

Montgomery County - Water Quality Advisory Group Meeting
<https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/water/advisory-group.html>

March 8, 2021 (7:00 - 8:30 pm) – Draft Minutes
 Microsoft Teams Online Meeting
 (+1 443-692-5768 United States, Baltimore (Toll)
 Conference ID: 386 899 686#)

I. Introductions

New member: El Hadj Fall

Member and affiliation	Present		Others in attendance and affiliation
	Yes	No	
Ken Bawer, Public-at-Large, New Member	X		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kate Bennett, Senior Planning Specialist, DEP • Patrice Bubar, DEP
Keith Brooks, Public-at-Large	X		
Bob Buglass, Public Agency, WSSC	X		
Crystal Calarusse, Public-at-Large		X	
Michael Carmel, Public-at-Large	X		
Andrew Der, Public-at-Large		X	
El Hadji Fall, Academic/Scientific	X		
Michael McAvey, Public-at-Large	X		
Pamela Rathbone, Co-Chair, Public-at-Large	X		
Miranda Reid, DEP	X		
Tracy Rouleau, Co-Chair, Academic/Scientific	X		
Linda Silversmith, Public-at-Large	X		
Tim Stemann, Business		X	
Amy Stevens, Public Agency, DEP	X		
Mark Symborski, Public Agency, MNCPPC	X		
Allison Wright, Environmental		X	

Agenda Item	Major Points
I. Introductions	The meeting was called to order at 7:03 PM by Tracy Rouleau.
II. Reading and Approval of the Minutes	Minutes for February were approved with changes as described.
III. New Business	<p>(a) PRESENTATIONS:</p> <p>Montgomery County’s NPDES MS4 Permit FY20 Annual Report and Financial Assurance Plan (FAP) by Kate Bennett, Senior Planning Specialist, DEP</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Annual Report is a Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) Permit update • The MS4 Permit is basically a water quality permit to limit pollutants in stormwater discharges or other unauthorized discharges from the MS4. • The Annual Report provided updates on sections entitled: Stormwater Management, Erosion and Sediment Control, Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination, Trash and Litter, Property Management, Road Maintenance, Public Education, Watershed Assessment, Watershed Restoration, Assessment of Controls, Program Funding, and Total Maximum Daily Loads • Tracy asked if DEP has seen a rise of excess salt incidents, e.g., fish kills; DEP not aware of a rise, but depends on amount of snow. • Ken asked, given the 30,000 feet of streams restored, what was the square footage footprints of these projects, including access roads - we need this data to understand the true impact of stream restorations. Kate said they would work on providing that. <p>Presentation on Montgomery County’s Financial Assurance Plan (FAP) by Kate Bennett, Senior Planning Specialist, DEP</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This is a biennial report to demonstrate that County has sufficient funding for the next 2 years of MS4 Permit projects. • Ken asked about missing data for “...the planned and programmed activities from FY21 through FY25.” Kate said that the new package revision has that data. They use CIP budget to estimate future spending: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ FAP Public Hearing staff report: https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/council/Resources/Files/agenda/col/2021/20210309/20210309_6.pdf • Bay TMDL is not in current 2010 permit but will be in 2021 Permit along with local TMDLs. <p>(b) Discussion on Montgomery County Climate Action Plan: led by Pam Rathbone</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pam thought the WQAG’s comments are well reflected in the CAP.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Re. Thrive Montgomery 2050, Tracey wrote email to Director Melanie Wagner (sp?) asking if WQAG can send our comment letter on CAP to the Planning Board? Didn't get final approval, so WQAG letter has not yet been sent. • TO DO: Tracy asked us who might we want to hear from on the Climate Change topic in the Fall time frame. Maybe someone from MDE or academic person. • Amy Stevens is still trying to reach a WSSC person in their Climate Adaptation group. <p>(c) Discussion on stream restoration as a 2021 focus topic</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Amy, Mirada, Pamela have been discussing. • At some point in the future, we should work towards what recommendations do we want to make. • Future WQAG presentations coming up were shown and discussed. These will help educate us on the topic of stream restorations. • Tracy gathered from the group ideas for topics/questions to ask stream restoration presenters. • Tracy suggested getting County Executive Elrich to come to a WQAG meeting whenever he is available to talk about stream restoration and climate change; Amy Stevens will ask DEP Director Adam Ortiz for June or July meeting. • TO DO: provide any additional questions to Miranda by end of week.
<p>IV. Reports of Officers, Boards, and Standing Committees</p>	<p>None at this time.</p>
<p>V. Reports of Special Committees</p>	<p>None at this time.</p>
<p>VI. Special Orders</p>	<p>None at this time.</p>
<p>VII. Unfinished Business and General Orders</p>	<p>WQAG LETTER OF SUPPORT Potential WQAG letter of support for continued County commitment to water quality programs during COVID-19 pandemic.</p> <p>STORMWATER PARTNERS ACTIVITIES</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • . <p>OTHER</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •
<p>VIII. Adjournment</p>	<p>Next meeting April 12, 2021 Notetaker will be Pamela Next mtg: put together schedule for note takers Speakers will from DEP on the DEP budget and stream restorations The meeting was adjourned at 8:21 pm</p>

2021 Priority Speaker Topics			
Rank	Subject Area	Topic	Votes
1	Other	Understanding how climate change impacts water quality in Montgomery County	5
2	Stormwater	Meeting on trash – (February/March) – DEP/Alice Ferguson Foundation	3
3	Stormwater	Twice a year updates from Stormwater Partners Stream Restoration Working Group	2
4 (tie)	Wastewater	WSSC discharges from Potomac Filtration Plant and the ensuing litigation, sewage overflows	1
4 (tie)	Stormwater	Quantitative approaches to stormwater management (MS4, BMPs) (Quarterly updates?)	1
4 (tie)	Stormwater	RainScapes Update – 2022	1
4 (tie)	Stormwater	Erosion and Sediment Control (ESC) plan transparency	1
4 (tie)	Other	DOT Street Tree Policy	1
9	Other	Mont. Co. Sustainability Committee report & water related issues	0
10	Wastewater	Blue Plains and Seneca Treatment Plants Tours (July field trip)	0
11	Other	Educational Outreach – Other Organizations	0
12	Other	Community gardening	0
13	Other	Continue discussions on communicating the benefits of improved water quality	0
14	Other	Communications update from DEP	0
15	Wastewater	Replacing all public urinals in Montgomery county with waterless urinals	0
16	Parks	MNCPPC topics (invasive species)	0