



Maryland Water Monitoring Council
Maryland Dept. of Natural Resources
Tawes Building, C-2
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Annapolis MD 21401
www.marylandwatermonitoring.org

Sandy Hertz, Maryland Dept. of Transportation
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Mat Pajerowski, USGS
Vice-chair

Dan Boward, Maryland DNR
Executive Secretary

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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 Tawes State Office Building, Annapolis, MD October 15, 2019

In attendance: *David Barker (guest), *Andy Becker, Dan Boward, *Megan Brosh, Drew Budelis (guest), *Jim Caldwell, *Jai Cole, Tracy Eberhard (alternate for *Byron Madigan), Catherine Hanna (guest), *Sandy Hertz, *Clark Howells, Najma Khokhar (alternate for *Matt Stover), *Richard Mitchell, *Mat Pajerowski, *Charlie Poukish, *Nancy Roth, *Bill Stack, *Ken Staver, Mark Southerland (guest), *Mark Trice, *Chris Victoria, *Karen Wiggin, *Michael Williams*

Not attending: **Joel Moore (no alternate), *Diana Muller (no alternate), *Jeff Reagan (no alternate) *Matt Stover (Najma Khokhar alternate)*

*Board member

Board Chair **Sandy** Hertz called the meeting to order at 10:06 AM. She asked everyone to introduce themselves. The meeting included two guests who have not previously attended a Board meeting. **David** Barker (President – Severn River Association) was interested in learning about the Board and the Council and **Katherine** Hanna (DNR) works with **Dan** Boward and she may help with transitions pending **Dan's** retirement (date unknown). **Sandy** described the agenda that did not include a lunchtime speaker. Everyone introduced themselves. **David** Barker suggested that the Board consider stronger representation from a non-profit organization once a vacancy occurs. He praised the MWMC and the Chesapeake Monitoring Cooperative. **Action Item** – **Sandy** asks members to email suggestions for a non-profit member to **Dan** Boward to consider once a vacancy occurs.

The minutes from the July Board meeting were approved without change.

Board Membership (Sandy Hertz reporting)

Sandy Hertz reported on Board membership and terms for **Matt** Stover. **Byron** Madigan, **Jai** Cole, **Sandy** Hertz, **Ken** Staver, **Chris** Victoria, and **Michael** Williams will all remain on the Board for at least another term starting in 2020. **Chris** Victoria's and **Ken** Staver's continued service requires a special vote. **Karen** Wiggen (local government) will finish her Board service in 2019. **Andy** Becker said **Ken** Mack (Montgomery County) is interested in serving on the Board in the local government position. **Charlie** Poukish (state government) will also complete his Board service in 2019. **Sandy** said maybe someone from MDA could be nominated to fill **Charlie's** vacancy.

Committee Reports

Groundwater (Mat Pajerowski reporting)

No report.

Monitoring and Assessment (Andy Becker reporting)

The Committee will hold a quarterly meeting in January, 2020.

Student (Dan Boward reporting for Joel Moore)

Joel and the Student Committee are looking for recommendations from MWMC members for people to participate in the student-networking panel. The categories that we'll be looking for are likely: state/local government, federal/state government (EPA or USGS?), non-profit, consulting/engineering, consulting/science, PhD/graduate student, and K-12 teacher (maybe going to skip this category this year?). **Action Item** – **Joel** will send out an email about this topic to the MWMC Board this week.

Information Management (Najma Khokhar reporting)

No committee report. **Najma** received no responses to her July email asking for volunteers to serve on the Committee. **Najma** is working on an AWQMS presentation for the Annual Conference.

Annual Conference (Dan Boward and Planning Committee reporting)

There are currently 180 registrants and 13 vendors confirmed. We've received four nominations for the traditional Weber Award and one nomination for the Above and Beyond Award. Six talk and two poster abstracts have been received. The Maritime Center has a new, fancy auditorium podium and screen-in-screen capability for the simulcast. No sign language interpreter will be needed this year. The student poster award planning is progressing. **Action Item** – **Dan** will email the Board asking for volunteers to moderate sessions. The next Planning Committee meeting will be held on Oct. 29 to go over abstracts and logistics. There was lots of discussion on the invitation sent to Gov. Hogan. **Action Item** – **Sandy** will send the Gov. scheduling request to the Board. **Dan** reported that **Bob** Shedlock is interested in organizing an urban/flooding session. **Jai** is interested in a climate resilience 101 talk. **Sandy** said there may be two climate-related sessions. **Michael** Williams suggested the MWMC solicit session titles broadly sometime in July and that session descriptions be submitted by organizers. **Andy** Becker reported that the social will be held at Checkerspot Brewing and MWMC has reserved the entire second floor. Tickets for two beverages/person will be available for 125 people. The room capacity is 170. **Andy** is seeking additional funds to support the social. KCI and MSRA are pitching in \$1,000. The planned cost of food is \$650.

Guided Discussion on the future of MWMC (led by Sandy Hertz)

Sandy started off with reminding the Board of MWMC's goal and conducted a blind poll with the question "how are we supporting the broader community with our efforts as a group"? This was followed by discussions centered on the roles of Board members, the formation of a planning committee for MWMC as a group, and workshop ideas. She ended with a discussion of where should we go from here. Shall we engage students? Shall we expand membership? Should the website be improved?

There was lots of discussion by many Board members. **Richard** Mitchell suggested we have webinars focused on methods. **Bill** Stack reminded us of MWMC history since he was an early Board Chair. **Mark** Trice described the CMC and the roles of MWMC vs. CBP. **Jim** Caldwell said we should work on explaining results to our audience and we should help provide interpretations to managers. **Nancy** reminded the Board that the Council is so much more than monitoring. **Jai** Cole suggested that MWMC get regulators more in the loop like MDE MS4 staff. **Ken** Staver recommended we conduct a needs assessment. **Jai** recommended that we add a young professional to the conference planning process. **Mark** Trice said we could develop a directory of expertise for all members.

News Roundtable (abbreviated)

Mat Pajerowski – USGS's Next Generation Water Observing System will be tested in the Delaware Basin. The tool is evolving. USGS plans to redo the NWIS.

Sandy Hertz – MDOT is partnering with ACOE on a coastal storm risk management feasibility study involving the Baltimore metropolitan area. Opportunities for coastal resiliency measures are being sought. **Action Item** – **Sandy** asks the Board to send her information on current and related projects.

Ken Staver – The College of Agriculture and Natural Resources will hold a Bay Restoration event in College Park on October 29.

Drew Budelis – The Association of Climate Change Officers is forming a state chapter.

Adjourn at 2:10 PM

Submitted by Dan Boward on January 22, 2020