

BASWG Meeting Minutes

July 10, 2014

9:00 am – 11:30 am

Old Town City Hall, Old Town, Maine

Attendees: Angie Rogers, Wynne Guglielmo, Phil Ruck, Kathy Hoppe, Andy Fish, Mike Gladu, David Ladd, Mark Faulkner, Andrea Dickenson, Rob Yerxa, Belle Ryder, Bob Osborne, John Cronin. New Participants: Philip Winchester (MEANG); Laura Pasquine (City of Bangor Intern). Facilitator: Brenda Zollitsch.

Welcome: Bob O. called the meeting to order. Meeting attendees introduced themselves.

Review of PY1 Reporting Plans and PY2 Requirements

The BASWG annual report on the regional plan is due Sept 15th. A report team will convene in August to start working on the report, using the same format as last year. E&O Committee will provide data to the report as well.

Brenda Z. provided meeting participants with a compiled list of regional compliance requirements for PY2. These include:

- Implementation of the statewide awareness plan, behavior change plan, municipal awareness plans (individual MS4s)
- Development of a new plan for enhanced outreach on chlorides (due Fall 2014). Brenda Z. has submitted to DEP's Kathy H. a letter of intent to address chlorides for the 4th target audience. Brenda will share Kathy's feedback with the E&O Committee when received.
- Implementation of the social media plan (incl. events and trial of FB advertising).
- Public involvement and participation (Need to submit a document indicating the change in the way HHHW Day(s) will be coordinated and BASWG support citizen involvement in these events).
- Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination – Mostly doing this work as independent MS4s, but will be looking at reconciling EPA IDDE expectations with the ThinkBlue SOPs that will likely be inadequate during the next permit cycle. Huge regional focus on improving documentation and tracking efforts – group will discuss and troubleshoot with MS4s. Continuing work on hydrant flushing.
- Construction Site Stormwater Runoff Control – Will evaluate if need more than the PY1 Training session in June 2014. May want to post Aug 12 training information (DOT/ERSC BMPs).
- Post-Construction - May want to develop better forms. May want to hold a P-C inspector training (engage DEP's Jeff Dennis)
- Pollution Prevention – Work with MS4s to support improvements in their documentation practices. Welcome to use Angie, David and Erin to run training(s) or troubleshoot with MS4s.

Report on PY1 Inspections Training

- Phil R. reported on the BASWG Inspections Training took place on June 26th.
- The training included a one hour classroom session, followed by a facilities tour.

- John Cullen, Angie Rogers and Phil Ruck made presentations.
- Discussed data management and documentation. Focused on MS4 compliance. Included sharing of contacts to call when issues arise.
- After Phil reported out, David L. mentioned that it using Ch. 500 as the regulatory mechanism, if disturbance of 1 acre and need assistance with enforcement, call DEP.

Potential for Increases in IDDE Expectations from EPA/DEP:

- Wynne shared that City of Bangor has a joint consent decree with DEP, Dept. of Justice and EPA. Much of this arises from the City of Bangor's CSOs (historic; 50+years)
- EPA wants everything about all collection systems. Bangor has issues with compliance under both programs. EPA seeks different kinds of sampling, including wet weather sampling; linked with MS4 permit. This requires additional lab testing – very resource intense.
- EPA has used wet weather sampling in Region 1. Now they are linking it to the IDDE Program. The question arises whether this is going to be asked of other MS4s in the region.
- City of Bangor has agreed to do anything identified in the permit. EPA claims the permit does not have enough specificity; City of Bangor says this vagueness is legally in their favor and EPA cannot require activities that are not specified in the permit. Wet weather sampling is not specified in either the federal or the state MS4 permit.
- Now it appears that the ThinkBlue Manual BMPs that MS4s in Maine had been using will be inadequate for the next permit cycle.
- Need to clarify what specific activities will be required under different scenarios (if this...then...with X expected outcome).
- City of Bangor says that they cannot do this additional work with the current budgeted staff, time and equipment. This testing requires sandbagging, etc. Not possible at this time. City of Bangor argues that they are in compliance with the permit, but that it will be years before the City could be in the position to do this additional work (transcends the current five year plan).
- David L. shared that in the next permit cycle, MS4s can expect: 1) increased assessment; 2) requirements for more robust IDDE; and 3) expectations more in keeping with the SOPs in the 2004 EPA IDDE Manual. The 2018 permit will be “much stiffer.”
- May want to revise the 2004 Manual – focusing on IDDE SOPs; Start in the fall; BZ contact Tamara and Kristie to explore options
- Brenda Z. will send out the two-part manual via email before the next meeting.

EPA Sampling and Audits

- EPA is currently undertaking a suite of sampling; regional communities are now more of a target because of what is happening in Bangor.
- Denny Dart is Alex Rosenberg's boss.
- Members agreed that penalties are too expensive to ignore the issue.
- Members are interested in more IDDE training; will focus on decision making, forethought and planning. MS4s should document everything and have procedures for each type of non-compliance so that if someone leaves, the ball is not dropped.

- MS4s should make sure that they are intimately familiar with:
 - Their collection systems
 - Their maps (should be able to overlay, know where they cross and connect, etc.)
 - Their data documentation systems
- DEP is working to develop what David L. referred to as a “schedule of compliance” for the City of Bangor to address non-compliance.
- Challenge with testing for personal care products. These are often found in waters, regardless if there is an illicit discharge, so validity and value of testing is questioned by several members of the BASWG. In addition this testing is very expensive (\$1k/test).
- One member reminded DEP that we would like to revisit the effort to list the efforts that MS4s in Maine have been doing above and beyond the permit for the last ten years, to show how we are meeting compliance without these additional requirements.

