



Maryland Water Monitoring Council
Maryland Dept. of Natural Resources
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Mark Southerland, Versar, Inc.
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Clark Howells, Baltimore City DPW
Vice-chair

Dan Boward, Maryland DNR
Executive Secretary

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Shelly Baird, Nanticoke Watershed Alliance
Kevin Brittingham, Baltimore County DEPS
Jim Caldwell, Howard County OES
Michele Dobson, Harford County DPW
Susan Gresens, Towson University
Sandy Hertz, Maryland State Highway Admin.
Sally Hornor, Anne Arundel Comm. College
Mat Pajerowski, USGS
Tom Parham, Maryland DNR

Mike Pieper, KCI Technologies
Charles Poukish, Maryland Dept. of the Environment
Bill Richardson, US. EPA
Sonja Schmitz, Comm. College Balto. Co.
Matt Stover, Maryland Dept. of the Environment
Peter Tango, USGS/Chesapeake Bay Program
Keith Van Ness, Montgomery Co. DEP
Sue Veith, St. Mary's County
Caroline Wicks, EcoCheck
Cathy Wiss, Audubon Naturalist Society

Minutes of the MWMC Board of Director's Meeting Tawes State Office Building October 15, 2013

In attendance: *Shelly Baird, Dan Boward, *Kevin Brittingham, *Michele Dobson, *Susan Gresens, *Sandy Hertz, *Clark Howells, Ron Klauda, *Tom Parham, *Mike Pieper, *Charlie Poukish, *Mark Southerland, *Matt Stover, *Caroline Wicks, *Cathy Wiss, Trent Zivkovitch

Not attending: *Jim Caldwell (no alternate), *Sally Hornor (no alternate), *Mat Pajerowski (no alternate), *Bill Richardson (no alternate), *Sonja Schmitz (no alternate), *Peter Tango (no alternate), *Sue Veith (no alternate)

*Board member

Meeting convened at 10:13 AM. Chairman **Mark** Southerland welcomed everyone.

The minutes from the July, 2013 meeting were approved without modification.

Committee Reports

Information Management (Mark Southerland reporting for Mat Pajerowski)

Mark suggested that MWMC develop a Smartphone app for the annual conference. This would be more useful than the website for folks wishing to access conference information during the conference. He reminded everyone that the Google Map with monitoring sites was down due to the Federal Govt. shutdown. Action Item – **Tom** Parham will draft an email to go to data generators soliciting information for the Google map.

Community Outreach and Citizen Stewardship (Michele Dobson reporting)

The Committee met in August and launched the MWMC Facebook page. The Committee added a new member. No name was provided. Action Item – **Michele** will email **Dan** Boward with contact information for the new Committee member. **Lori** Livingston (DNR social media contact) has left DNR so she is unavailable to assist with MWMC social media efforts. Action Item – **Dan** Boward will ask Katherine Hanna (MWMC webmaster) to add a link to the new Facebook page from the MWMC website. Action Item – **Michele** will send Board members a link to the new MWMC Facebook page. Action Item – **Caroline** Wicks will develop a plan for expanding the Facebook page by the end of 2013. **Shelly** Baird recommended that a MWMC Facebook flier be distributed at the Dec. 5 MWMC Annual Conference.

Monitoring and Assessment (Ron Klauda reporting)

The Committee met at Patapsco State Park on Sept. 26. There were 2 new members from Coppin State University. The Committee is planning a Climate Change Workshop/Information Exchange for March 5, 2014. The title will be "Monitoring for Climate Change in Maryland's Non-tidal Streams" and the preferred location for the workshop (TBD) is the Patuxent Wildlife Research Center's Visitor Center. The event will summarize what we learned at the 2009 MWMC-sponsored workshop on climate change, talk about what's been learned since then, exchange ideas on what we don't know but should, and hopefully come up with some recommendations on what needs to be done next. The Steering Committee is making a list of potential speakers to invite. The Committee is also planning to hold a Headwater Streams Workshop in fall 2014, with specific date and location to be announced later. The technical session focused on Headwater Streams at the 2013 Annual Conference will help shape the workshop's goals and objectives.

Indicators (Matt Stover reporting)

Matt demonstrated an Arc Enterprise online tool to display mapped information for designated uses. **Action item** – **Matt** will send a link to Board members seeking comment. **Tom** Parham recommended that **Matt** seek comments from the MWMC “membership”. **Mark** Southerland suggested an “open” session at the Dec. 5 Annual Conference. **Susan** Gresens suggested that undergraduates could test the online map tool.

