

Bangor Area Stormwater Group Meeting Minutes

June 8, 2023

9:30 am – 11:00 am BASWG Regular Meeting

Orono Town council Chambers, Orono, ME

With Zoom participation alternative

Attendees: Rich May, Rob Howard, Megan Hess, Victor Smith, Cara Belanger, Biran Bernosky, Mark Leonard, Holliday Keene (DEP), Tyler Bilodeau and Chris Thurston (Pulse). Facilitator: Brenda Zollitsch.

Note: The summary report for the BASWG's Regional Winter Maintenance Roundtable held from 8:30 am – 9:30 am on June 8, 2023, is available as a separate document. Consequently, the roundtable meeting is not summarized in this meeting minutes document.

Welcome and Introductions

Rich M. welcomed everyone. Participants introduced themselves.

DEP Updates

- There is no additional information from the executive analyst on the LID Ordinance Appeal. Next month the ordinance will be enforceable. Holliday K. shared that she cannot grant extensions. If this is not in place before then, add notes to SWPP that delay is due to the Chapter 500 update process. Abide as close as possible. She noted that DEP is capable of recognizing both non-compliance and reasons for non-compliance. Holliday K. suggested that MS4 staff email her for approval prior to start of a project so there is paper backup.
- Kerem Gungor is inviting MS4s to participate in the stakeholder process for Chapter 500.
- Holliday K. will be sending the new annual report template next week (based on other states' and EPA report formats). The form is not long and has fields to fill in. This report will not be an e-report. Paper reports will be submitted to Holliday K. and Gregg Wood at DEP.
- BASWG members mentioned that they want and need the form many weeks prior to the deadline as they must have time to populate the new way of reporting.
- Cara noted that the effective date of the LID ordinance is July 2024 for MS4s. It is July 1, 2023, for state and federal.
- There is no information on ISWG's response to FOCB. There is also no information on a hearing. Holliday K. expressed being equally frustrated by the process.
- Holliday asked that MS4s with urban impaired streams come up with a plan and set up a time to meet with Jeff Dennis and Holliday (she needs to be in attendance to approve it).

BASWG PY1 Report Development

- Brenda Z. will develop a draft BASWG report. The report will be populated in part by information from Cara B. and Megan H. The remainder of the information needs to come from Pulse Marketing. ACTION: Brenda will draft a report by August 1 with BASWG voting on the draft plan at the August 10th BASWG meeting (with Pulse adding info before submission). The plan will be reviewed in-depth by the reporting team (Rich, Megan, Cara) before submission. Rich M. will circulate the final report for any additional comments. The report is due September 15th.

Pulse Marketing Updates

- Pulse staff clarified their roles as they relate to working with BASWG. Chris Thurston is the primary contact for work with BASWG. He is also in charge of BASWG's social media. Tyler Bilodeau is secondary contact. Brian Coltar is the contact around scope of work and Pulse contracts.
- Tyler B. provided a summary presentation around the key takeaways from the BASWG PY1 Baseline Survey. A report document was provided to the group and will be used by the BASWG Education and Outreach Committee for future planning purposes, as well as BASWG reporting purposes of the organization.

Education and Outreach Work

- Stormdrain Marking has occurred/is planned for ANG, Hampden, Orono and University of Maine (related to Earth Day activities)
- Maine Discovery Museum Stormwater Education Exhibit Elements – BASWG and the Museum now have a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). BASWG has made a \$10,000 donation/contribution to the museum campaign specific to the water exhibit. BASWG members will be meeting with Museum staff in the coming weeks. The MOU confirms that BASWG will be involved in the development of exhibit elements and messaging.

IDDE Sharing Session

- Hampden shared that they found a leaking septic system that was not hooked into the system. They used dye testing and a camera after finding feces in the ditch.
- Bangor shared that they had high e-coli in a major drainage system. Not human bacteroides, just e-coli.
- Cara B. shared that there is a new IDDE technique (they are teaming with Centerline) using a camera, pump and sampling. Sampling is up from each lateral.

Organizational Business

- Budget Update – Brian B. provided an abbreviated Treasurer's report. All budget numbers are on track and BASWG is in the black. There have been several hurdles for setting up Brian with access to all the banking elements. He met with Amanda at UCU and is working on them (issues around information still being in Patrick Decker's name – has not been Treasurer for many years now and the need for a personal credit card to provide access to some elements).
- BASWG Member Invoices – Invoices went out several months ago. There are outstanding invoices from ANG, Milford, EMCC and University of Maine. ACTION: Brian B. will send out second notices to those still needing to pay.
- Approval of Minutes – Tabled until next meeting.

Upcoming Meetings

- The next meeting of the BASWG will be on August 10, 2023, at the Orono Town Office.
- May want to consider having the BASWG October meeting at the Maine Children's Museum or Pulse.