

Bangor Area Stormwater Group

November 8, 2018 Meeting Minutes

Location: Hampden Town Office, Hampden, Maine

9:00 am – 11:00 am

Attendees:

Rich May, Belle Ryder, Cam Amoroso, Chris Green, Andrea Dickinson, Myles Block, Karen Cullen, Jeff Zahniser, Chris Cronin, Kathy Hoppe, Kyle Drexler, Cara Belanger, John Rouleau, Jim Chandler and Patrick Decker. Facilitator: Brenda Zollitsch.

Welcome and Introductions

John R. welcomed everyone and asked for round-robin introductions. The group welcomed Jim Chandler, Town Manager from Hampden and Myles Block from Hampden.

DEP Update on New Permit Timelines and PY6 Compliance Plans

- Brenda Z. reported that she received an email back from Gregg Wood at DEP stating that he had had a phone call with EPA on 10/26 and there will be substantive changes to the permit. As a result, there will be a 6th preliminary drafting going out in the near future and there will more than likely be another stakeholder meeting as a result of it. EPA has offered to come to a stakeholder meeting if one is held to defend their position(s). Gregg is awaiting their approval of DEP's 5th prelim draft permit.
- Regarding the existing permit, Gregg states that MS4s should stay the course with implementing MCM 1-6 as they exist in the 2013 permit.
- Finally, he shared that EPA's comments are likely to cause the new permit not to go into effect for one year, similar to what they did in MA and NH.
- Kathy H. reported that Rhonda P. will be reviewing MCMs 3-6 and Kathy H. and Marianne S. will review MCMs 1 and 2. In order to be in compliance with the permit, DEP is asking MS4s to submit what they believe to be appropriate plans to achieve compliance. ACTION: Kathy H. will send an email summarizing her understanding of the conversation at this meeting, outlining the process for requesting any changes to PY4, which will be the guiding language for PY6 compliance requirements.
- The Commissioner's last day is 11-9-18 and Micky Kuhns has already left his position. Brian Kavanaugh and Don Witherill are running the department at this time.
- BASWG members expressed concern that there had been very poor communication from DEP about the permit.
- BASWG members asked if MS4 audits were going to start in November. Kathy H. indicated probably not.
- BASWG parties interested in crafting a letter to DEP about plans for PY6 include: Rich, Andrea, Phil, Cara, Karen, Belle and Brenda.
- It appears that there will likely be a PY7 of the current permit and then the state will move into a new five-year permit.

- Some of the hold ups on the permit appear to be related to requirements around impaired water bodies and the two-step process.
- MEWEA is planning to respond to many of these issues, including the impaired waters issue.
ACTION: BASWG would like to be a part of the MEWEA discussion.

PY6 Budget Review and Discussion

The BASWG Executive Committee developed two potential budget options for 2019-2020. The first option provides flat funding and sticks to the same line items. The second option includes a 3% increase in the budget to reflect increases in costs over time. The group weighed in on the options, with six MS4s wanting the flat funding option (\$38,400) and one MS4 in favor of the 3% increase across all line items (\$39,552). **DECISION:** The group will revisit this decision at the next BASWG meeting, but the flat funded option appears to be the number one option. The budget will be formally approved at either the January or February meeting of the BASWG.

Presentation from Pulse Marketing

At the request of the BASWG, Cam Amaroso from Pulse Marketing presented a proposal for new and continuing activities for PY6 and beyond. The proposal covered print, digital and traditional media channel options. He reviewed options for video ads, interactive maps, adjustable targeting (BDN and Offsite), sponsored content, weather sponsorship and pre-roll video advertising. **DECISION:** The group provided extensive feedback to Cam and provided additional focus for a revised proposal. **ACTION:** Pulse will come to the December meeting with a revised proposal to share with the group.

Education and Outreach

Science Festival: **DECISION:** The BASWG has been approved to have an exhibit at the Science Festival again this year. **ACTION:** The BASWG will build a new display. Design input will come from Jeff at SEE and assembly will be completed by John R., Rich M. and Doug. The team will work on development of the display starting in January to be ready for use at the Festival in March.

Children's Museum Display: Additionally, the BASWG discussed how to best support the new exhibit about water at the Bangor Children's Museum. **ACTION:** The group was in agreement that the group was not in the position to make a large contribution to the project, but that it would contribute through expertise, attend meetings, and assist with fundraising. The BASWG's connections would be more valuable to the project than the size of contribution that would be feasible. Rich reported that the Museum did get a \$50k grant that needs to be matched with \$150k.

Statewide Collaboration during Next Permit Cycle: The BASWG would like to speak with other clusters interested in collaboration to understand their ideas and plans. **ACTION:** Brenda Z. will invite Kristie Rabasca of the SMSWG to come to the next BASWG meeting to discuss their ideas and opportunities for collaboration.

Group Review of Grant Outline to Support Extra Community Information Gathering: The BASWG approved an outline for submission to gather information from the Greater Bangor Urbanized Area on preferences and ideas for community engagement activities and opportunities. This project will include 1) Documentation of ways to increase engagement, the development of specific messaging for targeted community groups, guidance on retention and recognition approaches, the development of specific measures to evaluate community engagement and volunteerism; and the development of a formal 5 year community engagement plan (which can be adjusted). **DECISION:** The group decided to have consultant support written into the grant instead of intern time to reduce the burden on MS4s to host and supervise an intern. **ACTION:** Brenda Z. will work with Belle R. to gather the necessary financial information to support the application. Brenda will submit the application by the grant deadline.

BASWG.org Webpage Update: **DECISION:** The group approved having Brenda Z. review the BASWG.org website for any necessary edits, as it requires many informational updates to be current. **ACTION:** Brenda Z. will bring a list of suggested edits to the next BASWG meeting.

Organizational Business

Approval of Minutes: **DECISION:** Karen C. made the motion to accept the minutes with edits. John R. seconded the motion. The minutes were approved. **ACTION:** Karen C. will incorporate edits into the minutes before posting to the website.

Contact List: Brenda collected additional information to complete the revised contact list. A list will be presented for review at the next BASWG meeting.

Treasurer's Update: Belle R. presented a brief budget update. The BASWG has a current balance of \$45,650 at just over 4 months into the new permit year. Four invoices for the BASWG annual assessment are outstanding (MEANG, Brewer, UMaine and UMAB).

Upcoming Meetings: December meeting will be held at EMCC and will continue to work on the budget and the regional SWMP in response to the new permit. **Action:** Brenda Z. will invite Kristie Rabaska from SMSWG to attend the December meeting.