

STATE WATER QUALITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

August 7, 2009

MINUTES

ATTENDEES:

Members/Alternates: Emery Cleaves, Dave Duree, Senator Roy Dyson, James Gracie, Jan Graham, Fred Jacobs, Neil Jacobs, Louise Lawrence, Terry Matthews, Ed Merrifield, Matthew Pajerowski, Nancy Pentz, Karen Wiggen, Victoria Woodward

Excused Absences: Dee Nolan, Sarah Taylor Rogers, Steve Witt

Others: Jay Sakai (MDE), Sherm Garrison (DNR), John Boris (MDE), Adam Rettig (MDE), Tim Fox (MDE), Chris Thomas (MDE), Erin Wisnieski, Marcus Griswold (Gwynns Falls Watershed Assoc.)

Victoria Woodward opened the meeting with introductions at 9:30 a.m. **Motion** to approve June 5, 2009 meeting minutes - correction of U.S. Geological Survey to Maryland- **approved** with change.

News from MDE – Jay Sakai (*attachment*)

- **Reorganization**
 - Continuing effort to streamline activities
 - In dire fiscal situation
 - Establish priorities for programs
 - Structural reorganization of Department
 - 73 people moving from Water Management Administration
 - Effective 7/1/09, physical move the end of month:
 - Water Quality Infrastructure Program moving to Office of Budget
 - Mining Program moving to Land Management Administration (formerly Waste Management Administration)
 - CAFO under Land Management – Gary Kelman running program
 - New positions:
 - Wetlands Program – 30 with fees
 - Sediment & Stormwater – 10 general permit
 - Hope to fill within 3 months
- **Terrapin Run**
 - Department is being sued
 - \$60 million claim
 - Confident Department will prevail
- **Stormwater Regulations**
 - Outside entity challenging their implementation
 - Implemented effective May 4, 2009
- **General Permit – Construction Activity**
 - Issuing NOIs with new requirement with second level review
 - Being posted on website
- **ARRA**
 - \$122 million windfall from stimulus package
 - July 30th was deadline for applications

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- All but 1 of 95 had applications in on time
- Projects are on website for those who got funding
- A lot of Nonpoint source projects
- **SRF Funding**
 - After 8 years of decline in funding, looking at 2 to3 fold increase
 - 20% green project requirement

News from DNR – Sherm Garrison (*attachment*)

- **Algal Bloom**
 - Continue to have seasonal algal bloom issues
 - Very intense in some areas – not sure if they will impact SAVs
- **Invasive Diatom**
 - Found upstream of Pretty Boy reservoir
 - Spread is likely the result of being carried by waders, kayaks, floats
 - DNR is expanding monitoring
 - Has not been found below Loch Raven
- **Abram Creek, WV**
 - Work is being done
 - Most significant contributor of AMD to the North Branch of Potomac River
 - State is installing number of dosers
 - Should see further reduction in AMD
- **CWRAC**
 - Bi-monthly meeting will be held end of month August 28, 2009 – 10:00 a.m.
 - Location will be Calvary United Methodist church in Annapolis
 - Topics will include:
 - Mid-Atlantic Regional council on Ocean, new comprehensive approach to ocean conservation with Delaware, Maryland, New Jersey, New York and Virginia
 - Blue Infrastructure initiative – to enhance ocean and estuarine resource conservation
- **Maryland Water Monitoring Council Meeting**
 - Meeting date Thursday, December 3, 2009
 - Will be held at Maritime Institute in Linthicum
- **Water Use Policy on State Land**
 - DNR working on Guidance document
 - Very productive meeting with Gene Piotrowski
- **Regulation Changes**
 - Rusty crawfish – expanding in Maryland – trying to slow spread down
 - Regulation would prohibit anyone from having live crawfish
 - Added bay scallop to the endangered list

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News from SSA – Adam Rettig

- **Triennial Review**
 - Water Quality Standards
 - Lots of good comments received
 - One comment received from EPA

- **Nutrient Criteria in Nontidal**
 - Grant was started July 1, 2009

- **TMDL Implementation Program**
 - Working on targeting streams for restoration
 - Encouraging locals to start applying for 319 grant funding to improve streams
 - Similar for watersheds

Other Business

Slate of Officers & Membership

- Slate of continuing member nominations:
 - Emery Cleaves, Private Citizen (Alternate – David Bolton)
 - Fred Jacobs – Economic Interest
 - Neil Jacobs – Public Interest
 - Shannon Lucas – Economic Interest (Alternate Jim Gracie)
 - Terry Matthews – Private Citizen
 - Matthew Pajeroski – Public Official
 - Mark Symborski – Public Official

- Slate of new member nominations:
 - Robert Mitchell (for Ed Singer) – Public Official (Alternate – Ed Singer)
 - Marcus Griswold – Private Citizen
 - Dan Wilson – Economic Interest
 - William Wolinski – Public Interest

- Nominations for Officers:
 - Chair – Victoria Woodward
 - 1st Vice Chair – Terry Matthews
 - 2nd Vice Chair – Sarah Taylor Rogers

Daved Duree made **Motion** to for nomination of officers – **approved**.

Presentations

Septic Update – John Boris (MDE/SSA)

- Moving into Phase 2 of BRF & Bay Program
- Have installed 1,273 nitrogen reducing systems – 539 pending – 1,812 total
- w/o BAT - produce about 55,000 lbs. nitrogen reduction year
- Database with nearly 4,000 applicants
- Onsite Septic Retrofit Program:
 - Close of FY 09 - \$5,546,982.
 - Prioritize for repair in critical area
 - Prioritizing grants by how much money you make (income based)
 - Submit ideas on how to get information out to public (SWQAC to do)

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Senator Dyson

- When General Assembly ended, budget was required to be in the black – within a short time were operating in the red
- Board of Public Works had to cut filled positions
- More cuts will be made this month – at some point they will have to make up to \$720 million in cuts
- 40 percent of the budget goes to the counties
- State employees are having to take furloughs
- Bottom line – when General Assembly reconvenes in January the budget has to be balanced

Subcommittee Reports

Watershed - No report

Water Resources – Terry Matthews

- Met at DNR regarding land leasing – water
- Waiting to see what guidance document will look like
- Met with Brigid Kenney of Planning
 - Working on potential workshop
 - Talked about what MDE's priorities are in regards to Wolman Report
 - Both agreed to a series of meetings

Wastewater & Reuse – Dave Duree

- Discussion on water reuse
 - 3 pipes with interact with utilities to collect sewage, purple pipe (lawns, car washing) and drinking water
 - If we stop taking water are we recharging it and where is benefit?
- Teleconference call on BRF
 - Trying to have some MDE participation
 - How do you spread BRF money

Acid Mine Drainage – Report attached

Meeting Adjourned 11:45 a.m.