



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

Sandy Hertz, Maryland State Highway Admin.
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Executive Secretary

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Richard Mitchell, US EPA
Joel Moore, Towson University
Diana Muller, MAEOE
Mat Pajeroski, 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
Mark Trice, Maryland DNR
Chris Victoria, Anne Arundel DPW

Minutes of the MWMC Board of Director's Meeting Tawes State Office Building; C-1 Conference Room October 25, 2016

In attendance: *Andy Becker (*Mike Pieper alternate), Dan Boward, *Kevin Brittingham, *Jim Caldwell, *Caroline Donovan, *Tim Goodfellow, *Clark Howells, *Richard Mitchell, *Joel Moore, Andrew Muller (guest), *Diana Muller, *Mat Pajeroski, *Charlie Poukish, *Nancy Roth, *Ken Staver, *Matt Stover, Mark Southerland (guest), *Mark Trice, *Chris Victoria*

Not attending: **Mindy Ehrich (no alternate), *Ellen Lathrop-Davis (no alternate), *Sandy Hertz (no alternate), *Mike Pieper (Andy Becker alternate), *Jeff Reagan (no alternate), *Chris Swan (no alternate)*

*Board member

The meeting convened at 10:10 AM. Chairman **Clark** Howells welcomed everyone and asked all in attendance to introduce themselves.

The minutes from the July 12, 2016 Board meeting (MD Science Center) were approved as-is.

Committee Reports

Information Management (Tom Parham [former Co-Chair] reporting)

Tom Parham (former Board member and Information Management Committee Co-Chair) demonstrated the latest version of the MWMC online Water Monitoring Site Mapper. **Dan** Boward and **Tom** will meet on October 26 to develop a web page for the mapper and to announce the map's availability. The map contains only MDNR sites currently. **Caroline** Donovan asked how the map will be updated. She recommended that it could be updated quarterly. **Nancy** Roth asked if the map could be queried by county or watershed. **Mark** Trice suggested, given the number of sites, that the map be displayed scale dependent – with fewer sites clumped depending on scale. **Chris** Victoria asked how feedback can be provided. **Diana** Muller said the map will be a good tool for environmental literacy projects. **Dan** said that the next step may be to somehow add a layer of watershed organizations. **Matt** Stover suggested adding data from the annual Stream Monitoring Roundtable. **Action Item** – **Dan** will send an email to MWMC membership soliciting data for the mapper.

Monitoring and Assessment (Andy Becker and Mark Southerland reporting [for Mike Pieper])

The Committee has not met since June, 2016. **Andy** said there is a meeting scheduled for November. There will be three sessions on stream restoration effectiveness monitoring at the annual conference on December 2. **Mark** described the 11 talks scheduled for the annual conference. The Stream Restoration Monitoring Subcommittee will meet on October 26 at USGS.

Groundwater (Mat Pajeroski reporting)

Mat reported that the Committee will have a conference call to discuss meeting in November. Meeting topics will include improving monitoring networks, spatial gaps, draught monitoring, and urban groundwater.

Citizen Science and Community Stewardship Committee (Caroline Donovan reporting)

Caroline mentioned the October 18 Data to Decisions workshop held at Arlington Echo Outdoor Ed Center. The Committee is also working on the MWMC Facebook page. All are encouraged to post "catchy" materials.

Student Committee (Caroline Donovan reporting)

Dot Lundberg (Univ. of MD) has offered to take the lead on a Student/Professional networking session at the annual conference. **Ellen** Lathrop-Davis will assist. **Dot** has plenty of mentors but not enough students. She said there may be some funding to support the session at next year's conference. There was some general discussion about getting students to attend MWMC Board meetings. **Action Item** – **Dan** will advise **Clark** Howells to mention the session during his plenary session remarks on Dec. 2.

Workshops

Technology Series

Andy said there was no update on this.

