



Maryland Water Monitoring Council
Maryland Dept. of Natural Resources
Tawes Building, C-2
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Clark Howells, Baltimore City DPW.
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Executive Secretary

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Mindy Ehrich, Chesapeake Bay Program
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Richard Mitchell, US EPA
Joel Moore, Towson University
Diana Muller, MAEOE
Mat Pajerowski, USGS
Mike Pieper, KCI Technologies

Charles Poukish, Maryland Dept. of the Environment
Jeff Reagan, Stormwater Consulting, Inc.
Nancy Roth, Versar, Inc.
Ken Staver, Univ. of MD WREC
Matt Stover, Maryland Dept. of the Environment
Chris Swan, Univ. of MD Balto. Co.
Mark Trice, Maryland DNR
Chris Victoria, Anne Arundel DPW
Caroline Donovan, UMCES

Minutes of the MWMC Board of Director's Meeting Tawes State Office Building April 5, 2016

In attendance: *In attendance: Dan Boward, *Jim Caldwell, *Caroline Donovan, *Tim Goodfellow, *Clark Howells, *Ellen Lathrop-Davis, **Mindy Ehrich, *Richard Mitchell, *Mat Pajerowski, *Jeff Reagan, *Ken Staver, *Matt Stover, Mark Southerland (guest), *Mark Trice, *Chris Victoria*

Not attending: **Kevin Brittingham (no alternate), *Sandy Hertz (Ryan Cole alternate), *Joel Moore (Darcy Bird alternate), *Diana Muller (Andrew Muller alternate), *Mike Pieper (no alternate), *Charlie Poukish (no alternate), *Nancy Roth (no alternate), *Chris Swan (no alternate)*

*Board member

** Nominated Board member (not yet approved)

The meeting convened at 10:10 AM. Chairman **Howells** welcomed everyone and asked all in attendance to introduce themselves. During introductions, Board nominee **Mark** Trice mentioned that he has been approved by the DNR Secretary after his service was approved by the State Ethics Commission. As of today, **Mindy** Ehrich has not been approved.

Minutes from the January, 2016 Board meeting were approved as submitted.

Committee Reports

Monitoring and Assessment (Chris Victoria reporting)

The Committee has not met for a while but the Stream Restoration Subcommittee has been quite active. Members of the subcommittee are working on a research synthesis related to stream restoration monitoring. There is a conference at MDE on June 8 primarily for practitioners doing stream restoration work. The next Monitoring and Assessment Committee meeting will be held on May 5, 2016.

Citizen Science (Caroline Donovan reporting)

Caroline is involved in the creation of two online surveys. One is related to the non-traditional monitoring partners project with the Alliance. This survey will be sent to NGOs throughout the Bay watershed. The other survey is an ongoing effort by the MWMC Committee to reach out to Maryland NGOs to gather information on these groups' efforts. The MWMC Facebook page is still active.
Action Item – Committee member **Marla** Duley will continue to work on the MWMC LinkedIn account.

Information Management (Ryan Cole reporting for Sandy Hertz)

Ryan was not aware of any Committee activity. **Dan** Boward asked the Board to respond to his March 2016 email requesting comments on the newly-created online Maryland Monitoring Map spearheaded by Tom Parham.

Groundwater (Mat Pajerowski reporting)

Action Item - The Committee will meet sometime in May.

Student Committee (Caroline Donovan reporting)

Ellen Lathrop-Davis has been attempting to organize a conference call to discuss the direction for the Committee. **Action Item** – **Ellen** will attempt to have this call completed soon. **Jeff** said that the Maryland Stream Restoration Association has formed a new Student Committee.

2016 Annual Conference

Dan Boward reported that the conference is scheduled for December 2 - most likely at the Maritime Institute. The Annual Conference Planning Committee will meet on April 15 to begin planning the event. **Dan** asked Board members to submit ideas for conference and session themes and plenary speakers. **Action Item - Jim** Caldwell suggested a session on nutrient trading. **Dan** will follow up on this with the Planning Committee.

2016 Workshops

Road Salt – Mat Pajerowski reporting

Mat updated everyone on the plan for the April 13 workshop at the National Wildlife Visitor's Center. He went over the agenda. **Action Item** – **Mat** will work with **Dan** to post workshop abstracts and presentations on the MWMC website. Workshop planning ended with lot of discussion on salt and chloride criteria.

