



Maryland Water Monitoring Council
Maryland Dept. of Natural Resources
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Sandy Hertz, Maryland Dept. of Transportation
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Mat Pajerowski, USGS
Vice-chair

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Executive Secretary

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Richard Mitchell, US EPA
Joel Moore, Towson University
Diana Muller, Chesapeake BaySavers
Charles Poukish, MDE

Jeff Reagan, Biohabitats, Inc.
Nancy Roth, Tetra Tech, Inc.
Bill Stack, Center for Watershed Protection
Ken Staver, Univ. of MD WREC
Matt Stover, Maryland Dept. of the Environment
Mark Trice, Maryland DNR
Chris Victoria, Anne Arundel DPW
Karen Wiggen, Charles County Dept. of Planning
Michael Williams, Univ. of MD College Park

Minutes of the MWMC Board of Director's Meeting Howard County Conservancy, Gudelsky Center, Woodstock, MD July 17, 2018

In attendance: *Andy Becker, Joel Blomquist (USGS), Dan Boward, *Megan Brosh, *Jim Caldwell, Dave Sigrist (Jai Cole alternate), *Sandy Hertz, *Clark Howells, Jeni Keisman (USGS), Bill Mahoney (Howard Co.), *Richard Mitchell, *Joel Moore, *Mat Pajerowski, *Jeff Reagan, *Nancy Roth, Mark Southerland (AKRF), *Bill Stack, *Ken Staver, *Matt Stover, *Mark Trice, *Janis Markusic (Chris Victoria alternate), *Karen Wiggen, *Michael Williams, Guido Yactayo (MDE)

Not attending: *Jai Cole (Dave Sigrist alternate), *Byron Madigan (no alternate), *Diana Muller (no alternate), *Charlie Poukish (no alternate), *Chris Victoria (Janis Markusic alternate)

*Board member

Board Chair **Sandy** Hertz called the meeting to order at 10:09.

Former MWMC Board Chair **Mark** Southerland welcomed the Board and guests to the Conservancy. **Mark** is a current Conservancy Board member. He described several HCC activities, including engaging kids through nature and art, an annual Wine in the Garden event, watershed report cards, hosting the 2018 MWMC Habitat Assessment Workshop and assisting with monitoring efforts in Davis Branch.

The minutes from the April 17 meeting were accepted without changes.

Board Member and Officer Changes

Matt Stover (Board Nomination Committee Chair) said **Clark** Howells (local govt. representative), **Matt** Stover (state govt. representative), **Mark** Trice (state govt. representative), and **Mat** Pajerowski (federal govt. representative) are up for re-election in 2018. **Clark** and **Matt's** nomination will require a special vote since they both have served two or more consecutive terms. **Action** – **Matt** will poll the Board (Doodle) to vote for **Clark's** continuance and **Dan** will poll the Board (Doodle) to vote for **Matt's** continuance. **Matt** will email **Mark** and **Mat** to determine their willingness to continue on the Board.

Committee and Workshop Updates

Groundwater (Mat Pajerowski reporting)

No Committee meeting since the April 2018 Board meeting. The MWMC intern has completed his internship and **Mat** briefly described the goals of the intern's work. **Action** – **Mat** will review the intern's work by September and report to the Board. There was some discussion on similar work done by other states. **Action** – **Sandy** suggested that **Mat** and the intern could present at the October Board meeting. **Action** – **Mat** will set up a Committee meeting before September.

Information Management (Sandy Hertz reporting; the Committee has no current Chair)

Action – **Sandy** requested Board members to considering stepping up to be the Chair. **Sandy** mentioned that the Chair does not have to be a Board member. Current Committee activity focuses on making the mapper more public-friendly. **Action** – Board members should send suggestions/interest to **Dan/Sandy**. **Action** – **Mat** will inquire about a potential Chair at USGS.

Monitoring and Assessment (Andy Becker and Michael Williams reporting)

Andy discussed plans for a MBSS IBI workshop. A steering committee will convene on August 3 at MGS to discuss the format of the workshop and a companion "how-to" document. Workshop goals focus on ensuring that data collectors are using comparable data management and analytical tools. The tentative date for the workshop is November 2, 2018 at USGS. **Action** – **Matt** Stover asked that

Tim Fox (MDE) be added to the Steering Committee. The M and A Committee Stream Restoration Sub-Committee will meet next week to discuss an all-day session at the December 7 annual conference and a possible workshop on RSCs.

