMW (nonprofit), which is not eligible for the matching funds.
- E. FRICO, Metro is interested, and board members will reach out to their organizations.
- F. Maybe USGS could join our Sept. stakeholder meeting to talk about study?
- G. In the past, BMW was an individual entity for funding.
- H. Overall, the timeline isn't urgent on this, USGS is just reaching out right now to see who's interested in contributing.
- I. Joining with a taxing authority would be the easiest route because they're eligible for the direct 50/50 matching funds. BMW could possibly contribute to a taxing authority, then they could use that same money to fund project and be eligible for 50/50 matching. They're reaching out to some taxing authorities to gauge interest.

Actions:

- **Erin/Curt/Steve** will run things by folks at SPR, FRICO, and Metro.

Applegreen E470 Service Station – Steve & Erin led discussion about BMW providing feedback on this site application.

- A. Applegreen is about 5 miles from Barr Lake, so they want us to look at it. BMW would get monthly P data from them. Want B&C to look over to see if there's any impact to BMW, which is unlikely. The biggest concern is groundwater in that area with wells.
- B. *The Board voted with thumbs up approval to have B&C review this application for us.*

BMW Modeling Update for Long-term – Erin led discussion about plans for updating our model for long-term benefits.

- A. Do we want to put out an RFP to revisit modeling work for the long-term? This discussion is a follow up from Gabe Racz joining the meeting in May.
 - a. To answer this, we need to understand what modeling we have done in the past.
 - b. The model helped us achieve the TMDL and is no longer predictive as it was once. The question now is are we still on track to meet/achieve the TMDL? If not, then we need to move forward. We can see and wait if we get there or spend money and time on modeling that appears to be predictive on whether we get there. More data (modeling or whatever) is needed to see if we need to pursue further modeling.
- B. There was the suggestion to get a year or two of data from the new conditions under our belt and calibrate before doing something new.

- a. Can we wait until we have 2023-2024 data and calibrate before moving forward? Chatfield's new storage/release is another consideration. Results of first two LaGrangian studies and potential third study could be included. Other future updates/changes that could be a huge factor include the Milton dredging efforts, and the closure of Brighton and Fort Lupton treatment plants.
- C. The conclusion reached was to wait another year or two and then decide on RFP and how we'd like to proceed. This would take into account the recent changes and new data we'll be acquiring. We have time to wait, and modeling now might be jumping the gun because this is a really expensive and time intensive project. Avoiding wasted effort is the goal.
- D. The point was also made that if we have this discussion about a year from now it would be timely in advance of the 2027 hearing, since the effort may take a couple years.
- E. It was also decided to use fall retreat to plan and brainstorm for future modeling, we need to spend time thinking about what we want to use the model for realistically (in canal treatment, Reg 31 in 2027).
 - a. There was a lot of discussion about how it's hard to get people to commit as we get closer to go time to act. The Board should have some real discussions over true support, what would need to happen to cause an entity to say yes, let's spend money.
 - b. We have lots of good ideas, and often all we do is study them because we aren't ready to spend money on them, which begs the questions: do we every truly intend to spend the money? We don't all work for same entity, and we have different drivers. We should have some real discussions about this more.
 - c. Scenario planning was identified as a helpful tool to discuss this and come to some actionable steps. It can help to identify triggers that can cause things to finally happen and see what outcomes are likely. The "what ifs" should be discussed.

Actions:

- **Erin** – connect with Sarah on scenario planning exercise for Nov. retreat.

I&E Committee Update - Steve, Erica, and Michelle reported on the I&E Committee upcoming activities.

Next meeting is scheduled for September 5th.

- A. Erica's internship has officially ended. Thank you, Erica!
- B. Steve is presenting Thursday at Cherry Creek watershed conference, giving a BMW presentation, and sitting on a panel.
- C. National Public Lands Day is Sept. 23 – volunteer projects from 9-1 and more shoreline cleanup.
- D. January timeframe will start hiring new intern for the summer. Will identify any new projects they can help with on their own time.

Actions:

- **Steve** will follow up with Erica about final boat survey reports.

Technical Committee Meeting – Erin reported on the Technical Committee meeting and any other TC updates. Next meeting is September 28th.

- A. The TC went through the accounting spreadsheets and Erin plans to schedule a follow up meeting with subcommittee, so everyone is on the same page.
- B. The TC would like to review new data at end of Sept. if possible. Fingers crossed it'll be available.
- C. The TC might need to reschedule the next meeting as Erin is unavailable.
- D. The autosampler is relocated and should be good there for quite a while. GEI summary should be coming soon for this year.
- E. It's been a year for samples at inlets and it's been successful and there has been flows almost the entire season.

Actions:

- **Erin** will reach out to Steve/TC about rescheduling the next meeting as she's out of town.

Updates/Action Items

- Chair's Report (Erin) –
- Treasurer's Report (Michelle) – As of August 15, the balance is \$391,281.67.
 - All expenses since the last meeting are within budget and will be recorded as part of the minutes.

Checks for signature in August 2023	Amount	Notes
2282 - Sami Miller	\$ 4,413.28	July coord services
2283 - Metro	\$ 14,908.74	Autosampler relocation
2284 - GEI	\$ 4,946.00	stormwater sampling

- Coordinator Updates (Sami)
 - *The Board voted with thumbs up approval to finalize the July meeting minutes.*
 - GoDaddy renewal was somewhat expensive, and Sami will ask Kevin if he has any knowledge about what GoDaddy does, and if the value is worth the expense.
 - Insurance renewal on Nov. 1; questionnaire due Sept. 15.
 - August newsletter will be sent out this week. Thanks to all who contributed!

Actions:

- Sami will reach out to Kevin about GoDaddy.

Next Meetings

- TC meeting – September 28th, 9-11am (virtual) – RESCHEDULE?
- Stakeholder meeting – September 26th, time 930am – 1pm (Barr Lake)
- I&E meeting – September 5th, time TBD (virtual)

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	Board meeting	Guest organizations: Cherry Creek, Chatfield, LRE Water Quality update from Steve
MARCH		
7	I&E meeting	CANCELED
21	Board meeting	DATE MOVED UP FOR SCHED CONFLICTS Chris Newton - example dashboards for ECCV Revisit 208 planning discussion Corporate docs update and ADA update
23	TC meeting	DATE MOVED UP FOR GEI'S PURPOSES 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	GEI/Ken Wagner Fresh Water Trust trading programs Newsletter update/discussion?
MAY		
2	I&E meeting	
23	Board meeting	Gabe Racz join to discuss site-specific standards as plan for BMW as a result of Nutrient hearing in April
25	TC meeting	Dashboard Plan
JUNE		
27	Stakeholder Meeting	CSU SPUR Campus - Hydro building Tour of SPUR if they have staff for it GEI autosampler talk/tour Other tours? Steve has contacts
JULY		
4	I&E meeting	4th of July - Steve finding new date
25	Board meeting	marketing firm for Pfree fertilizer campaign phone tree list or plan for spills in S. Platte River
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
August 23 (or 24)	Cherry Creek Stewardship Partners Conference	Denver, CO	Steve, Erica?
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	
TBD Events			Sunset Tours (led by Steve on pontoon); Volunteer Open House at Barr Lake (date TBD)