Workshops

Climate Change (Ron Kluda organizing)

See Monitoring and Assessment Committee report above. The last Climate Change workshop was in 2009. The Board discussed at length the possibility of presenting the 2014 Climate Change Workshop as a webinar and how to determine the format.

Headwater Streams (Ron Kluda and Mark Southerland organizing)

See Monitoring and Assessment Committee report above. **Mark** referenced the 2012 MWMC Annual Conference session on Headwater Streams. **Doug** Redmond will help organize the 2014 workshop. The event may include field trips after four morning presentations. A talk on meiofauna will likely be included.

Lunchtime speaker

Trent Zivkovitch gave a talk on Maryland Stormwater Fee. The Board had many pertinent questions for the guest speaker. The entire presentation with discussion lasted about one hour. Mr. Zivkovitch’s presentation will be posted on the MWMC website.

MWMC 2013 Annual Conference Planning – Dan Boward and Planning Committee

The MWMC website is down due to the Federal Government shutdown. There is no option for registration or abstract submission. There are currently about 60 registrants. Plenary speakers **Tom** DeMoss and **Elizabeth** Buxton are confirmed. The Call for contributed papers/speakers is closed.

News Items

Tom Parham said that his group is ending January Bay cruises and reducing nutrient monitoring efforts due to a \$109k drop in funding. There’s also a reducing in storm monitoring. His group has started a crab monitoring project with the Potomac River Fisheries Commission.

Michele Dobson continues to be involved in Trust Fund retrofits and stream monitoring work.

Caroline Wicks EcoCheck group has printed a non-tidal stream monitoring protocol and is making it available to watershed organizations. It will be used for a Baltimore Harbor project. EcoCheck is embarking on a behavior change survey examining key stewardship behaviors (i.e., “what are you doing”). The survey will be distributed throughout the Bay watershed.

Mike Pieper said that KCI is now assisting the Anacostia Watershed Society with its restoration efforts. KCI is working more with Howard, Baltimore and Anne Arundel counties in their TMDL goal work. The firm has new work assisting in watershed planning in Virginia and Pennsylvania. New work has commenced on Charles County’s NPDES permit projects, the MD Port Administration’s impervious surface treatments and the MD State Highway’s Administration’s TMDL efforts.

Mark Southerland said Versar has new work in Cecil County and is now assisting the EPA on its Healthy Watersheds Initiative. The firm is working on a blue crab reporting effort (second year) by providing iPads to watermen. Versar acquired GeoMarine recently.

Ron Kluda reported that DNR continues to support EPA’s National Aquatic Resource Survey’s by sampling large rivers in 2013 and wadeable streams in 2014. MBSS Round 4 will commence in 2014 to look at trends in stream conditions. The Round will include some targeted sampling in the Mattawoman Watershed.

Dan Boward said that DNR is supporting Governor O’Malley’s Explore and Restore your Schoolshed Initiative by training about 130 teachers in stream ecology and monitoring. Schools will “adopt” stream sites on or near their school property in an effort to improve conditions.

Cathy Wiss said her ANS colleague **Maria** Scambati is developing a stream monitoring app. ANS volunteers continue to sample several stream restoration projects, including Ten Mile Creek.

Matt Stover has been working to evaluate non-state stream biological data to use in the Integrated Report. He said South River Federation data has been used in the Chesapeake Bay Integrator – the first time volunteer data has been used in this way. Piney Run Dam is transitioning to coldwater, bottom release.

Charlie Poukish is working on a project on the Little Antietam Creek with the Soil Conservation Service to evaluate the stream for potential 303(d) list removal. Other work is being conducted in the Casselman River.

Clark Howells said that Baltimore City's Forest Management Program is being evaluated stand-by-stand. A NOAA grant is being sought to help with forecasting to improve resource management decisions. Zebra mussels have been found at the Conowingo intake.

Shelly Baird said that 2013 is the sixth year of the Nanticoke Creek Watchers and the group has won several awards. NWA is commencing Chl A monitoring in Town Creek (Delaware). Outreach to homeowners has commenced to support the local WIP implementation. NWA will launch a new Paddle the Nanticoke website soon. Shelly is 5.5 months pregnant.

Meeting adjourned at 2:16 PM

Submitted by **Dan** Boward
January 21, 2014