Citizen Science and Community Involvement (Jeff Reagan reporting)

Karen Wigger has looked into the possibility of having the second MWMC-sponsored stream habitat assessment workshop at the Charles Co. Soil Conservation District Office. The event may be held sometime this fall. The office was formerly occupied by the Isaak Walton League and is quite close to Zekiah Swamp. **Action - Jeff** said that the Committee needs to determine a date and recruit trainers. **Dan** Boward briefly updated the Board on macroinvertebrates.org and the upcoming basic benthic macro taxonomy training to be held at Anne Arundel Community College.

Student Committee (Joel Moore reporting)

The Committee did not meet this quarter but a meeting is planned for the upcoming quarter to plan the 2018 student-professional networking session for the annual conference. **Action - Joel** asked for Board members to consider suggestions for the networking session and for intern opportunities.

Annual Conference (Dan Boward and Planning Committee reporting)

The Planning Committee met on June 15. The Maritime Conference Center is the confirmed venue. The theme remains Science, Stewardship and Citizen Involvement – Working Together for Clean Water. **Will** Baker and **Dominique** Lueckenhoff will be the plenary session speakers. Several invited speaker sessions are confirmed: MS4 permitting, forests and water quality – emerging toxic contaminants, urban ecology/community involvement; sewage infrastructure, marine debris (trash), environmental reporting, citizen monitoring. **Andy** Becker and **Kevin** Brittingham will oversee the student poster session. KCI (**Andy**) will again provide funding for the giveaway, student poster and social (location TBA per Andy). **Clark** will lead the Weber Awards. There was some discussion of the 2019 conference (25th anniversary). **Mark** Trice gave an update on potential venues (Cambridge Hyatt; Salisbury University). He asked for feedback from the Board on whether to have as multiple days (e.g., Friday and Saturday). **Jeff** Reagan suggested looking into the NCTC in Shepherdstown, WV. **Action - Dan** would look into this. **Ken** Staver said we need to consider why should we consider extending to 2 days (consider finances, etc.). **Richard** Mitchell suggested pairing up with the Mid-Atlantic biologist meeting or SFS? **Action – Richard** will check into the SFS schedule and get back to the Board. **Bill** Stack suggested having a celebration at the National Aquarium. There was a suggestion for having a second day with workshops. Banquet dinner could highlight the 25-year history and hold the award presentation.

Lunchtime Presentations

Stream Temperature Modeling for TMDL Development and Implementation in Nontidal Cold Water Streams in Maryland – **Guido** Yactayo (MDE). This talk focused on stream temperature modeling and coldwater streams. Included climate data that the Chesapeake Bay Program provides. Chesapeake Conservancy high resolution (1-meter) land cover data set for riparian canopy was also used. **Guido's** talk was followed by lots of Q and A. This talk will be posted on the MWMC website.

How can Water Monitoring Help Convey the Value of Ecosystem Services and Habitat Connectivity to Citizens? - **Bill** Mahoney (Howard County Office of Community Sustainability). This talk focused on the need to influence public opinion and behavior. **Joel** said these actions need to be reinforced in schools. **Action – Bill** asked Board members to send him ideas for messaging to the public. This talk will be posted on the MWMC website.

An Update on Chesapeake Watershed Monitoring and New Directions for the USGS - **Joel** Blomquist (USGS). **Joel** started with an overview of CBP monitoring programs. He discussed financial concerns in MD for sites to remain on line. The non-tidal monitoring network contains 120 sites for load and trend reporting. USGS provides \$11 million for Chesapeake Bay studies each year. An advisory committee makes recommendations on what efforts to reduce and what efforts to augment. **Bill** Stack said there's a big disconnect between local governments and the CBP but there are recent improvements because of the TMDLs. This talk will not be posted on the MWMC website.

Davis Branch, an Aquatic Rebirth - **Mike** Trumbauer (Biohabitats; for **Mike** Thompson). **Mike's** talk focused on the restoration work done in Davis Branch on the HCC property. He covered need, design, challenges, and improvements noted to date. Mike's talk will be posted on the MWMC website. **Mike** then offered a walking tour of the Davis Branch restoration work. A few hardy folks walked the stream channel despite the somewhat constant rainfall.

A News Roundtable was not held due to time constraints.

Meeting adjourned at about 2:00 PM

Submitted by **Dan** Boward (with assistance from Sandy Hertz)
October 16, 2018