



Maryland Water Monitoring Council
Maryland Dept. of Natural Resources
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Mark Southerland, Versar, Inc.
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Mike Pieper, KCI Technologies

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Matt Stover, Maryland Dept. of the Environment
Chris Swan, Univ. of MD Balto. Co.
Peter Tango, USGS/Chesapeake Bay Program
Chris Victoria, Anne Arundel DPW
Caroline Wicks, EcoCheck
Cathy Wiss, Audubon Naturalist Society

Minutes of the MWMC Board of Director's Retreat Herrington Manor State Park October 20-21, 2014

In attendance: Dan Boward, **Sherm Garrison, **Jim Gerhart, *Tim Goodfellow *Sandy Hertz, *Clark Howells, *Michele Dobson, *Caroline Donovan, **Ron Klauda, *Ellen Lathrop-Davis, *Mat Pajerowski, *Mike Pieper, *Mark Southerland, **Bill Stack, *Matt Stover, *Peter Tango, *Chris Victoria, *Cathy Wiss

Not attending: *Shelly Baird (no alternate), *Kevin Brittingham (no alternate), *Jim Caldwell (no alternate), *Tom Parham (no alternate), *Charlie Poukish (no alternate), *Bill Richardson (no alternate), *Ken Staver (no alternate), *Chris Swan (no alternate)

*Board member **Former Board member/founder

Day 1 – October 20

The retreat convened at 12:37 PM. Chairman **Mark** Southerland welcomed everyone and asked attendees to introduce themselves for the benefit of the guests. Board members showed their appreciation to MWMC “founders” **Sherm** Garrison, **Jim** Gerhart, **Bill** Stack, and **Ron** Klauda.

The minutes from the July 15 Board meeting were approved as written.

Discussion of MWMC History and Milestones

Dan Boward showed a Power Point from **Paul** Miller’s archives and one that he had produced for the 2012 National Council conference.

Mark reminded everyone that he’ll be speaking during the Annual Conference (AC) Plenary Session and he solicited ideas for topics (e.g., workshops, the AC, website). **Mark** asked **Dan** to send him AC attendee affiliations by year to help demonstrate how the MWMC has become more inclusive over the years. **Peter** Tango suggested that he include MWMC’s involvement in the National Council. **Mike** Pieper said **Mark** should mention the evolution of MWMC’s committees. **Bill** Stack reminded everyone of the Stream Restoration Charette and what transpired during the event. **Jim** Gerhart said he recalled two “seeds” that helped to start the MWMC – the stream gaging workshop (and subsequent report) and a groundwater monitoring workshop. Both occurred in 1994/1995. **Ron** Klauda said that the MWMC has always strived to recognize and then fill needs in the water community. **Clark** Howells said that the MWMC has met its goal and now it’s time to push things further. There was also some discussion on how we (the Board, the committees, etc.) are all “the MWMC”. There was also a suggestion that MWMC promote the benefit of involvement in advancing one’s career.

Committees

Community Outreach and Citizen Involvement

Michele Dobson led this discussion. She summarized Committee work to date, including the now-defunct MWMC Newsletter, new website updates, and work on a Maryland Watershed Association list posted on the website. **Cathy** Wiss said it’s hard to keep abreast of changing contacts. **Sandy** Hertz said groups could register on the MWMC website. She suggested that we add watershed groups to the Clickable Map (CM), once it’s functional again. **Ellen** Lathrop-Davis asked if students could work on the CM. **Action Item – Sandy** and **Ellen** will discuss assigning 8-digit HUCs to watershed groups for inclusion in the CM. **Sandy** will also talk to b Parham about this task.

Information Management

Sandy offered to “translate” **Paul** Miller’s old Word Perfect files (e.g., minutes) into Word. **Action Item – Dan** will send **Sandy** these files. **Ron** asked if we can somehow retrieve old MWMC newsletters. **Caroline** Donovan discovered that some of them are still online on the old MWMC website. **Action Item – Dan** will ask **Katherine** Hanna to post them on the “modern” site. There was also some discussion on whether to keep the CM on Google Maps or move it to ESRI. No decision was made but **b** told the Board that **Andy** Becker is willing to tackle new CM updates and get it posted in 2015. **Clark** suggested that someone on the AC Planning Committee compile the history of the MWMC. **Action Item – Dan** will look into this.

Monitoring and Assessment

Ron announced that he will be stepping down as Co-Chair of the Monitoring and Assessment Committee. The Board should seek his replacement. The Committee needs a new Co-chair. **Ron** reviewed the Committee’s accomplishments in 2014, including possible future workshops: 1) The Inter-County Connector (what has worked and what has not) and 2) Vernal Pools (the first two were intended to lead to a monitoring program but this effort has stalled). He mentioned that M and A Committee attendance has fluctuated over the years. **Tim** Goodfellow mentioned an upcoming Western MD Governmental Exchange that will include planners. **Action Item – Tim** will attend the next M and A Comm. Meeting and report on the Exchange.