Data to Decisions Workshop

Matt also thanked **Jeff** Reagan for taking the initiative to plan the workshop. About 47 folks attended the event on October 18 at Arlington Echo Outdoor Center. The workshop included speakers from USGS, MDNR, MDE, USNA, and representatives from the Chesapeake Monitoring Collaborative (CMC). Discussion topics included NGO's data use, QAPPs and the use of the CMC as a clearinghouse. There was lots of discussion on how the national council is moving toward helping local groups and the use of volunteer data by regulatory agencies.

Benthic Macroinvertebrate Taxonomy Workshop

Dan Boward said that a family level workshop is planned for Anne Arundel Comm. College December 19-21. There's capacity for about 50 people. DNR taxonomists will lead presentations and hands-on sessions where registrants can learn and practice their skills. The third day will include a taxonomy test with about 20 taxa. **Dan** also demonstrated the new Carnegie-Mellon online taxonomy tool – www.macroinvertebrates.org.

10th Stream Monitoring Roundtable

Andy Becker announced that there would be another Roundtable – probably at USGS Water Science Center and most likely in February, 2017. **Action Item** – **Dan** agreed to secure a date for the meeting.

Lunchtime Presentation

Andrew and **Diana** Muller gave a talk titled *Resolving spatiotemporal characteristics of the seasonal hypoxia cycle in shallow estuarine environments of the Severn and South River*. The presentation file may be made available on the MWMC website.

2016 Annual Conference

Dan Boward and the Annual Conference Planning Committee provided updates on the Dec. 2 event. Plenary speakers **Wayne** Gilcrest and **George** Hawkins have committed. There will be another Student Poster Award let by **Kevin** Brittingham. Kevin is seeking volunteers to help judge these posters. There will be a Student-Professional Networking Session led by **Dot** Lundberg (U of MD). Kudos to KCI, Inc. for funding the social and the giveaway (a tote bag) in 2017.

New Board Members

Matt Stover – Nominating Committee Chair – said there are four openings to fill to start in 2017. Two nominees have been recommended to date: **Byron** Madigan to replace **Tim** Goodfellow and **Michael** Williams to replace **Mindy** Ehrich. **Matt** will send a Doodle Poll to solicit ideas for the other two positions becoming available due to the departures of **Ellen** Lathrop-Davis and **Chris** Swan.

News Items

Richard Mitchell – no report

Andy Becker – no report

Joel Moore – Towson is receiving some funding to conduct legacy sediment studies.

Matt Stover – Comments will be solicited soon for the 2016 Integrated Report.

Charlie Poukish – no report

Chris Victoria – AA County is commencing its Round 3 random stream sampling in 2017. The County hopes to add fish sampling and perhaps a small stream stratum with a revised IBI.

Clark Howells – Baltimore City is in the implementation phase of the Reservoir Monitoring Plan, currently focusing on data QC.

Dan Boward – The MBSS continues to resample sites (Round 4) first sampled in the 1990s and early 2000s. Sampling continues in the Patapsco River around the dam removal projects.

Andrew Muller – The Navy is about to test its first Ecomapper Sonde.

Diana Muller – There may be a water quality monitoring session for Pakistani students soon.

Mat Pajeroski – USGS will be adding new stations to its ConMon network. There's a new National Park Service project in the Catoctins focused on trout refugia and potential impacts from surface/groundwater withdrawal from campsites use.

Kevin Brittingham – Baltimore County will complete its NPDES report by December, 2016. A TMDL Implementation Plan is pending as is a midge summit.

Jim Caldwell – new data on the July 30 Ellicott City flood are available. Rainfall was 6” in two hours. Main Street received 4 feet of water in 1850 and 7 feet of water in 2016. 2016 included a 100 year and 1000 year storm within two weeks. The County is awaiting FEMA funding.

Caroline Donovan – The Ches. Monitoring Cooperative has a quarterly newsletter and all are encouraged to sign up. The CMC “staff” have been presenting and various gatherings.

Mark Trice – The Eyes on the Bay website is back up.

Ken Staver – The College of Agriculture has a new Dean with a new focus on water quality. Ken is working on a nutrient model.

Tim Goodfellow – no report

Submitted by **Dan** Boward
January 17, 2017