**Bangor Area Stormwater Group**

February 10, 2022 Draft Meeting Minutes

Via Zoom

9:00 am – 11:00 am

**Attendees:** Rob Howard**,** George Hanson, Kyle Drexler, Amanda Millay, Cara Belanger, Jodi Muster, Megan Hess, Belle Ryder, Brian Coltar, Sarah King, Mark Leonard, Chris Green, Brad Chessum (EMCC Director of Facilities and Operations).Facilitator: Brenda Zollitsch.

**Welcome**

Rich M. welcomed everyone and reminded the group that this is the annual meeting of the Bangor Area Stormwater Group as an organization, required as a 501©(3).

**BASWG Year in Review**

Brenda Z. presented a PPT presentation on the work of the BASWG in the last year. This presentation covered the work BASWG completed, commitment to meeting permit requirements under the shared regional SWMP and covered the results of the many BASWG education, outreach and public involvement elements of the plan. The presentation focused on PY9 wrap-up and starting the new 5-year permit in July 2022.

**Celebrating the Life and Contributions of Ken Locke**

BASWG members are saddened by the recent passing of one of the founding members of the BASWG, Ken Locke. Ken led not only Brewer’s stormwater program but was instrumental in regional and statewide stormwater and wastewater initiatives, always bringing a collaborative and proactive approach to reducing stormwater pollution. Brenda shared comments that were read at Ken’s retirement party last summer and his Maine Governor’s Award for Environmental Excellence in the Public Sector Category. Members shared memories of Ken. He will be deeply missed by the BASWG and his contributions have made a huge difference in the region.

**BASWG Executive Committee Election**

Brenda presented the ballot of nominated Executive Committee members. A quorum was present. Election was conducted via formal ballot using SurveyMoney in real time, with votes tallied and reported during the meeting. By unanimous vote, the new BASWG Executive Committee (ExComm) is:

* **Chair**: Rich M. was elected for another 2-year term but plans to step down after that period.
* **Vice Chair**: Megan Hess, Town of Orono with the idea that she may move into the Chair position after Rich’s 2-year term is complete. Her position was elected for 2 years.
* **Secretary:** George H. is retiring. Rob Howard from Brewer was voted in as Secretary. His position was elected for 2 years.
* **Treasurer:** Kyle D. will serve his second year of his term in 2022-2023.

**Vote on BASWG 2022-2023 Organizational Budget**

TheBASWG Executive Committee presented a proposed flat funding for the ’22-23 budget year at $38,400. This is the 6th year at this flat-funded rate. Budget line items include $13,750 for regional coordination – including meeting coordination, facilitation, plan and report writing etc.; $200 for Professional Services (financial/tax services); $1,000 for grantwriting; and $23,400 for BASWG’s education and outreach work, which is the primary focus of the group’s regionalized work. Chloride reduction work has been combined into this E&O budget line item. The BASWG also has a contingency fund. ***Decision***: The budget was approved by unanimous vote of the members, with a quorum present.

**DEP Staffing**

The new Maine DEP stormwater coordinator has been hired. Her name is Holladay Keen. Action: Brenda will reach out to Ms. Keen and invite her to attend BASWG meetings, including the April 14th meeting.

**LID Ordinance Development**

Participants from the BASWG communities include Bangor (Rich May, Ann Krieg), Brewer (Linda Johns), Hampden (Clifton), Old Town (Dave Russell), Orono (Kyle Drexler and Megan Hess), Veazie (Phil Ruck), and Sarah King. Only those participating in the meeting process get to voice opinions. The review process is underway. The process is being led by Kristie Rabasca.

**Education and Outreach**

* **Micro-videos:** Pulse reviewed plans for the coming year. They are working to maximize use of video content that BASWG has already created – making “micro videos” - short video content, shareable (that was neat, want to share it). In range of 15-30 seconds each (attention span-sized videos) created as a batch. Pulse presented seven ideas for videos, with content on snow etc. earlier in filming priority. Action: BASWG approved Pulse to go ahead with the micro video series. Action: Pulse will be scheduling dates for videos; proof February 18th.
* **Infographics:** First infographic will be on how salt works. Three messages: 1) less can be better, 2) anti-ice rather than de-ice, and 3) think about temperature. Have info that sends the viewer to BASWG.org for more information.
* **Science Festival Planning:** BASWG will be at the Science Festival on March 19th from 9 am – 4 pm with the Stormwater Pollution Model. Rich is sending out a signup poll. Will add PPE to the demo. Rich has a write-up on how to demonstrate the model. The model is in Orono. Because of the DEP-approved changes in the SWMP due to Covid, this is not a compliance event for MS4s. However, it is a highly engaging, impactful interaction that involves the public. MS4s are encouraged to sign up for volunteer slots. Megan will drop off the model. Amanda M. and Brian C. from Pulse both offered to help. Vaccination and masking requirements are in place (or a negative covid test, if exempt). Will bring banner, table stand, flyer, stickers and postcards, as well as the model.
* **UM Microplastics Research Project:** Brenda Z. shared that the University of Maine is conducting a project on microplastics in stormwater. BASWG has been asked to participate as stakeholders to learn about the research and provide feedback on research questions, efforts and findings. Brenda Z. is one of the project team. She will present more about the project at the April meeting. The project begins in September 2022. Decision: BASWG members decided that they would participate in the project as stakeholders (through engagement at regularly-scheduled BASWG meetings).

**Infrastructure Funding**

American Rescue Plan Act funding is available for TMDL compliance projects, MS4 permit compliance projects, developing #D stormwater flood control and/or water quality models and other tasks. The BASWG is interested in learning more about these opportunities.

**MS4 Sharing**

* Rich M. shared that City of Bangor has pinpointed the source of an illicit discharge on outer Hammond Street. Have been conducting testing and pinpointed the source was between two manholes. Used CCTV on the line and showed a grade conflict, but never got dye from the drip. Replaced that service and repaired the stormdrain. This is the first indirect connection issue that has been resolved. Involved replacing 150 feet of pipe.
* Jodi M. shared that the University if hiring a new position to manage the stormwater program and compliance. She asked members to spread the word. She also has a number of buckets and cleaning supplies that could be donated (contact her if interested or know a potential recipient).

**Organizational Business**

* **BASWG minutes** – The members unanimously voted to approve the October and December BASWG Minutes (Rob H. made motion, Belle R. seconded the motion).
* **Treasurer’s Report** – The BASWG has had $12,500 in expenses of the $38,400 with a number of outstanding expenses that will be coming in through invoices in the next few weeks. Kyle D. has sent out annual BASWG invoices. MS4s should send their checks to the Town of Orono (Attn: BASWG) for Kyle to process.

**Next Meetings**

* The group decided that, unless something changes, the BASWG does not need to hold an Executive Committee or Education Committee meeting in March.
* The next meeting will be on April 14, 2022, from 9-11 am (location/online delivery TBD)