Brainstorming BASWG Work Tasks

Meeting participants brainstormed some of the key work items they would like to see on BASWG’s work agenda for the coming permit year. Combined with information collected from the PY2 compliance review at the beginning of the meeting, a draft BASWG meeting calendar will be developed and discussed at the August BASWG meeting.

Key topics included:

- Think blue not adequate for data collection. Use Pitt Manual (2004)
- Work with other clusters and MMA to revise/adopt 2004 IDDE templates for ME/BASWG
- Change plan to reflect no Bangor HHHWD – OK with other language
- Share construction site SOPs
- Review forms
- Group discussion and lessons learned, innovations – Poll each month
- PC Inspection Training (involve Jeff Dennis)
- Pollution Prevention Training (David, Angie, Erin)
- BZ – 3 docs mail
- Start working on stream clean-ups in January
- Also anytime stream clean-ups and stenciling
- Involve Job Corps and Latter Day Saints in other activities, such as stenciling
- E&O Salt Plan – BZ fill-in draft plan with existing information; E&O Develop; group discussion
- Climate change
- Goal setting

Education and Outreach – Update and PY1 in Review

- New E&O Committee includes: Mike Gladu, Scott Wilkerson, Belle Ryder, Angie Rogers, Bob Osborne and Tracy Drew. Others are welcome to participate.

- Stormdrain stenciling has been completed in each MS4, including the last one in Brewer with the Job Corps volunteers.
- Starting to implement the BASWG social media supplemental plan for behavior change compliance work. Updated the Facebook page; new posts in keeping with theme.
- Website is being revised. Gretchen created new page. Now working on content development. Will be seeking intern support. Have a placeholder page currently. Site will be upgraded in the fall.
- Stream Clean-ups were completed in each community. Large turnout in Orono (70+); newly reported clean-ups by Dorothea Dix and Milford (Job Corps volunteers helped complete before PY1 end).
- Anytime stream clean-ups were held with JC Penney, Hilton Garden employees (20+ cleaned-up in Meadow Brook) and Hermon (25+ participants).
- Still have leftover water, t-shirts, vests, gloves and other supplies. Can accommodate one or more additional Anytime Stream Clean-ups this year.
- Revamping stream-clean-ups
- PowerPoints were updated for Orono's use
- Outreach booth a success at the Bangor Garden Show this Spring
- E&O Committee will need to work on the new target audience plan for Chlorides.
- BZ will fill in the plan template, provide to E&O for revision and bring to BASWG for discussion

Sniffing Dogs

- Brenda Z. sent an email to Forest Bell at FB Environmental to ask if he or someone from his office could present to the BASWG about his service dogs. Their services have been approved by WEF and they have a good accompanying manual. Able to sense differences between human and other animal waste (contributes to diagnostic illicit discharge work). Brenda Z. will follow-up.

Organizational Business (A quorum of members were present)

- Minutes were approved for the May (Rob Y. motion, John R. second) and June (Rob Y. motion and John R. second) by unanimous vote of the members.
- Resignations:
 - John Murphy has tendered his resignation to the BASWG as vice chair (assigned to other work tasks). The group voted to accept his resignation (Belle R. motion; Rob Y. second; approved by consensus vote).
 - Jeff Allen has tendered his resignation to the BASWG as treasurer (no longer employee of City of Bangor). The group voted to accept his resignation (Wynne G. motion; Belle R. second; approved by consensus vote).
- The BASWG approves Rob Yerxa to serve as Interim Vice Chair and Patrick Decker to serve as Interim treasurer until executive committee members are voted on in the scheduled February 2015 BASWG election (motion Wynne G., second John R.; approved by consensus vote).

- The BASWG needs to update its bylaws to accommodate the changes in the management of BASWG funds. The following changes to the bylaws were approved by a unanimous vote of the membership (Wynne G. motion; Mike G. second):
 - Article 1, Section G. Place of Business changed to: *106 Western Avenue, Hampden, Maine 04444* (i.e. the MS4 Office of the BASWG Chair).
 - Article 8, Sections 2&3 changed to: Funds shall be held *in a checking account of the Corporation by the Corporation.*
- Since Jeff Allen resigned as treasurer, we need to find out when BASWG taxes are due. We have funding to support the financial audit and tax preparation.
- Town of Orono (Rob Y. and Belle R. expressed that the Town of Orono may be willing to take this on as part of their work for BASWG. This would include holding the funds, check cutting, accounting, tax audit and tax preparation for the BASWG). Rob Y. is going to speak with the Town Manager to secure approval and discuss the range of potential services they can offer.
- Bob O. presented the bill from Sewall Company for the DIMS study. The group approved BASWG's payment of the bill (funded in part by DEP grant and outreach grant offset). Total amount to be paid: = \$7,631.75. An additional \$4,743.75 was donated by NEMO though in-kind match dollars.
- Brenda Z. submitted the 2014 Coastal Communities Grant Application to fund a proposed P2 Social Media Toolbox. The request is for \$14,900. Notification will be sent to Bob O. Brenda Z. provided members with a copy of the grant proposal.

Upcoming BASWG Meetings:

- August meeting will be held at the Orono Town Office and will include review of the new Winter Snow and Ice Control BMP manual.
- The group identified the following BASWG meeting locations for the remainder of the year:
 - August – Orono
 - September – Veazie
 - October – Old Town
 - November - Milford
 - December – UM or Orono?
 - January – EMCC?