Stream Monitoring Roundtable – Dan Boward reporting

Dan reported that the Feb. 19th roundtable at the USGS Water Science Center was a big success. About 45 folks attended and there were 24 presentations. A 2016 roundtable map has been created by **Andy** Becker (KCI) and **Matt** Stover and posted on the MWMC website. **Ken** Staver asked if the map could serve as a data repository. **Matt** said that STORET may be a better choice. **Caroline** Donovan reminded everyone of the CHESSIE BIBI and the new survey (via the Chesapeake Monitoring Cooperative) that will inventory water monitoring programs (volunteer and professional) throughout the Bay watershed. **Ken** asked about a map that could show water quality conditions throughout a watershed and sensitive areas. **Richard** Mitchell mentioned that the current edition of NHDplus may predict conditions in unsampled areas. Out of this discussion, a session on Eastern Shore/rural waters was suggested for the MWMC Annual Conference on Dec. 2. **Ken** Staver said he would consider organizing this session. Lots of discussion on ecological restoration vs. TMDLs followed. **Action Item** – **Matt** said he would follow up with Ken on organizing a rural waters session for Dec. 2.

Citizen Science and Data Use – Jeff Reagan and Matt Stover reporting

Sherm Garrison (DNR) may help organize and help answer the question “what citizen data are acceptable?” **Diana** Muller may also help. **Andrew** Muller said such a workshop is very needed. He also said there is a big need for each citizen group to have a QAPP (need credible data to defend position). Arlington Echo was suggested as a venue. **Andrew** said there is a need for a QAPP template and assistance with projects. The workshop may occur during the summer of 2016. Or October/November.

Technical Series – Chris Victoria reporting

Nothing has been planned.

Lunchtime Presentation – Tim Goodfellow

Tim reported on the revision of the Monocacy River Scenic River Report. His presentation was titled, The Monocacy Scenic River Report and Updates to the 1990 River Management Plan. He described the original 1990 plan and then listed the 2016 revisions and the Board that's responsible for implementing them. He then summarized each chapter in the report and highlighted certain pertinent topics such as buffer requirements.

July 12 “Away” Meeting Plans

Mark Southerland suggested a few central Maryland venues and the Board agreed to meet at the Maryland Science Center in Baltimore. A few talk topics were suggested – Blue Water Baltimore, the LTER, and the Baltimore Clean Harbor Project.

News Items from Board Members

Ken Staver – There's a new phosphorous redistribution plan being reviewed. The plan would be to move P away from animal feeding sites and to recycle internal P rather than purchasing P from Florida.

Mark Southerland – There will be a Saturday stream conference titled “The Future of Maryland Streams” in Frederick sponsored by Mt. St. Mary's College.

Chris Victoria – None

Mark Trice – Mark mentioned that there's a new issue of the Bay Journal with lots of good information.

Jim Caldwell – Howard Co. is participating in a private/public partnership to restore 6,200 feet of eroded streambank flowing through an agricultural area. His agency is also involved in a test case to manage impervious surface that's mostly on private property.

Mindy Ehrich – There's an upcoming, invitation only workshop on integrated monitoring on the Choptank River. This is much like the MWMC's Stream Monitoring Roundtable.

Mat Pajeroski – There's a new USGS/SHA study looking at sediment runoff. USGS continues to monitor sediment below Conowingo Dam comparing large flows at the catwalk vs. downstream. There's a new online USGS National Water Use Compilation that's organized by state. This study was done in 2010 and data were posted in 2014.

Darcy Bird – None

Clark Howells – The zebra mussel workgroup met with MD DNR staff to plan a public campaign and news reports. There's a new watershed monitoring plan for the reservoir watersheds organized by jurisdiction. Clark's staff and partners have almost completed a draught forecasting model.

Dan Boward – MBSS is embarking on a new project with SHA to evaluate conductivity and ecological impacts of road salt at several road crossings on State lands. Round 4 of the MBSS continues with several repeated site samplings scheduled for 2016.

Andrew Muller – The Naval Academy is testing the state of several elements (e.g., iodine, plutonium) around the Blue Plains WWTP. Optical brighteners are being used as a proxy for ICPRS. The Academy is setting up continuous monitoring stations in the Severn River. These should be operating this summer and autonomous vehicles will be used.

Matt Stover – None

Richard Mitchell – The National Aquatic Resource Surveys are showing an increase of P across the country due to dry deposition – even in remote areas. Could it be the result of more wind erosion due to drought?

Caroline Donovan – The Chesapeake Cooperative Monitoring Project – managed by UMCES – is working on QAPP guidance documents prior to sending a Baywide survey. There's a new Bay Report Card.

Jeff Reagan – None

Ellen Lathrop-Davis – None

Submitted by **Dan** Boward
July 12, 2016