

Montgomery County - Water Quality Advisory Group Meeting

<http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/DEP/water/water-quality-advisory-group.html>

October 21, 2019 (7:00 - 8:30 pm) – DRAFT Minutes

DEP Conference Room, 255 Rockville Pike, #120, Rockville

Member and affiliation	Present		Others in attendance and affiliation
	Yes	No	
Kate Bennett, DEP	x		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Patty Bubar, Montgomery County DEP</li> <li>• Frank Dawson, Montgomery County DEP, Watershed Restoration Division Chief.</li> <li>• Drew Budelis, Versar.</li> </ul>
Bob Buglass, WSSC	x		
Keith Brooks, Public-at-Large	x		
Philip Browne, Public-at-Large		x	
Crystal Calarusse, Public-at-Large	x		
Michael Carmel, Public-at-Large		x	
Michael McAvey, Public-at-Large		x	
Pamela Rathbone, Co-Chair, Public-at-Large	X		
Tracy Rouleau, Co-Chair, Academic/Scientific		x	
Monika Shepard, Public-at-Large		x	
Linda Silversmith, Public-at-Large	X		
Tim Stemann, Business	X		
Amy Stevens, DEP	x		
Mark Symborski, MNCPPC	x		
Allison Wright, Environmental	x		
Agenda Item	Major Points		
I. Introductions	The meeting was called to order about 7:07 pm.		
II. Reading and approval of the minutes.	Minutes for June and September provided, but with less than a quorum present, not able to be approved.		
III. New Business	<p>a. Update on the Design-Build-Maintain contract (Frank Dawson, Chief, Watershed Restoration Section)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• RFP from last year cancelled as it became clear that requirements of the permit were going to change</li> <li>• Waiting on MDE permit language/requirements</li> <li>• Guidance from MDE provided in early October</li> <li>• All BMPs now provide credit for impervious (adding stream restoration, green infrastructure, flood control)</li> <li>• Still need draft permit to push forward</li> </ul>		

	<p>Question:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Pam asked about timeframe – per Frank and Amy – hopefully end of year, but still only draft, Frank noted they are still working on repairs, etc., but still can't issue RFP</li><li>• Crystal followed up asking about current work – Frank noted some restoration occurring and DEP will bank some of that work for the next permit, will add some new projects if it drags out, but definitely losing time</li><li>• Drew asked about a reason for the delay at MDE (and the WIP) – Frank wasn't sure, Kate noted that MDE is changing requirements – Frank noted 4 metrics (Phosphorus, Nitrogen, TSS and IA) – Amy said the WIP is affecting the timeline</li><li>• Question about Council (are they aware/troubled) – they are aware, glad there are current projects moving along</li></ul> <p>b. DEP Reorganization and Communication (Patty Bubar, Assistant Director, DEP)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Handout provided that outlines new positions</li><li>• Focus on communication</li><li>• Charts with new org on website</li><li>• Question about metrics changing – Patty noted there is a focus on improving efficiency (recycling numbers, etc.) but also customer satisfaction – queue at transfer station</li><li>• Adam Ortiz's goals to be shared in "performance plan"</li><li>• Solid Waste Master plan – taking incinerator offline? How to improve recycling, need higher tech solutions, transfer station undersized (built for half of current population)</li><li>• Also safety concerns at transfer station</li></ul> <p>c. Preliminary Overview of WSSC Drinking Water Testing for EPA Unregulated Contaminants (Bob Buglass, Environmental Sciences Section Manager, WSSC)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• WSSC required to test for unregulated contaminants – driven by EPA per the Safe Drinking Water Act</li><li>• Monitor for elements not yet regulated</li><li>• Assessment every 5 year cycle – goes back to 1980s</li><li>• Some elements become regulated</li><li>• All larger water providers required to do</li></ul> <p>d. H2O Summit November 2, 2019</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Geared towards residents, watershed groups</li></ul> <p>e. Additional Item: Climate Initiative</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Launched in July 2019 to develop strategies – final Climate Action Plan by Dec 2020</li><li>• See website for more details</li></ul>
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IV. Reports of Officers, Boards, Standing Committees	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>None at this time</u></li> </ul>	
V. Reports of Special Committees	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>None at this time</u></li> </ul>	
VI. Special Orders	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>None at this time</u></li> </ul>	
VII. Unfinished Business and General Orders.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>Vacancies:</u> Linda and Keith staying on – will be required to obtain a waiver to serve past their 2 term limit                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Quorum still based on full 15 member group (8 required)</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	
VIII. Adjournment.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The meeting was adjourned at about 8:35 pm.</li> <li>• The next meeting is set for November 18th.</li> <li>• Keith Brooks agreed to take notes for the November 18th meeting.</li> <li>• Anticipated speakers for the November meeting are Bob Buglass (additional UMCR info) and Adriana Hochberg.</li> </ul>	
<b>Action Item Registry</b>		
<b>List of Priority Topics</b>		
<b>Rank</b>	<b>Subject Area</b>	<b>Topic</b>
1	Stormwater	Expert panel on water quality benefits on stream restorations (Tom Schueler &/or Pamela Parker)
2	Wastewater	<del>10 Year Water and Sewer Plan (Winter 2018)</del>
3	Stormwater	Chesapeake Bay TMDL, nutrient trading, and growth offsets
4	Other	Elrich and new administration priorities for water quality
5	Other	Mont. Co. Sustainability Committee report & water related issues [TBD]
6	Wastewater	WSSC drinking water testing for EPA unregulated contaminants - Annette [On Hold]
7	Wastewater	WSSC discharges from Potomac Filtration Plant and the ensuing litigation [TBD]
8	Wastewater	Blue Plains and Seneca Treatment Plants Tours
9	Stormwater	Quantitative approaches to stormwater management (MS4, BMPs)
10	Other	Educational Outreach – Other Organizations
11	Stormwater	Rainscapes Update
12	Stormwater	Local water quality. How does it fit in to the new strategies articulated last year and moving forward? All the projects that were cancelled-- what is the new strategy in those neighborhoods?

13	Parks	Lakes. Needwood, Clopper, etc. Can someone explain the water quality issues? Are the cyanobacteria issues entirely related to structure or are there pollution concerns that could be addressed to improve quality?
14	Other	Community gardening
15	Other	Continue discussions on communicating the benefits of improved water quality
16	Parks	Geese and deer management (Potential speakers from DNR)
17	Other	One DEP--what is it and how does it work?
18	Wastewater	Replacing all public urinals in Montgomery county with waterless urinals
19	Parks	MNCPPC topics
20	Stormwater	Meeting on trash
21	Stormwater	ESC plan transparency – Dan [On Hold]