Indicators

Matt Stover said that work continues on online maps that display water quality conditions and designated uses. There is not timeline for their completion.

Groundwater

Mat Pajeroski said that the Committee now has six members but the Committee has not met yet. There has been some discussion of a Road Salt Workshop. **Action Item – Dan** will add the Groundwater Committee to the by-laws.

Break

During the break, **Caroline** took several group photos by the Herrington Lake beach. She posted them on Facebook and they will be posted on the MWMC website.

Other State Councils Discussion

Dan showed a brief slide show on other state councils that his colleague **Amanda** Sullivan had compiled. There was some discussion of the MWMC seeking 501 (c)3 status. **Charlie** Poukish looked into this for the AMAAB workshop but **Charlie** was not able to attend and share his knowledge. **Action Item – Dan** will ask the Colorado Council people why their Council has 501 (c)3 status. There was also discussion of MWMC charging membership dues. The Board needs to identify why the Council needs money. **Action Item – Dan** will increase the request from the Ches. Bay Trust from \$3k to \$4k to support the 2015 AC.

Clark Howells ended the day by reviewing the action items.

Adjourn about 5:00 PM.

After dinner, **Mark** showed his thrilling photos from his family journey to South Africa and Madagascar.

Adjourn again about 9:30 PM

Day 2 – October 21

Convene at about 9:00 AM

Annual Conference and Workshops – How to Improve?

The finance discussion continued. The Board agreed to increase the AC early bird registration fee to \$60. **Action Item – Dan** and **Matt** Stover will send a joint email to **Bill** Richardson asking if EPA’s 106 grant can help support the MWMC. **Action Item – Dan** will ask National Conference leadership if funds might be available to support MWMC. Everyone agreed that the AC should be kept to one day but **Dan** will ask **Karen** Scott at the Maritime Inst. what the charge might be for a Saturday morning conference. **Action Item – Clark** will send **Dan** contact info for a new potential vendor.

Dan guessed that there have been about 15 MWMC-sponsored workshops since 1995. **Mike** Pieper suggested MWMC should possibly hold another digital loggers workshop. **Clark** said there could be an AC session on digital loggers in 2015. **Dan** suggested that popular workshops could be repeated in future years. **Mike** Pieper may organize a Road Salt Workshop in 2015. **Peter** Tango recommended a workshop on wildlife impacts to water quality. **Action Item – Peter** will help organize this workshop. **Mike** Pieper said he may be willing to Co-Chair the M and A Committee. **Mike** also suggested a workshop on IDDE or a session at the AC. **Mark** said he would talk to **Lori** Lilly (formerly of CWP) about an IDDE workshop.

Mike listed the most often requested topics in the 2013 AC evaluation: BMP effectiveness, TMDLs, climate change, fracking, stormwater, RTE species/Invasives, Tier III waters, and monitoring plans and methods. He said the MWMC is addressing several of

these in the AC and upcoming workshops. **Action Item – Dan** will ask **Charlie** if he'll play his violin in the auditorium before the plenary session.

The Future of the Board and Council

Caroline asked if Board meetings can be videoconferenced. **Action Item – Dan** will look into this and he'll also ask DNR IT if it's possible to use Go To Meeting for Board meetings. The Board agreed that the July "away" Board meeting should be at SERC. **Action Item – Dan** will look into this. **Cathy** Wiss asked if we could get some "young blood" involved in the Board (e.g., a "student" category for the Board). There was then discussion of a new Ad-hoc Student Committee (possibly five students) with rotating representation on the Board. **Action Item – Caroline** agreed to champion this effort. **Action Item – Mark** will announce this new addition to the MWMC at the AC. **Matt** said the Board could provide a list of projects to the students. **Ron** suggested someone from SWQAC speak at an upcoming Board meeting. **Dan** suggested someone from NWQMC speak at an upcoming Board meeting. **Action Item – Dan** will make contacts and submit requests. **Action Item – Dan** will also provide the Board with more information on the Colorado Council's non-profit status and the California Council's status as a statutory entity.

Mark asked how the Maryland Water Monitoring Strategy can be completed more holistically and "forward looking". How can MWMC assist in this effort? He suggested that MWMC assist with the Strategy due in 2019.

Chris Victoria asked if MWMC is interested in advising on Maryland's stream restoration pooled monitoring effort. **Action Item – Mike** will look into who is doing what and report to the Board at the January 2015 meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at about 1:00 PM.

After lunch, several attendees took a brief hike (in the rain) at Swallow Falls State Park before heading home.

Submitted by **Dan** Boward
January 20, 2014